

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

**Approved Minutes
April 13, 2011**

Members Present

Jennifer I. Brand, Chair	William J. Nunez	John Bender
David Manderscheid	Curtis L. Weller	Jeffrey F. Keown
Ellen Weissinger	Miles Taft Bryant	Shelley T. Fuller
Deborah W. Minter	Dwayne Ball	Justin Solomon

Members Absent

Ronnie Green	Prem S. Paul
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Others Attending

Harvey Perlman, Chancellor, University of Nebraska–Lincoln
Mari Greer, President, UNOPA (University of Nebraska Office Professionals Association)
Nancy Myers, President, UAAD (University Association for Administrative Development)

Brand stated a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. She informed membership a representative of the Academic Deans and a student ASUN Graduate representative has not been determined yet.

Closed Session

Brand called for a closed session.

Bryant moved the Academic Planning Committee (APC) into a closed session for the purpose of holding a discussion on the following subject: General Budget Framework. Fuller seconded.

The APC went into closed session at 3:00 p.m. and reconvened the open meeting at 4:03 p.m. [During this time frame Manderscheid, Weissinger, and Solomon arrived; Perlman left; and, Nunez, Keown, and Weissinger left.]

Open Session

Approval of March 9, 2011 General Meeting Minutes

Approval of the Minutes from the March 9, 2011 general meeting was moved by Bryant and seconded by Bender.

Brand asked if there were any questions or comments and there were none. The Minutes were approved without dissent.

Academic Program Review Monitor Appointment – Department of Animal Science

Brand indicated that a member was needed as an APR monitor to the Department of Animal Science from May 8 to May 11, 2012. She referenced the 2011-2012 Academic Program Review (APR) Schedule in each members handout packet. [attached to permanent record] She then asked for a volunteer.

Bryant volunteered to serve as the APR monitor. The appointment was supported by APC membership.

Proposal on Campus-Wide Civic Engagement Certificate – Subcommittee Appointment [copy of proposal attached to permanent record]

Brand indicated to APC membership that subcommittee members were needed to review the proposal on a campus-wide Civic Engagement certificate and asked for at least two volunteers for this subcommittee. She said a copy of the proposal was in each member handout packet and briefly explained it. Membership inquired on the timeline of this proposal. Brand stated the hope was that this proposal be brought back to the full APC at its next meeting for discussion and voting.

Minter [subcommittee chair] and Solomon volunteered to serve on this subcommittee.

Proposal on Merger of Department of Engineering Mechanics and Department of Mechanical Engineering – Subcommittee Appointment [copy of proposal attached to permanent record]

Brand indicated to APC membership that subcommittee members were needed to review the proposal on the merger of the Department of Engineering Mechanics and Department of Mechanical Engineering. She pointed out a copy of the proposal was in each member handout packet.

Brand reminded membership the APC has previously seen a proposal in development to merge the departments of Engineering Mechanics, Industrial and Management Systems Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering and that a subcommittee of the APC had been appointed at that time to assist with the process as this is a routine part of APC's oversight of such processes. She noted the proposal before the APC currently only involves the departments of Engineering Mechanics and Mechanical Engineering. She conveyed Ball and Bender were the liaisons of the APC appointed subcommittee and should have prior knowledge. She inquired to Ball and Bender if they had been involved in this process only involving the two departments. Ball replied no, they had not been contacted. Brand asked Ball and Bender if they would be willing to volunteer for this subcommittee. [Myers left] Ball inquired on the timeline of the proposal. Brand replied the hope was that this proposal be brought back to the full APC at its next meeting for discussion and voting; however, if more time is needed to review, to please share.

Ball [subcommittee chair] and Bender volunteered to serve on this subcommittee.

APC Representative Academic Program Review Report for Department of Classics and Religious Studies, and Norman and Bernice Harris Center for Judaic Studies [Copy of report attached to permanent record]

Brand introduced the next agenda item and asked Fuller to present her report.

Fuller indicated a copy of her report was in the member's handout packets. She said the Departments of Classics and the freestanding program of Religious Studies in the College of Arts and Sciences were joined in 1999 and renamed the Department of Classics and Religious Studies and noted they still continue to operate as two departments. She stated the department offers two undergraduate majors in Classics and Religious Studies, and in Classical Languages, four minors in Classics, Greek, Latin, and Religious Studies, and an MA degree with concentration in either Greek or Latin. She said all faculty teach at all levels of the curriculum and that faculty in the department participate in interdisciplinary programs in Judaic Studies, Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Women and Gender Studies, and Asian Studies.

