

## MINUTES

### University of Nebraska – Lincoln Academic Planning Committee

February 15, 2017

**Members Present:** Bloom, Correas, Delserone, Farrell, Franke-Schubert, Goddard, Hartman, Hinchman, Marron, Nunez, Plowman, Simpson, Sollars, Trainin, Wagner, White

**Members Absent:** Boehm, Busch, Delserone, Marron, Trainin

**Others Attending:** Dean Archie Clutter

**Note:** These are not verbatim minutes. They are a summary of the discussions at the Academic Planning Committee meeting as corrected by those participating.

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#### **1.0 Call**

Wagner called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

#### **2.0 Approval of February 1, 2017 Minutes**

Farrell moved that the minutes be approved as revised. Motion seconded by Simpson and approved by the Academic Planning Committee.

#### **3.0 Revision of the APR Guidelines**

Wagner noted that Sollars had recommended that faculty members in departments undergoing an academic program review be notified that they can meet separately with the external review team and Delserone recommended including a template notification message be in the APR Guidelines. Wagner stated that he included an email message in the appendix and added some text to include staff members as well because they can also meet with the external review team. Wagner stated that the Committee also needed to change SVCAA to EVC throughout the document. Nunez moved for approval of the revisions. Motion seconded by Simpson and approved by the APC.

#### **4.0 Proposal to Establish the Nebraska Food for Health Center**

Wagner stated that an ad hoc committee is needed to review the proposal. Farrell and Simpson volunteered to serve on the ad hoc committee. Simpson asked if there were guidelines for reviewing proposals to establish centers. Nunez stated that there is not a guidelines form, but there are some examples of previous submissions for centers that he can send to Farrell and Simpson.

#### **5.0 Proposal to Establish Graduate Certificate in Social Justice and Diversity in Education**

#### **6.0 Proposal to Establish Graduate Certificate in Education Technology Leadership**

Wagner noted that an ad hoc committee is needed to review the proposals. Bloom suggested combining the review of the two proposals. Franke-Schubert and Sollars volunteered to review the two proposals.

## **7.0 Capital Construction Plans Report**

Report postponed until next month.

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

### Research and Economic Development

Goddard reported that he and Clutter went to Washington DC last week to talk to members of the Nebraska delegation. He noted that there is currently a great deal of uncertainty with the federal budget, but the Secretary of Defense is working to get a resolution pushed through that could provide some funding for UNL. Clutter stated that we have very supportive representatives in both the House of Representatives and the Senate and we have good communications with them. He noted that the representatives' staffers are invited to visit the campus where presentations will be given about priority areas that UNL is focusing on.

Goddard stated that the visit allows us to make the representatives aware of our needs. For instance, there is concern that the change in discussions regarding climate change could affect the funding of the weather and climate data that is housed at UNL and used in numerous research efforts that benefit the state. He pointed out that if funding is eliminated it would have huge impacts on campus research and the representatives understood this when it was explained to them. He noted that many of our representatives are chairing subcommittees and we have offered to provide expertise or to consult with them, including traveling to DC if needed. He stated that providing information will help the representatives and gives visibility to our faculty and the campus. He noted that a workshop will probably be organized for some time in March on how to talk to a congressional committee.

### IANR

Clutter reported that several conferences are coming up this spring. EPSCOR will have a conference April 6-7 at the Lincoln Marriot and the Water for Food Conference will be held in April at Nebraska Innovation Campus.

### Academic Affairs

Plowman reported that the senior administrative team has been spending a lot of time on the budget, but the situation is very fluid and there is a lot of work that needs to be done with so many new Legislators.

Plowman stated that she has been learning and listening to the faculty and she continues to hear comments or questions about how there can be better communication with the faculty. She asked if there is a better mechanism that can be used to share information about the good things that are happening on campus. She pointed out that we need to work on marketing and we need to find a better way to stay in conversation with each other.

Plowman reported that we need faculty help with issues going on with students and alcohol abuse on campus. She stated that there is an alarming level of female freshmen that are going to emergency rooms due to excessive drinking. She stated that another issue is student mental health.

Bloom asked what good things are happening on campus that are not being shared. Plowman stated that Academic Affairs is sponsoring a program on pedagogy and teaching, but this has not been branded well to the campus. She stated that there are things going on in Student Affairs where they can use some faculty help, but they haven't asked for it yet. She noted that faculty members are often the first person that students go to when they are having difficulties and suggested that there could be mini training sessions to assist faculty members in dealing with these students. Bloom pointed out that faculty members are evaluated primarily on research and teaching and asked what the reward system would be for faculty members who volunteered to participate in some of these efforts. He questioned whether we have a culture that gets faculty involved. Plowman stated that we should be changing the culture. She noted that the Office of Research and Economic Development does some things, but we need a way to stay in better connection with one another. She stated that she will report back to the APC at a later date with a better formulated opportunity.

## **9.0 Other Business**

Wagner reported that the Great Plains major that the APC recently approved for elimination only eliminated the B.A., but not the B.S., so the APC will need to review the proposal again.

Goddard asked if the figures on the number of students that were presented in the proposal were a total of both B.A. and B.S. students. Wagner stated that he believes the figures represent the total.

Nunez reported that the Faculty Senate is considering the motion to revise the UNL Bylaws. He stated that the motion was tabled until the March 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. He noted that once the Senate has approved the changes, they will be presented to ASUN for consideration.

Simpson moved for adjournment. Motion seconded by Correias and approved. Meeting adjourned at 3:34 p.m. The next meeting of the APC will be on Wednesday, March 1, 2017 at 3:00 in the Gaughan Multicultural Center, Ubuntu Room. The minutes are respectfully submitted by Karen Griffin, Coordinator.