

University of Nebraska – Lincoln  
Academic Planning Committee (APC)

Approved Minutes  
March 27, 2013

Members Present

Gerard Harbison, Chair	Eric Kamler	Martha McCollough
Miles Taft Bryant	Stephen Lahey	Jack Morris
Archie Clutter	Jared Leighton	William Nunez
Mike Hoffman	Christopher Marks	Linda Shipley
Libby Jones		

Members Absent

Ronnie Green	Donde Plowman	Curtis Weller
Prem S. Paul	Ellen Weissinger	

Others Attending

Ron Yoder, Associate Vice Chancellor, Office of Vice President/Vice Chancellor, on behalf of Ronnie Green

Harbison stated a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m. He noted the later meeting time in order to accommodate the arrival of a guest for discussion on a proposal. He indicated Associate Vice Chancellor in Academic Affairs Lance Perez would be in attendance at APC's next meeting to brief membership on the progress of Activity Insight™. He said Dwayne Ball, interim chairperson in the Marketing Department, would also be in attendance to brief how this works in his department and any difficulties they may have had. He stated he also hoped to invite an individual from IANR.

Approval of February 27, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Approval of the Minutes from the February 27, 2013 general meeting was moved by Bryant and seconded by McCollough.

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

Subcommittee Appointment: Proposal to Rename Degree in Hospitality, Restaurant and Tourism Management Program [attached to permanent record]

Harbison said that two subcommittee members were needed to review the proposal from the College of Education and Human Sciences and the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources to rename the current BS degree in HRTM (CASNR and CEHS) to a BA in HRTM. He asked this subcommittee to review and bring a recommendation to the next APC meeting.

Bryant [subcommittee chair] and Hoffman volunteered to serve on this subcommittee.

Marks said he was a little confused on this proposal as there was mention that the APC had reviewed this before and was now being considered again. Brief discussion ensued concluding that coordinator Green would transmit previous proposal information to the subcommittee and that the subcommittee would contact the appropriate individuals with questions.

Hoffman wondered if this program had enrolled students. Nunez referred members to the IRP website where the published data are located.

Matters from Vice Chancellors - Academic Affairs, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources (IANR), and Research and Economic Development

Harbison stated none were present.

[Please note the order of the Agenda was changed by the APC Chair]

Other Business

McCullough stated she would like to give an overview on an agenda item at the last Aesthetics Review Committee (ARC) meeting. She said there is a current project to conceptualize university life and physical sciences within Manter and Hamilton Halls. She expressed the concept looks good with a strong program for uses and treatments to incorporate lots of light, public areas and service needs. She reinforced that at this time the architects are only in the conceptual phase.

Nunez indicated this is a very interesting academic project. Morris mentioned the current renovations to the auditorium and classrooms in Brace. Nunez stated the Brace project is to mainly accommodate life sciences teaching labs. He said there are some substandard teaching labs in Manter and this is a staged approach to addressing this need. He said Manter is a longer term plan. He commented if you look at that sector of campus, the Chemistry building, as well as Manter, have major deferred maintenance issues - not just in terms of its infrastructure but its ability to accommodate service. Thus we are looking for an interconnection between these two buildings. He indicated through ARC we are looking at the outside, the aesthetics, and how does it interface with the campus from a master planning level.

Morris stated this grew out of the need of a five year projection meeting enrollment needs in the labs as the Brace project won't accomplish this, as well as creating more interactive classrooms and a high quality student center space. [Clutter and Yoder arrived] [Lahey arrived] Morris voiced the expansion of the labs needs to be met to address enrollment needs. He stated this is a longer-term solution to addressing growth in the life sciences areas.

Harbison noted the arrival of Clutter and Yoder. He asked if either had any matters to convey or share. Yoder and Clutter stated they did not have any matters but welcome any questions. There were none.

Harbison informed Clutter and Yoder at the next APC meeting there would be an update and discussion on Digital Measures Activity Insight™. He said Lance Perez and Dwayne Ball would be in attendance. He told he would also like a faculty representative from IANR to describe the implementation and any difficulties, if any. Yoder replied that IANR has an advisory committee

and he would email the names of the committee members to Harbison. Harbison thanked Yoder.

Harbison stated he had a few items of business.

Harbison mentioned Chancellor Perlman will be in attendance at APC's meeting on April 24 for his annual briefing. He indicated to prepare for this meeting one of the agenda items at APC's next meeting will be discussion on recommendations the APC could share with the Chancellor that he could take into consideration as he formulates future long-range goals for the campus.

