

University of Nebraska – Lincoln  
Academic Planning Committee (APC)

Approved Minutes  
October 7, 2015

Members Present

Leslie Delserone  
Gerard Harbison  
Prem S. Paul  
William Nunez

Ronnie Green  
Mike Hoffman  
Guy Trainin  
Tyler White

William Wagner  
Thien Chau  
Ron Yoder

Members Absent

Leilani Arthurs  
Nancy Busch  
Curtis Walker

Maria Marron  
Michael Farrell

Melanie Simpson  
Patrick Shea

Others Attending

Karen Griffin, Coordinator, Faculty Senate

Delserone called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. She stated a quorum was not present. She indicated only the non-voting agenda items would be conducted until a quorum could be established for any voting agenda items. As a result, the meeting minutes could not be voted upon at this time.

Subcommittee Appointment - Proposal for a Graduate Certificate in Construction Engineering and Management [attached to permanent record]

Delserone indicated the need to appoint a subcommittee to review the proposal from the College of Engineering for a Construction Engineering and Management graduate certificate. It was noted that membership present were already stretched thin with other APC responsibilities.

Delserone communicated she would appoint Simpson and Farrell to serve on this subcommittee. Membership agreed. It was determined Coordinator Green would contact Simpson and Farrell to inform of this appointment.

Subcommittee Appointment - Proposal for a PhD Major in Complex Biosystems and Specializations [attached to permanent record]

Delserone stated the next item was to appoint a subcommittee to review the proposal for the Complex Biosystems PhD Program and five proposed Areas of Specialization. [Trainin arrived] Delserone mentioned a revised electronic meeting packet had been distributed by Coordinator Green earlier in the day; the funding memo was replaced, with the only change being Green's SVCAA title was removed as funding was not coming from Academic Affairs. She asked for volunteers.

Harbison and Hoffman volunteered. Their appointment was supported by membership.

Academic Program Review Monitor Appointment – Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication

Delserone stated that a member was needed as a monitor for the APR of the Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication, scheduled April 17-20, 2016.

Delserone asked for a volunteer, possibly a new member. She asked Trainin. Trainin agreed to serve as the APR monitor. The appointment was supported by APC membership.

Update/Report from Subcommittee: Proposal to Establish the Department of Supply Chain Management and Analytics within the College of Business Administration

Delserone informed APC membership there would be no action taken on this proposal during today's meeting. She asked Trainin to update membership on this proposal.

Trainin stated he and fellow subcommittee member Marron had a few questions on the proposal and had submitted these questions to the College; however, they had yet to receive a response. He commented he was aware that these questions were received and had been forwarded to the appropriate person. Nunez informed membership Dean Plowman had contacted him shortly before this meeting to convey her apology that her schedule has prevented her from answering the questions and to inform the subcommittee that answers to the questions would be forthcoming in the next few days.

Delserone asked if there were any questions or comments and there were none.

Update/Report from Long-Range Planning Subcommittee

Delserone asked Wagner to report.

Wagner indicated there were action items on a list submitted by last year's Long-range Planning subcommittee that had been approved by full membership and that Delserone had charged the current committee to prioritize this list. He stated the Long-range Planning subcommittee had met last week to discuss what items should be prioritized. He said this subcommittee prioritized five action items as listed below:

1. Changes in the University Libraries
  - a. Wagner conveyed to membership a presentation by Dean Busch is on the November 18 APC meeting agenda.
2. Response to Academic Program Reviews (APRs) from the Office of the Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs (SVCAA) and the IANR Vice Chancellor
  - a. Wagner indicated this should be added to a future APC meeting agenda for possibility VCIANR/SVCAA Green to address. Hoffman commented the APC had not received a report of recommendations from administration on any particular APRs for several years. For this reason, as APC APR monitor report was subsequent to administration response and lack of administration response was driving the process into more than a year in

some cases, the protocol for the APC monitor to report back to the full APC with his or her report on the review process was changed from ninety to sixty days.

3. Transportation between Campuses
  - a. Wagner remarked it wasn't clear to the subcommittee this was a major problem but noted there were some isolated incidents. He indicated he would follow up with the Faculty Senate as there may be a subcommittee already looking at this.
4. Enrollment growth and course accessibility
  - a. Wagner stated this is an issue where there is a lot of concern. He conveyed the thought of the subcommittee was to have a joint meeting with the Academic Service and Enrollment Management group with the possibility of a subsequent conversation with administration.
5. Campus Climate
  - a. Wagner communicated it wasn't clear to the subcommittee if this was a systematic problem here on campus and conveyed if it is an issue then this should be a Faculty Senate issue, not an APC issue.

Delserone remarked the enrollment growth issue ties into another outstanding issue, which is the disbursement of funds related to distance education courses. She said we look forward to hearing from Green on this matter.

