

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

**Approved Minutes  
September 17, 2008**

Members Present

Craig J. Eckhardt	Barbara A. Couture	Emily Zimmer
John C. Owens	Rochelle L. Dalla	Shelley T. Fuller
David H. Allen	John Bender	David Fowler
Gary L. Cunningham	Dwayne Ball	Jeffrey F. Keown

Members Absent

William J. Nunez	Jennifer I. Brand	Prem S. Paul
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Eckhardt stated a quorum had been established and called the meeting to order at 3:00 P.M.

Approval of September 3, 2008 Minutes

Approval of the Minutes from the September 3, 2008 meeting was delayed until the next scheduled meeting by Eckhardt due to a member's request.

Change Degree Name of the Master of Agriculture

Eckhardt invited review subcommittee member, Keown, to speak on this agenda item. Keown stated that he and Fowler had reviewed this proposal [the third subcommittee member, Gifford, had to resign due to conflicting teaching responsibilities] and conveyed the subcommittee's recommended acceptance of the degree name change of the Master of Agriculture to Master of Applied Science. [Couture and Fowler arrived]

Eckhardt stated the subcommittee's recommendation in favor of the proposal served as a motion and second. He inquired if there were any questions or discussion.

Keown commented that the wording "Applied Science" had come before APC in recent past and had created some concern from the APC membership and Deans. Thus, discussion had been referred to the subcommittee. This proposal, in particular the title, has had the concerns expressed resolved and now is considered an appropriate name.

Eckhardt asked if there were further comments, discussion, or questions and there were none. Eckhardt called for a vote. The APC voted unanimously to endorse the proposal. [Copy of full proposal attached permanent record]

Long-Range Planning Subcommittee – Response to University of Nebraska–Lincoln Campus Technology Review Survey [handout attached to permanent record]

Eckhardt reiterated he had charged the Long-Range Planning (LRP) subcommittee to consider the Technology Review Survey by drafting a report incorporating a more "global" view in responding to this survey. He drew attention to the proposed response that was in the members' handout packets and turned the discussion over to Bender, subcommittee chair. [Zimmer arrived] Bender observed that the subcommittees' approach was to comment more on decision making and balancing of campus interests. Bender pointed out full input from faculty and students, as well as faculty involvement, is crucial as unknown centralized changes might imply elimination. Bender stated that in the LRP report there were

concerns of faculty loss due to outsourcing and questioned if the position of the Chief Information Officer (CIO) would be created through elimination of another senior-level position or if there were other ways of accomplishing the university's information technology goals that would not add to its ranks of administrators. In conclusion, he stated this report was offered to the APC as a statement from the Long-Range Planning subcommittee.

Couture clarified the CIO position was not an additional position - simply a replacement position for the comparable position that Associate Vice Chancellor Kent Hendrickson had held. Couture indicated that when the CIO position description was ready for additional discussion, it would be presented to the APC.

Ball expressed concern that the centralization of services would remove the Information Technology people from the college or department level and this would cause anxiety as needs would not be met and there would also be a loss of familiarity with the hardware and programs in departments.

Couture responded such concerns are exactly the kind of response that should be on the survey. Ball noted that the survey did not seem structured for allowing these sorts of responses. Couture replied this survey was constructed so not to restrict responses and invited Ball to submit his comment.

Eckhardt inquired if there were any questions, comments, or observations. He noted he would like to add the groups' emphasis on consultation with faculty before any major move is made. Fowler commented the proposed report submitted by the Long-Range Planning subcommittee, in which the centralized versus college based method was examined, was a very easy read and stated this was an excellent report. Members agreed.

Eckhardt stated the subcommittee's recommendation served as a motion and second. He inquired if there were any further questions, discussion, or comments. There were none. He called for a vote for APC to formally adopt Long-Range Planning subcommittee's report. The APC voted unanimously to formally adopt the report.

Couture stated this report should be submitted electronically. She thanked the APC membership and commended the Long-Range planning subcommittee for their timely manner in responding to this survey. Eckhardt charged Green to submit this report.

Closing of CoE Research Centers [handout attached to permanent record]

Couture indicated the memorandum regarding the closing of three College of Engineering (CoE) research centers has come before the APC as a procedural and informational item. Allen noted these centers were closing as they are non-active and non-functioning centers.

Discussion ensued regarding the definition of a center, school, institute, and all other similar designations. Couture conveyed the Board of Regents had defined these designations and these designations are located on the Board of Regents *Bylaws* website. She also mentioned a review schedule for centers has been established by Central Administration, in consultation with the campuses. She noted there is not a formal process for dissolution of centers, other than those units that have started the center declaring that it no longer exists and reporting this to appropriate entities.

Approval of this report was moved by Ball and seconded by Bender.

Eckhardt asked if there were any further questions or discussion and there was none. Eckhardt called for a vote. The report was approved without dissent.

[For reference the Board of Regents *Bylaws* is located at the following URL:  
<http://www.nebraska.edu/docs/board/bylaws.pdf>]

Matters from Vice Chancellor(s)

Couture informed the committee that next week the UNL deans will convene at their annual Deans Retreat. She stated that at this Retreat matters previously discussed at their quarterly meetings would be studied, as well as examination and discussion of points raised in Chancellor Perlman's *State of the University Address*. Couture noted, particularly, "As you are aware, the Chancellor has talked since 2004 about the importance of colleges and other units setting benchmarks for success and he mentioned two arenas in which he would like to see us do that. Those arenas are enrollment and research. We will have some open discussions about what would a benchmark look like in that arena and how would we link that benchmark to success."

Owens stated he had nothing to add to Couture's statement or any other items to discuss.

Other Business

Eckhardt observed that as Couture had mentioned benchmarks, it might be useful to charge the Long-Range Planning subcommittee with considering what kind of benchmarking should be formulated for both enrollment and research. Couture agreed a report on what the APC perceives to be the arena in which benchmarks might be useful would be helpful.

Eckhardt asked to speak to members of the Long-Range Planning subcommittee after the meeting adjourned. He inquired if there was any other "other" business. There was none.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:27 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle (Shelly) Green  
APC Coordinator