

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

**Approved Minutes
October 15, 2008**

Members Present

Craig J. Eckhardt	Jennifer I. Brand	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
William J. Nunez		

Members Absent

Barbara A. Couture	Prem S. Paul
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Others Attending

Gregory R. Snow, Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

Eckhardt stated a quorum had been established and called the meeting to order at 3:02 P.M.

Approval of September 3, 2008 Minutes

Approval of the Minutes from the September 3, 2008 meeting was moved by Ball and seconded by Bender.

Eckhardt asked if there were any questions or discussion and there was none. The Minutes were approved without dissent.

Approval of September 17, 2008 Minutes

Approval of the Minutes from the September 17, 2008 meeting was moved by Ball and seconded by Bender. [Owens and Cunningham arrived]

Eckhardt asked if there were any questions or discussion and there was none. The Minutes were approved without dissent.

New Agriculture and Natural Resources Legal Studies Certificate Program

Eckhardt invited review subcommittee chair, Ball, to speak on this agenda item. Ball stated he and other subcommittee members, Fuller and Bender, had reviewed this proposal and conveyed the subcommittee recommended acceptance and approval of this proposal. [Snow 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.

Dalla pointed out acceptance into this program would be determined by Professor Aiken and wondered what criteria would be used. Ball responded this is a certificate program that requires at least 12 credit hours and not more than 20 credit hours. He stated CASNR (College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources) would administer this proposed certificate program and Professor Aiken would provide day to day management.

Dalla commented that, as written, this proposed certificate program is both an online as well as a traditional (campus) course. It appears that Professor Aitken will be responsible for two sessions, basically doubling his workload.

Fowler remarked this proposal is similar to the Six Sigma Green Belt certificate program proposal, which came before the APC last year, in that an outside student, could take this course and upon completion of 12 hours and verification of completion, receive a certificate.

Fuller noted one could be an outside student and only take the courses required for this certificate program; however, upon acceptance into this proposed certificate program, that individual would have to meet the same admittance requirements as freshmen entering the University.

Dalla commented on the admissions process and the additional application fee for the online course. Ball noted online courses often have a marginal pricing structure.

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]

Department of Anthropology and Geography Name Change

Eckhardt states that the name change proposal was next on the agenda and welcomed Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences Greg Snow, who was present to answer any questions pertaining to the proposal.

Eckhardt noted to membership that he had asked Green and Nunez for any record of movement of Geography from the College of Arts and Sciences to the School of Natural Resources documented as coming before the APC. He observed that Green could not find record of this request coming before the APC; thus no endorsement of the movement from the College of Arts and Sciences to CASNR by the APC exists.

Discussion ensued. Eckhardt said that the approval of the initial move should have come before the APC due to institutional concerns beyond that of the immediate parties involved. APC members agreed. He stated when a proposal is not discussed or brought before the APC, not only does this undermine the role of the APC, it also removes a forum for other interested parties to express their views and thoughts. Eckhardt expressed that he would like to send a letter, with the Committees' authorization, to the relevant Deans of the Colleges to remind them that this should have been handled in a different fashion and hopefully in the future such actions would be conducted in a more formal process. APC membership agreed unanimously that a letter should be written and sent. Eckhardt stated he would draft a letter.

Cunningham stated this proposal evolved from a request from the Department of Anthropology and Geography, primarily from the Anthropologists. Upon further review by him, Dean Manderscheid from the College of Arts and Sciences, and Don Whilite from the School of Natural Resources (SNR) the finding was that this merger with the SNR occurred by mutual agreement.

Snow stated he was present on behalf of Dean Manderscheid, who is out of the country; thus unable to attend. Snow shared that, regarding the movement of Geography, the general consensus among the involved parties, particularly Anthropology, was that the negotiation was not effectively inclusive and the process was not particularly well done. He also noted Geography would still have ties to the College of Arts and Sciences.

Keown inquired if Geography is again being taught in high school, and, if so, was there anything in this name change that would negate any teaching of the “old type” of Geography? Snow replied the structure of the courses would remain the same. He noted undergraduate, masters, and doctoral degree options would still be offered.

