

FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, September 18, 2013

PRESENT: Bender, Guevara, Nickerson, Reisbig, Rinkevich, Ruchala, Woodman, Wysocki

ABSENT: Anaya, Joeckel, Schubert, Sollars, Zoubek

LOCATION: Faculty Senate Office, 420 University Terrace

1.0 CALL

Guevara called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

2.0 Announcements

2.1 Meeting on Student Code of Conduct Changes

Reisbig reported that the committee working on changing the Student Code of Conduct met last Thursday and will be meeting every two weeks during the semester. Woodman asked who is chairing the Committee. Reisbig reported that VC Franco is the chair. Bender reported that model code of conduct documents have been circulated for the committee to review and possibly use.

Guevara asked if VC Franco was able to get a Law faculty member on the committee. Bender said no and reported that he suggested getting a third year Law College student if a faculty member cannot be found.

Reisbig stated that the Committee seems to be moving along well and she thinks it is reasonable that the work can be done by the end of the semester.

Woodman asked if the UNK Student Code of Conduct was going to be used as a model. Bender stated that the committee was informed that UNK is waiting on adopting their new Code until UNL has made its changes. Reisbig noted that the UNK Code needs to include Title IX language and wants to see what UNL writes in the Code.

3.0 Approval of September 11, 2013 Minutes

Ruchala moved for approval of the revised minutes. Reisbig seconded the motion. Griffin reported that she has not received SVCAA Weissinger's edits to the minutes yet. Ruchala amended her motion by stating that the approval of the minutes be done at next week's meeting to allow SVCAA Weissinger the opportunity to make her changes. Reisbig seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

4.0 Unfinished Business

4.1 Amendment to Motion to Change the Executive Committee Syllabus

Guevara noted that a handout was being provided with three suggested changes to the Executive Committee syllabus which will provide a seat on the Executive Committee for a non-tenure track faculty member.

Woodman stated that in order to keep things symmetrical he thinks the same language, "if no member of the Faculty Senate qualifies or is willing to serve on the Executive Committee," should be used for both the Extension Educator seat and the non-tenure track faculty member seat because both seats are identified for a particular faculty group. He agreed that the number of Executive Committee members should not be reduced if either an Extension Educator or a non-tenure track faculty member is unable to serve on the Senate. He stated that the candidate with the next highest vote could be elected to the Executive Committee. Wysocki agreed that members should continue to be elected for three years rather than having a member serve for only one year to fill the non-tenure track seat as suggested in a previous meeting. He pointed out that having people serve for only one year could leave the Executive Committee with people with little experience.

Nickerson stated that he liked the suggestion made by Professor Bradford of the Law College. Reisbig stated that she particularly liked Bradford's phrase "if a qualified nominee is available" because it does not make the non-tenure track faculty member seat seem like it is a lesser position. Guevara suggested that this language be included after the Extension Educator language.

Woodman asked how the elections would occur if a non-tenure track faculty member would put the total of faculty members from the same college over the limit of four. Griffin stated that elections are held every year and efforts are made to recruit Senators from colleges that are either not represented or under represented on the Committee. She stated that if two faculty members from the same college are running but only one can be elected, they would run opposite each other on the ballot. She noted that if there is already four members from a college on the committee people will need to be recruited from the other colleges to run for election.

Reisbig moved to revise the Executive Committee original motion by adopting Bradford's suggestion with a slight amendment to read "at least one member must be an Extension Education and one member must be a non-tenure track faculty member, if qualified nominees are available." Ruchala seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

5.0 New Business

5.1 Chancellor's State of the University Address

Nickerson noted that most of the Chancellor's address was on topics that the Chancellor has already discussed with the Executive Committee and the Senate.

Guevara stated that he has one concern in particular. He noted that the Chancellor stated that there will be new tenure track faculty hires for UNL's highest reputation and research priorities. He stated that he questioned whether any of these new hires will go to existing programs that carry the weight of credit hours in a college. He stated that he has heard from faculty members concerns over the Chancellor's definition of these programs. The Committee agreed to ask the Chancellor for clarification of his statement when they meet with the Chancellor on October 9.

Woodman stated that he was glad to hear acknowledgement that the infrastructure for instructional purposes needs to be improved if we are going to be increasing the number of students to 30,000.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:54 p.m. The next meeting of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee will be on Wednesday, September 25 at 3:00 p.m. in the Faculty Senate Office. The minutes are respectfully submitted by Karen Griffin, Coordinator and Toni Anaya, Secretary.