

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Present: Dawes, Fech, Hanrahan, Konecky, Lee, Purcell, Rudy, Vakilzadian, Woodman

Absent: Bender, Leiter, Reisbig, Steffen

Date: October 11, 2016

Location: 203 Alexander Building

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 (*Woodman*)

Woodman called the meeting to order at 2:31 p.m.

2.0 Announcements

2.1 Update from Commencement and Honors Convocations Committee (CHCC)

Rudy reported that the CHCC discussed whether student-athletes could wear a medallion indicating academic achievement during the graduation ceremony. He stated that the CHCC unanimously disagreed with the proposal because athletics is not considered an academic unit and the Committee members did not feel that the award was appropriate for the ceremony.

Rudy stated that there was discussion about increasing pressure for adequate space for the graduation ceremonies due to increased enrollment, and that the undergraduate ceremony will outgrow the Pinnacle Bank arena. He noted that University Registrar Morrell pointed out that we may need to have two ceremonies which could cause a great deal of logistical problems, including the need for more Marshals. He stated that the graduate ceremonies will probably also change in the next few years.

Lee asked if other Big Ten universities experience the same problem with graduation ceremonies. Rudy stated that the big difference between us and other universities is that we still give out diplomas and this is something that the CHCC wants to continue doing.

Hanrahan suggested that the Memorial Stadium be used for graduation ceremonies. Rudy pointed out that Memorial Stadium was going to be used several years ago when the Pinnacle Bank Arena was not complete and the Devaney Center was under renovation. However, it snowed the morning of the ceremony forcing a greatly reduced event to take place indoors. He pointed out that the fallout from this was awful. He noted that having a two-day ceremony could be problematical because the Lincoln

Marathon is held the day after the May undergraduate ceremony and the Marathon starts and ends at the stadium.

Rudy stated that Marshals are needed to carry the gonfalons for the ceremonies which increase the number of people in attendance during the ceremony. Lee asked if faculty members are paid to serve as Marshals. Rudy stated that they are not paid. Hanrahan suggested having one of the top students carry in the gonfalons for each of the colleges. Rudy stated that this was discussed, but there were questions regarding the student not showing up. Dawes pointed out that it would be easy to fix the problem if there was a backup student.

Rudy noted that the university has to pay to use the Pinnacle Bank Arena and having two ceremonies would add considerable cost. He pointed out that the set up tent alone that is used outside of the arena costs \$30,000. Dawes stated that there will be additional costs regardless because of the increased number of students graduating when enrollment numbers increase. Vakilzadian pointed out that most parents want to come see their child graduate and some come from overseas to attend the ceremony so having it over two days should be an option that should be considered. Lee asked if Kimball Hall could be used for any of the ceremonies. Rudy stated that Kimball and Lied are not large enough to accommodate the ceremonies. Lee asked if the Devaney Center is no longer available. Rudy pointed out that Devaney is no longer usable due to its design. Hanrahan suggested that the colleges host a graduate ceremony for students receiving their doctorate and master degrees. He pointed out that the dean would be there to give out the degree, it would be a more intimate ceremony, and would free up some space in the Pinnacle Bank Arena.

Rudy reported that this year the undergraduates received their diplomas first before the graduate students and there were fewer complaints this year. He noted that previously there has been complaints that the undergraduate students' names were not read out loud in comparison to the masters' students whose names are read aloud.

Hanrahan pointed out that the distribution of the actual diplomas seems to create some problems and wondered if eliminating this practice would ease some of the pressures. Rudy stated that the CHCC is adamant that the diplomas should be distributed at the time of graduation. Konecky noted that handing out the actual diplomas puts the focus on the students which is what the ceremonies are about.

Rudy stated that there is a real need for more Marshals and it was suggested that the Marshals Corp be added to the Committee on Committees call for volunteers to serve on various campus committees. He noted that Emeritus professors can serve as Marshals,

but pointed out that Marshals can be on their feet for many hours. Woodman stated that he would like to see chairs of departments become part of the Marshals.

Hanrahan noted that there was a time when a student could request a faculty member to attend the graduation ceremony. He asked if this is still done. Rudy stated that students can ask a faculty member to attend via e-invite. He pointed out that faculty participation at graduation ceremonies is poor, particularly at the August and December ceremonies.

2.2 Update on Ad Hoc Academic Honesty Committee

Rudy reported that the Ad Hoc Academic Honesty Committee is trying to develop a survey tool for use with the faculty and students. He noted that Clemson University conducts a survey that is used by some Big Ten universities, but the cost is \$1200. He stated that the Committee will see if Academic Affairs can cover the cost.

