

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

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

Absent: Vakilzadian

Date: Tuesday, January 12, 2015

Location: City Campus Union, Auditorium

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 4:17 p.m.

2.0 Announcements

2.1 Senator Garrett's Legislative Bill on Guns

Bender reported that at this time he has not heard anything definitive regarding Senator Garrett's bill to allow concealed weapons. However, he suspects that it will be introduced sometime during this legislative session.

2.2 Proposed Bill on Closed Searches for University Administrative Positions

Bender stated that he recently learned that a bill may be introduced to the Legislature that would allow the withholding of all applicants' names for the positions of President or Chancellor. He noted that only the finalist's name would be announced. Lee asked if this means that the final candidates would not come to campus for an interview. Bender stated that it is his understanding that there would be no campus interviews and the hiring decision would solely be made by the President and/or the Board of Regents. He reported that President Bounds claims that this is not a proposed bill from the university. Purcell pointed out that such a bill would violate current bylaws. She asked if the Senate is going to oppose such a bill. Bender stated that the Senate should oppose the bill.

Bender stated that one of the arguments in support of the bill is because it may allow more people to apply for an upper level administrative position without having the concern that their current employer would learn they are looking for a different position. Steffen stated that he doesn't care about the search firms and how difficult it may be to find candidates. He pointed out that they should earn the money they are being paid to seek qualified individuals. He stated that the real issue is that the campus makes sure that it gets the right person for the position. He noted that we have made good hires in the past and the system should not be changed if it is working well.

Woodman suggested that the Senate make an effort to get faculty members, here at UNL and at the other campuses, to oppose a legislative bill that prohibits faculty input into the hiring of a President or Chancellor.

3.0 Approval of January 5, 2016 Minutes

Joeckel moved for approval of the minutes as revised. Steffen seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

4.0 Unfinished Business

4.1 Follow up on Correspondence with VC/Interim SVCAA Green and Associate General Counsel and Corporation Secretary Maurer

Bender reported that he communicated with Associate General Counsel and Corporation Secretary Carmen Maurer about whether a change in the name of a department invalidates the department's existing bylaws. He stated that Maurer said the existing bylaws would not be invalidated by the change. Sollars noted that the department will need to decide whether to move forward on revising the bylaws.

4.2 Draft Charge for Senate Diversity and Inclusiveness Committee

4.3 Draft Charge for Ad Hoc Academic Dishonesty Task Force

Bender reported that he is working on the charges for the two committees.

5.0 New Business

5.1 Update on Status of Extension Educators

Purcell reported that VC Green and Dean Hibberd discussed the proposal to eliminate the outdated Regents Bylaw 4.4.5 pertaining to Extension Educators as county employees and the proposal to extend the 90day notice of termination for Extension Educators with length of notice dependent on rank would need to go to the Chancellor. She stated that she told them the Senate will forward a resolution regarding support of these two proposals and she offered to work on drafting a resolution.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:44 p.m. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be on Tuesday, January 19, 2016 at 3:00 pm. The meeting will be held in 203 Alexander. The minutes are respectfully submitted by Karen Griffin, Coordinator and Allison Reisbig, Secretary.