Eckhardt inquired if crosslisting online existed so students would not overlook the discipline. Cunningham responded a great deal has been done so the Geography program would remain visible.

Eckhardt inquired if there were any other questions or comments. There were none.

Bender moved to accept the name change of the Department of Anthropology and Geography to the Department of Anthropology. The motion was seconded by Keown.

Eckhardt inquired if there were any further discussions, questions, or comments and there were none. Eckhardt called for a vote on the motion. The motion passed without dissent. Eckhardt thanked Snow for addressing APC. [Copy of full proposal attached to permanent record]

Appointment of Subcommittee Review – Department of Plant Pathology Name Change

Eckhardt indicated to APC that subcommittee members were needed to review a proposal to change the name of the Department of Plant Pathology to the Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology and asked for two volunteers for this subcommittee.

Eckhardt pointed out that he has had communication with Al Kamil, Director of the School of Biological Sciences, who expressed concern regarding this proposal; therefore the subcommittee should be diligent in contacting Dr. Kamil in connection with any questioning on this proposal. Owens drew attention to the proposal which contained a copy of an email from Dean Manderscheid to Dean Waller and James Steadman stating that he had spoken to Al Kamil. Snow commented, with Eckhardt’s approval, that it is important to touch base with other arenas on campus where there are microbiologists. Snow said he believes this is a concern and that the subcommittee and APC will hear from other areas as well where there are microbiologists. Keown and Owens acknowledged there are other stakeholders, such as Food Science and Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences.

Fowler questioned the timeline for this subcommittee to report to the Committee i.e. by the next meeting. Eckhardt replied he was not aware of any urgency.

Keown (subcommittee chair) and Fowler volunteered to serve on this subcommittee. [Copy of full proposal attached to permanent record] [Snow left]

Matters from Vice Chancellor(s)

Owens stated he did not have any matters to discuss; however would like to share a couple of informational items. Owens noted Barbara Couture, along with Chancellor Perlman and Prem Paul, were presently in China to further develop UNL partnerships with Chinese universities. He also stated Don Wilhite, Director of the School of Natural Resources, among others, had joined them yesterday. Owens also conveyed the proposal to create a Doctor of Plant Health professional degree program proposal, which had come before and was approved by the APC earlier this year, was approved by the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education yesterday and this program will now be implemented.

Other Business

Eckhardt related a matter that had come before him that he now wished to bring before APC. The matter is regarding the way in which overhead is returned from grants by people who are both in a department and a center. Eckhardt stated the question is complicated but he could understand the concern of some as apparently, in some departments, the overhead may be equally shared between the department and the center. So, the question arises if the center perhaps provides an umbrella but does not provide any facilities or actual locus for the faculty, then it would appear the department has to invest much more in terms of the maintenance of the faculty member than the center does. He also wondered how these formulas are reached and if there should be an established metric to determine how funding between departments and a center should be allocated than what seems to exist presently.

Discussion ensued. Owens expressed the APC should further pursue this matter as it appears this is “all over the page” and felt that clarification is needed not only to lessen the confusion but to determine the precedent. Cunningham voiced his agreement and stated it is really very situational. He stated there actually is a formula but feels this formula most likely could be negotiated and noted this formula most likely varies from one area to another. He said the goal is to try to get as much of that indirect cost back to the unit that it is actually supporting and maintaining the research and acknowledged it is difficult at times to know just what the set rules are. Allen informed APC members that a center does not have a state budget so he strives to give up some of his and the deans share of overhead return to give sufficient sources to operate. Allen said we need to provide some oversight to ensure that those involved are being treated fairly in the process of creating departments and/or centers. The discussion concluded with the APC determining this matter should be further pursued.

Eckhardt created an *ad hoc* subcommittee and appointed members Brand, Nunez, and Cunningham.

Owens suggested consulting Allen, as well as other Deans, due to their operational role in this matter.

Eckhardt inquired if there was any other “other” business. There was none.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:32 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle (Shelly) Green
APC Coordinator