Rudy stated that the Ad Hoc Academic Honesty Committee discussed the charge to the committee, and the consensus of the members is that the problem of academic honesty is primarily an undergraduate problem, but acknowledged that there are some problems at the graduate level and with research. He noted that the Committee wants to concentrate on the undergraduate problem for now. Woodman pointed out that Dean Matt Hecker talked to the Senate last year about the problem with international students and asked if this issue was discussed. Rudy stated that there was discussion about the cultural differences and the misunderstandings that can occur.

Woodman asked if preemptive interventions have been considered. Rudy stated that there has been discussion regarding some best practices and whether some education should be done at the freshmen orientation about academic honesty or whether it should be handled at the course level. He reported that the Committee wanted to focus on the main crux of the problem.

Rudy stated that the University of Kansas has an office on academic integrity with two officers directing the office. He noted that they can also give X grades which denotes cheating. Woodman pointed out that the X grade has been discussed before by the Senate but was not approved. He noted that an X grade would not be permanent on the student's record if the student does the necessary work to remove the indicator of cheating.

Rudy pointed out that the Student Code of Conduct has less than a full page about academic dishonesty and most of it is procedural information. He stated that the same is true at many other universities. He noted that there is very little in the Code of Conduct on the values about honesty that we are trying to instill in the students.

2.3 Police Advisory Committee

Vakilzadian reported that the Police Advisory Committee met yesterday. He noted that there are 13-14 members on the committee. It is an advisory committee to the UNL Police and members include the VC of Student Affairs, two members of the UNL Police, ASUN members, and representatives from other groups on campus. He stated that the Committee mostly worked on developing bylaws and plans are to meet the second Monday of each month.

Lee asked how diverse is the committee? Vakilzadian reported that there are a number of different groups represented, but the final members will need to be determined.

2.4 Report on Information Technologies and Services Committee

Woodman reported that the ITSC met on Friday and one issue discussed was a lecture recording system. He noted that the Echo system has been used as a pilot program, but it will not be adopted because of the cost. Konecky stated that a system like Echo might be good to have university wide. Woodman reported that while he personally was not wedded to using Echo, he felt that a lecture recording system, particularly in large introductory classes, was part and parcel of being a Big Ten university. He felt that automatic scheduled recordings and automatic uploading of the recording to an LMS like Canvas were critical components of whatever system was used.

Woodman reported that the committee received a report on the functioning and efficiencies of the Help Desk.

3.0 Approval of October 4, 2016 Minutes

Vakilzadian moved for approval of the revised minutes. Motion seconded by Dawes and approved by the Executive Committee with one abstention.

4.0 Unfinished Business

5.0 New Business

5.1 Comments on VC IANR Candidates

The Executive Committee commented on the four candidates for VC of IANR. Woodman stated that he would summarize the comments of the committee and send in the feedback on behalf of the Executive Committee to Chancellor Green.

5.2 Agenda Items for Interim SVCAA Kostelnik and Interim VC Yoder

The Executive Committee identified the following items for the Interim VCs:

- Update on academic program review of the Honors Program
- Status of extension educators resolution

- Interim SVCAA Kostelnik's definition of rigor
- Basic college life prerequisite course
- Curricular issues addressing Black Lives Matter concerns
- Pre-Senate lunches for City Campus Senators
- Flexible schedules for faculty members
- Based on your experience serving as Interim, what advice would you give to the incoming EVC and VC of IANR
- What is the state of LR 509 – the Legislature's mandated review of the history, programs and services of Extension
- Sabbaticals for IANR faculty members
- 5% tax report. Progress of faculty on review committee. Possible website listing of allocation of funds.

5.3 Questions for Interim Director Tami Strickman

The Executive Committee identified the following issues to discuss with Interim Director Strickman:

- Elaborate on the process if a faculty member is accused of a Title IX violation
- What are the stresses of being director of Title IX on campus
- Committee to work on improving Title IX procedures and to educate the campus about Title IX
- What is the judiciary component of the Dear Colleague memos and how much influence do they have on Title IX procedures
- Breakdown of the number of cases
- Problems with search committee training

5.4 Adding Non-tenure track faculty members to the Academic Rights & Responsibilities Panel (ARRP)

Woodman reported that the Academic Rights & Responsibilities Committee (ARRC) is recommending that four non-tenure track faculty members be added to the ARRP. He noted that Senate approval is needed, but the Regents Bylaws need to be checked to see if the Board also needs to approve the change. He noted that he will meet with ARRC chair Professor Wes Peterson to discuss the details further.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:28 p.m. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be on Tuesday, October 18, 2016 at 2:30 pm. The meeting will be held in 203 Alexander Building. The minutes are respectfully submitted by Karen Griffin, Coordinator and Allison Reisbig, Secretary.