Green clarified that the intent of these five items would be future agenda items. Delserone replied yes.

Delserone inquired if there were any questions or comments. There were none. She thanked Wagner.

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

Delserone asked Green if he had anything to report. Green said he had a few items. He mentioned Chancellor Perlman's State of the University Address last week. He said he was aware that Chancellor Perlman had met with the Faculty Senate at its meeting yesterday and that he had highlighted some of his Address while at that meeting.

Green indicated an item mentioned by Chancellor Perlman in his State of the University Address was the recruitment and hire of an international lead for the campus as an Associate Vice Chancellor for Global Engagement to replace David Wilson, senior international officer and associate vice chancellor, who is returning to the faculty at the end of the calendar year. Green informed membership the process is currently being framed and would come forward with plans for that recruitment.

Green stated Chancellor Perlman in his Address also spoke of diversity efforts and of a diversity audit. He stated discussions on the diversity audit in terms of how to begin and who to bring in would begin in a couple of weeks. He added there would also be discussion on the hiring of a

full-time assistant vice chancellor for diversity in Academic Affairs and indicated the need to study whether the audit should happen before the hire or vice versa.

Delserone asked if there were any questions or comments for Green. There were none.

Delserone then asked Paul if he had any matters to share. Paul stated he had two items to mention.

Paul communicated that the Fall 2015 Research Fair would be held on November 10. He said planning for that is underway. He shared that in addition to a number of program speakers there would be a dedication of the Research Data Center. He explained the Center was established with National Science Foundation grant funds, in partnership with the U.S. Census Bureau Center for Economic Studies. He stated this is a collaboration among UNL, UNMC, University of Iowa, Iowa State University, and University of South Dakota. He said the Census Administrator has been hired and John Anderson, Baird Family Professor of Economics, is the Center's Executive Director. He expressed this is exciting.

Paul stated the next item he would like to mention is INFEWS (Innovations at the Nexus of Food Energy and Water Systems). He said INFEWS is a national research and education initiative. He said a committee has been formed and brown bags sessions would be held soon. He commented this is a great opportunity for faculty from a wide range of disciplines to be involved.

Delserone inquired if there were any questions for Paul and there were none. She thanked Paul.

Delserone asked Yoder if he had any matters to share. Yoder said he did not. Green mentioned the Grand Opening of Nebraska Innovation Campus was tomorrow night and Friday and conveyed there would be a series of events around this. He commented it is very satisfying to see this come to a conclusion, at least for this phase of construction. He stated the first hearing with the Appropriations Committee would be Friday at Innovation Campus as part of the Grand Opening. He reminded membership there was a legislative study that originated out of the Unicameral this past last session.

Green announced a member from Center for Plant Science Innovation was the PI on a \$13.5M grant from DOE (U.S. Department of Energy). He said this was announced last week.

Green informed membership the Food Initiative Task Force, as mentioned by Chancellor Perlman in his State of the University Address, was in the beginning stage of determining the composition of this group. He stated the composition of who to engage in this discussion would be campus-wide to include: all of the sciences (life, natural, physical, social, human), business, fine arts, humanities, education, engineering, journalism, and law, amongst others.

Delserone indicated she had a couple of questions for Green, one IANR related and one Academic Affairs related. She referenced a newspaper article regarding the USDA Inspector General's interim report on alleged animal abuse at the USDA's Meat Animal Research Center in Clay Center (MARC) and asked Green if he could revisit. She pointed out UNL staff are employed at this facility. Are there any negative consequences or risks to the University because of our

association with MARC and the investigation? Green explained the USDA Animal Research Center is a federal research facility operated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Agricultural Research Service, which is USDA's intramural research organization. [White arrived] He stated this was an interim report submitted to Congress; the investigation is still ongoing. Animal rights activist groups think the report is a whitewash. He remarked that there is no concern on the University's part. He added this facility is a USDA facility and a USDA program.

Delserone stated the other question was an update on discussions on the future of the Fine and Performing Arts building. Green indicated there are multiple pieces to this. He stated there has been discussion on the Woods Arts Building. He remarked there is a definite need for Music's expansion in the Westbrook building. They are far beyond the capacity of that building in terms of students and the needs that they have. He said there is desire to address this and move forward; there are views to either replace Westbrooks with a new facility or expand the building significantly.

Delserone asked if there were any comments or further questions. There were none. She thanked Green.

#### Approval of September 16, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Delserone indicated a quorum was now present, with White's arrival.

Approval of the Minutes from the September 16, 2015 general meeting was moved by Trainin and seconded by Wagner.

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

#### Other Business

Delserone inquired if there were any items for Other Business and there were none.

There being no other business, Hoffman moved and Trainin seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 3:38 p.m. The next meeting of the Academic Planning Committee will held on Wednesday, October 21, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. in the Nebraska Union.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle (Shelly) Green, APC Coordinator