

**University of Nebraska – Lincoln
Academic Planning Committee**

**Approved Minutes
April 9, 2008**

Members Present

Mary K. Bolin
Craig J. Eckhardt
Jerry Renaud

Barbara A. Couture
Dwayne Ball
John Bender

Steven S. Waller
Jamie Radcliffe
Jeffrey F. Keown

Members Absent

William J. Nunez
F. Edwin Harvey
David H. Allen

John C. Owens
Prem S. Paul
Greg Gifford

David Solheim

Others Attending

John Markwell, Associate Dean, College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources
Susan Fritz, Associate Vice Chancellor, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Bolin called the meeting to order at 3:05 P.M.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The approval of the Minutes from the March 26, 2008 was not completed due to lack of a quorum.

Change Degree Name of the Bachelor of Science in Diversified Agricultural Studies [Handout attached to permanent record]

Bolin stated discussion on this proposal was postponed at the last APC meeting until further discussion among impacted Deans had occurred. Bolin welcomed John Markwell and indicated Dean Waller would discuss this proposal.

Waller distributed a copy of an email from Dean David Manderscheid and stated he had met with Manderscheid to share and discuss the concerns from APC membership. [Handout attached to permanent record] Waller conveyed the concern from Manderscheid, as well as others, that the name was not one they would have thought of themselves; however they could not think of a more appropriate and descriptive name. Therefore, they ultimately did see the need for change. Waller noted this name was the most reasonable designation to attract students and communicated Manderscheid, after thought and review, was no longer concerned about the name change. Waller commented a pilot of an on-line degree program would be available in a few months.

Bolin inquired if there were any further discussion, questions or comments and there were none. Approval of the motion was delayed for lack of a quorum. [Markwell left]

Programs of Excellence Update

The Programs of Excellence (PoE) projects recommendations were discussed. Senior Vice Chancellor Couture shared details of the recommendations with APC membership. [Eckhardt arrived] [Radcliffe arrived]

After details were shared, members suggested the following comments be included in the correspondence sent to PIs (principal investigators):

- 1) Have the authors of these projects engage, where possible, more in academic programs and outreach as related to the specific research projects.
- 2) Take an opportunity to see how the projects might relate to the University Academy.
- 3) As all proposals seem to cover broad areas in broad projects, the need for the projects to be defined as finding a niche that can not be filled elsewhere (at other universities, for instance) in the appropriate area is important.

Bolin asked if there were further comments or suggestions for Couture. There were none.

Couture noted updates and current PoE projects, as well as past reports, are posted on the Academic Affairs website and she said would be happy to answer any questions. [For reference these can be viewed online at: <http://www.unl.edu/svcaa/poe/>].

Discuss Topics to Pose to Chancellor at the Next APC Meeting

Bolin conveyed regrets from Nunez as he had to be in attendance at the State Capital for the 2nd debate of LB1116 on State Fair Park. She reminded APC membership the next scheduled meeting, on April 23, is the meeting with Chancellor Perlman. She asked members to send any suggested topic ideas for Chancellor Perlman to Nunez by next week.

Matters from Vice Chancellor(s)

Couture announced a department head and chairs workshop with C.K. (Tina) Gunsalus will be held tomorrow. Couture stated Gunsalus was invited back based on overwhelming support from last year's workshop participants and noted that she is an expert in helping to resolve conflicts. She reported "this workshop will focus on the principles of conflict resolution and negotiation skill development associated with the role of the department head or chair and that these principles will be reinforced through case studies, scenarios, role playing, and group discussions."

Couture announced on May 12, there will be another workshop, where an advisory board of consultants will give a presentation to the Chairs and Deans regarding the national report they prepared on *Best Practices to Achieve a Diverse Faculty*.

Couture remarked that Nancy Mitchell made a presentation to the Deans updating them on the ACE (Achievement-Centered Education) program and she noted that information about ACE, as well as updates on its development can be viewed online at: <http://ace.unl.edu/>.

Bolin asked if there were any questions or comments for Couture. There were none.

She asked Fritz if she had any topics to discuss. Fritz conveyed Dr. Owens regrets as he was out of town with a family medical emergency and noted she was attending on his behalf. Fritz stated she wanted to add to SVC Couture's remarks concerning Tina Gunsalus being on our campus tomorrow and noted Tina Gunsalus has agreed to meet with the Associate Deans tomorrow morning. Fritz expressed this meeting should be a very fruitful interaction and noted she was delighted Tina was back on campus.

Fritz said over the course of the last several weeks, IANR has made several international contacts. She, Waller, and Owens, traveled to Costa Rica where they renewed contacts with E.A.R.T.H. University (Escuela de Agricultura de la Región Tropical Húmed), established by some of our faculty, as well as

faculty from CalPoly and Rutgers, through resources contributed by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and USAID (United States Agency for International Development). Fritz noted research and teaching and outreach opportunities in Costa Rica were also explored.

Fritz stated upon return to campus, collaborations with a group of Colombian's from a Corporation for Investigation of Biology (CIB) (the faculty have teaching appointments at one of four universities in Medellin) was looked at. She noted they are part of a large 30 year old corporation that is focused on research and graduate education.

Fritz also conveyed the campus welcomed two administrators: 1) the Vice President and 2) the Head of their international relations group from Zhejiang University. She noted they are a major agriculture university and we are looking at a number of opportunities with them. Fritz addressed Couture and noted some of the relationship would be focused on the initial work and the partnership of the 2+2 program.

Couture agreed and noted UNL had set up a similar program with the Xi'an Jiaotong University and its City College. In this 2+2 program, students would take two years in China and then would enroll at UNL as juniors. She reported that a UNL faculty member was presently at Xi'an teaching the English language and preparing students for coming to the U.S. Couture said that the students are "just delightful" and there are 6 or 7 students already on campus now with approximately 400 more students coming over the next four years.

Bolin asked if there were any further comments or questions. There were none.

Other Business

Bolin asked if there were any "other" business.

Keown stated he would like to update APC membership on the University Academy. Keown announced the first class would be taught this fall and noted he was the class instructor. He said in this class there would be lectures planned throughout the semester and a couple of field trips were scheduled. Keown communicated the students were excited and noted they do not have to be honor students to be enrolled in this class.

Bolin inquired if there were any further "other" business. There were none.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle (Shelly) Green
APC Coordinator