Fuller communicated the Norman and Bernice Harris Center for Judaic Studies was established in 1992 as an interdisciplinary center. She said a minor in Judaic Studies is offered. She pointed out the Center has no permanent faculty appointments of its own and does not fund faculty salaries, although it does provide research stipends to Judaic Studies named professorships. She noted the Center does fund adjunct lecturers hired by the Center. She told that core faculty teaches regularly offered courses related to Judaic Studies and are from the College of Arts and Sciences in the Departments of Classics and Religious Studies, English, History, Modern Languages, Philosophy, and Political Sciences. She noted associate faculty from across the University not in the field of Judaic Studies lends support in various ways, such as facilitating public programming. She stated the Academic Program Review (APR) consisted of a review of Research, Teaching and Service and treated the Department and the Center separately.

Fuller indicated the Review Team consisted of three external members, two internal members, and that no students were appointed to this APR. She voiced it was an excellent team and a thorough review was conducted. She said the Review Team met with the entire faculty in various configurations – tenured faculty, untenured faculty, non-tenure track faculty, Classics faculty, Religious faculty, chair and advisors, students, center director, and faculty who teach Judaic Studies courses.

Fuller relayed the APR Review Team expressed that the Department of Classics and Religious Studies “is a collegial atmosphere with interested and well satisfied students” and that “the research accomplishments of many of the faculty are extremely impressive.” She drew attention to the recommendations made by the APR Review Team in her report and pointed out a couple items as follows: 1) to develop a Strategic Plan for future Research and Teaching that must interface the College and University's Strategic Plans and provides a blueprint for the direction of the Department; and, 2) that the Department is given the opportunity to continue revision of the current MA. She told the last APR was in 2001 and that the APR Team noted that the Department has made excellent progress toward the improvements recommended by the APR of 2001.

Fuller shared the APR Review Team expressed that the Norman and Bernice Center for Judaic Studies “is a small unit that is clearly using its resources for maximal impact” and noted the impact of the current Director in fund-raising and administrative abilities. She drew APC

membership's attention again to her report and to the recommendations made by the APR Review Team. She pointed out recommendations as follows: 1) to not to offer a major unless there is a significant endowment to fund salaries or partial salaries; 2) to recruit more minors; and, 3) to continue to work toward the appointment of the Kripke Chair, which continues unfilled due to inability to find a host department for this appointment.

Fuller stated the Department and the Center responded to the recommendations in reports with detailed plans for implementation on most of the recommendations.

Fuller, in summary, indicated guidelines for Academic Program Reviews were followed. She communicated no recommendations for a formal hearing is needed.

Brand asked if there were any comments or questions for Fuller.

Bryant asked if it is customary for the APC to have an APC representative monitor and review a Center. Fuller replied yes, due to academic components as well as related affiliations. Manderscheid commented the Board of Regents requires now a review of Centers every 5 years and are usually "bundled" with an APR. Brand noted several upcoming APR's where Centers were "bundled".

Brand inquired if there were further questions, comments, or discussions and there were none. The report was accepted by membership. Brand thanked Fuller for her report.

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

None.

Other Business

Brand pointed out a completed APR review schedule spreadsheet for AY2008-2009 was in each member handout packet. [attached to permanent record]

Bryant wondered if specific dates in the APR of the Department of Communication Studies had been determined yet as it had been rescheduled to fall 2011. Coordinator Green replied specific dates have not been determined yet.

Brand proposed to membership holding each Wednesday from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. on calendars, beginning next Wednesday until the first Wednesday of June, in order to continue discussions on general budget framework and proposed budget reduction items. Membership agreed.

Brand briefly explained APC's process of budget reductions and hearings. She indicated a date or dates for the public Hearing will be determined soon – not during this meeting. [Ball left] Brief discussion then ensued over how the APC would collate internal questions and/or requests for more background information on departments or from individuals on upcoming proposed budget reduction items. Brand, in conclusion, stated to email questions and/or requests to her and coordinator Green would compile and post on Blackboard.

Brand asked if there were any other items. There were none.

There being no further business, Bryant moved and Solomon seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle (Shelly) Green
APC Coordinator