

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Present: Bender, Dawes, Joeckel, Konecky, Lee, Nickerson, Purcell, Reisbig, Rudy, Vakilzadian, Woodman

Absent: Sollars, Steffen

Date: Tuesday, April 19, 2016

Location: 203 Alexander

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

1.0 Call to Order

Bender called the meeting to order at 2:32 p.m.

2.0 Announcements

2.1 Appreciation (Joeckel)

Joeckel noted that this was his last Executive Committee meeting and he wanted to take the opportunity to express his heartfelt thanks to all of the Committee members. He stated that three years ago he was reluctant to serve on the Executive Committee but decided to run for election, and it has turned out to be a very important part of his life at the university. He pointed out that he has learned very important and substantive issues from all of the members and feels that the Executive Committee has accomplished things to help the faculty at the university.

3.0 Approval of March 29, 2016 Minutes

Rudy moved for approval of the minutes as revised. Konecky seconded the motion which was then approved by the Executive Committee.

4.0 Unfinished Business

4.1 Graduation Regalia for Athletes

Rudy noted that the Executive Committee recently decided against having a sash added to student-athletes regalia for graduation because it was felt that commencement is an academic achievement. He reported that at the recent student-athletes recognition banquet that those students who achieved a GPA of 3.0 or higher received a medallion giving them recognition for their academic achievement from the Athletics Department and asked if these medallions could be worn by the student-athletes at graduation.

Konecky stated that she liked the idea of the academic medallion because it dispels the stereotype that athletes do not perform well academically. Reisbig stated that she objects to a 3.0 GPA as the standard for representing high academic achievement. Lee agreed and noted that 3.0 is not much different than the average GPA. Konecky suggested that those student-athletes with a GPA of 3.5 or better be allowed to wear the medallions. She

pointed out that she does not object to the Athletics Department honoring these students, but the faculty should set the standard for rewarding academic achievement at graduation.

Rudy reported that he still needs to talk to the Honors Convocations and Commencement Committee about the idea and if it is approved it would not occur until the August ceremony.

4.2 Ad Hoc Academic Honesty Committee

The Executive Committee worked on identifying faculty members who could serve on the ad hoc Academic Honesty Committee and discussed whether additional members would be needed.

4.3 Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity and Inclusiveness

The Executive Committee worked on identifying faculty members who could serve on the ad hoc Academic Diversity and Inclusiveness Committee and discussed whether additional members would be needed. Dawes pointed out that true diversity means having representatives from the majority as well as representatives from the minority groups on campus and suggested that this needs to be taken into consideration when the members are selected.

5.0 New Business

5.1 Agenda Items for VC/Interim SVCAA Green for May 10th Meeting

The Executive Committee identified the following agenda items to discuss with VC/Interim SVCAA Green on May 10:

- Searches for Vice Chancellor of IANR and SVCAA
- Any differences in hiring process between East and City campus
- Hiring procedures in IANR – does he plan to apply these procedures to the university at large
- How many vacancies need to be filled due to last year's VSIP and how will these positions be filled
- How does he plan to accelerate enrollment
- Next step for Extension Educator Resolution
- LR 509 interim study to examine the funding history, programs and services offered by the Cooperative Extension Service of the University
- Study on the Athletics department
- Planning processes for the short, medium and long term goals he discussed in the Executive Committee's interview with him
- What will be done to improve the completeness of the tutorial services on campus
- Will a teaching and learning center ever be considered again
- Clarification on the university's use of the self-insurance funds to pay for facilities maintenance and upkeep
- Plans to increase the number of faculty with student enrollment increases
- Broader meaning of rigor, beyond students taking 15 credit hours per semester
- What is his first 100 day plan for UNL
- Where are we with addressing the concerns raised by the Black Lives Matter event

The meeting was adjourned at 4:23 p.m. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be on Tuesday, May 10 at 2:30 pm. The meeting will be held in 203 Alexander. The minutes are respectfully submitted by Karen Griffin, Coordinator and Allison Reisbig, Secretary.