Harbison informed membership that at the next meeting the APC will receive an annual report from Morris on the activities of the University Curriculum Committee.

Harbison informed membership Kamler, as the ASUN representative on the APC as well as the ASUN president, was departing the APC.

Harbison moved to recognize and thank Kamler for his service this past year to the APC. Nunez seconded. Membership unanimously agreed.

Kamler thanked Harbison and members. He said his replacement is Eric Reznicek. He informed Reznicek would formally assume the duties of the ASUN president one week from tonight. He invited membership to the inaugural ceremony which will be held at the Wick Center. Kamler expressed this past year has been an incredible experience and it has been an honor. He said he will still be on campus for one more year to complete his undergraduate degree.

Action Item: Proposal to Eliminate the European Studies Major [attached to permanent record] Nunez noted guest Deborah Minter, Associate Dean for Academic Programs, would be arriving soon and wondered if there would be any questions. Harbison inquired if there were any discussion or questions.

Lahey conveyed he had spoken to a colleague and learned this program ended semesters ago. McCollough stated she also inquired and had received the same information. Lahey stated there is one remaining student who currently plans to finish this major. He said students will continue to have the opportunity to focus on Europe as a region by choosing the Regional Specialization (Europe) in the newly revised Global Studies Major.

Harbison stated he would entertain a motion to approve.

Approval of the proposal from the College of Arts and Sciences to eliminate the European Studies major was moved by Lahey and seconded by Kamler.

Harbison inquired if there was any other discussion, comments or questions and there were none. He called for a vote. The APC voted unanimously to approve this proposal.

Other Business - Continued

Harbison inquired if there was any other business.

Lahey reported to membership he had just met with Nancy Mitchell and JoAnn Moseman concerning the ACE (Achievement-Centered Education) curriculum. He stated with regard to accessing transfer credits, or ACE, another system will come into existence soon. He said this system and evaluation is between department chairs and academic advisors, as well as the transfer office. This system is called U-Select Program. He said there will be a lot of faculty involvement in this new system. He told other Big 10 institutions are already using this program. He voiced the beauty of this program is that is for academic advisors, not just to recruit students from other institutions. [Minter arrived] [Minter left]

Discussion ensued. Hoffman expressed to certify a course for ACE is painful. McCollough mentioned she is aware of current transfer students who have entered with non-ACE course credits.

Harbison wondered if there is a danger with transparency. He explained anyone can look at an institution and figure out how many courses can be transferred so they may go to another institution, not UNL. He said in order to compete for recruits we may want to make transferring easier.

Lahey stated he will pursue these questions and will get back to membership. Membership agreed transfers should be easy; the ultimate goal is a seamless transfer.

Lahey commented the point of these systems and programs, in his opinion, are in 5-10 years there will be federally mandated assessment mechanisms. He said this is thinking ahead in higher education and by working out the kinks now, we are avoiding more headaches in the future.

Discussion continued that transfer students may not know their credits won't transfer until halfway through a semester. Bryant commented this is a problem and mentioned out of state students such as Chinese students. McCollough stated transfers are now much more seamless and noted numerous times has contacted the transfer office to determine transfer equivalencies. Hoffman conveyed he has done pre-analysis before for a student who is interested in attending UNL and has told them to look at transfer equivalencies. He voiced this new system may be great if it makes it easier for a student or a prospective student to do this. Marks commented it sounds like the real problem is the unreasonable burden on the faculty member in re-certifying ACE and then the extra work that is done at the end of every semester submitting samples and then to have a student take a course at another institution and nullify the work that we have done. Several members agreed. [Kamler, Bryant and Hoffman left]

Lahey mentioned in the meeting with Mitchell and Moseman he had suggested to take the additional student outcome indicators and group them into, for example, 3 groups. He said they will further discuss this as a way of streamlining.

Discussion concluded that Lahey will pursue the following two items with Mitchell and Moseman: 1) simplifying and streamlining ACE certification and 2) what to do concerning ACE transfers. He will report back to membership at its next meeting.

Harbison asked if there were any other items in other business and there were none.

There being no other business, Lahey and McCollough seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m. The next meeting of the Academic Planning Committee will be held on Wednesday, April 10, 2013 at 3:00 p.m. in the City Campus Union.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle (Shelly) Green  
APC Coordinator