

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

**Approved Minutes
February 11, 2009**

Members Present

Craig J. Eckhardt
Barbara Couture
Jeffrey F. Keown
Dwayne Ball

William J. Nunez
Rochelle L. Dalla
Clarissa Steele
Jennifer Brand

Emily Zimmer
Shelley T. Fuller
David Fowler
Gary L. Cunningham

Members Absent

David Allen
John C. Owens

Prem S. Paul

John Bender

Others Attending

Susan Fritz, Associate Vice Chancellor, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources for John Owens
David Wilson, Associate Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs

Eckhardt stated a quorum had been established and called the meeting to order at 3:03 P.M.

Future Certificate Approval Process

Eckhardt introduced guest David Wilson and indicated he was present to address the certificate approval process for the future. Wilson stated that the undergraduate certificate proposal and review process has recently been reclaimed by Central Administration. He said Central Administration will be creating a form and process for all four NU campuses as each campus has been treating certificate programs differently. [Fuller arrived] He mentioned the Chief Academic Officers will be addressing this issue and that developing a new system-wide form and process may take some time. He reiterated only the undergraduate certificate proposal and review process has been reclaimed by Central Administration and the graduate certificate proposal already has a system-wide process in place. [Zimmer arrived] He then asked if there were any questions.

Eckhardt wondered if once Central Administration has created and distributed the new form and process, would there have to be a review of current certificate programs to ensure compliance? Fritz commented that might be a difficult task to undertake. Wilson shared that they have also learned the Board of Regents would like a five year review on certificate programs, just like in the Academic Program Review process. Fritz commented she believes that in 2.9 in the UNL Bylaws, the approval process is stated to be with the Board of Regents; however, the governmental responsibilities are with the campuses, so there should be an opportunity to help shape this. Eckhardt commented it appears there is a difference between just doing the five year review of an existing certificate program versus evaluating whether a new certificate program falls within a proper definition. Wilson replied it is likely the programs will be grandfathered in. Ball stated there should not be different standards or criteria for different certificates. Eckhardt agreed and said uniformity should be established over a reasonable period of time. [Couture arrived]

Eckhardt inquired if there were further questions, comments, or discussion and there were none. Eckhardt thanked Wilson. Wilson thanked APC membership and stated he would keep the APC membership updated. [Wilson left]

Matters for Vice Chancellor(s) of Academic Affairs, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and Research and Economic Development

Couture shared the information that besides the future certificate approval process, the only other items currently “in flux” were 1) the reconsideration of the *English Proficiency Requirements and Practices for Undergraduate Admissions* and 2) the proposal to adopt the *Best Practices to Recruit and Retain a Diverse Faculty*. She asked if APC membership would like to comment on either item.

Couture stated she had no other information to report with regard to budgetary issues but mentioned she had spoken to each of the Deans concerning hiring and specific budget proposals and plans.

Couture shared that yesterday there was a Deans’ Quarterly Retreat. She said the Deans have asked to have four quarterly retreats in addition to the one they have with her in the Fall. She stated that at this retreat they discussed some issues that are currently facing us and brainstormed ways to reduce potential cuts to academic programs.

Eckhardt asked Fritz if she had any matters from Owens. She said Owens was returning from Washington DC today, where he advocated the possibility of federal funds for special projects.

Other Business

None

Closed Session

The APC moved into a closed session for the purpose of holding a discussion on the following subjects: general budget framework discussion and planning.

The APC went into closed session at 3:21 p.m. and reconvened the open meeting at 4:13 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle (Shelly) Green
APC Coordinator