

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Present:** Bender, Dawes, Hanrahan, Konecky, Lee, Leiter, Purcell, Rudy, Steffen, Vakilzadian, Woodman

**Absent:** Fech, Reisbig

**Date:** Tuesday, September 27, 2016

**Location:** 122 Law College

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

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### 1.0 Call to Order

Woodman called the meeting to order at 2:36 p.m.

### 2.0 Announcements

#### 2.1 NEBRASKA Now Program

Purcell reported that the NEBRASKA Now program at UNL has been launched. She noted that this is a program where high school students can take real college classes and earn real college credit. If the students earn a 3.0 GPA in the NEBRASKA Now classes they will be eligible for at least a \$1,000 merit-based scholarship at UNL and could save students up to \$2,750 off of their college bill. Lee noted that he was on the Academic Planning Committee (APC) when dual credit courses for high school students were proposed, but the APC denied the request. Purcell pointed out that the NEBRASKA Now courses are taught on campus or online and are taught by UNL instructors.

#### 2.2 Ad Hoc Academic Honesty Committee

Rudy reported that the Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Honesty met for the first time. He stated that the Committee plans to put together a survey for both students and faculty about academic honesty. He noted that IRB approval will be needed in order for the survey to be conducted. The Committee also wants to talk to department chairs to discuss academic honesty because the chairs probably handle the majority of the cases relating to academic dishonesty. He noted that only the severe cases of academic dishonesty seem to go to Dean of Students Matt Hecker. Lee stated that his department files a notice to Student Affairs whenever there is a case of academic dishonesty so the incident is on record.

Rudy stated that the Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Honesty initially plans to meet approximately every two weeks, but will eventually meet once a month after the initial work gets going. He noted that the initial reaction of the Committee members is that it should become a permanent committee because the feeling is that academic dishonesty is a lot worse than we realize. He stated that the Committee also wants to discuss best practices and to educate the faculty on the issue. He pointed out that there are now

companies that will take online classes for a student. The student provides the company with their user ID and password and pays half of the cost of the service upfront.

### **2.3 Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity and Inclusiveness**

Lee reported that the Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity and Inclusiveness met and decided that the Committee should focus on the experience of minority students, including LGBTQTA groups, on campus. He noted that some data has already been collected by LGBTQTA and the diversity audit will collect more information, but interviews of student's experience will also need to be conducted. He stated that if funds are available to hire a student to provide assistance it would be helpful. He reported that a steering committee has been created and it will develop an agenda for the Committee to move forward.

Lee stated that there is a possibility that the Diversity Council, headed by Interim Dean Perez, might have some funds for projects. He noted that the Diversity Council is assisting the consultant being brought in to conduct the diversity audit. One of the things the consultant is doing is reviewing all of the university web pages to develop a diversity index. He reported that Interim Dean Perez is willing to meet with the Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity and Inclusiveness to discuss the work of the Diversity Council.

### **2.4 Brad Paisley Free Concert**

Woodman reported that he wrote to Chief Yardley of the UNL Police expressing concerns about the impacts of the free concert on October 13. He noted that he was informed that a 1200-foot buffer zone was being created around the north parking lot where the concert is being held, although many teaching facilities are just 50 or so feet further. He pointed out that some chairs of departments that are being impacted the most by the concert have expressed concern, not only about the noise problem, but about traffic problems as well. He noted that people are also concerned that having the concert on a Thursday night could possibly lead to mid-week football games. Rudy pointed out that Professor Potuto, our Big Ten Faculty Athletic Representative, adamantly stated in previous meetings that UNL did not want mid-week football games. Steffen noted that if a sound engineer could go into one of the affected classes to measure the sound during events like the free concert it could provide helpful information that could help prohibit mid-week events.

Leiter noted that he was at the Parking Advisory Committee meeting earlier and there was discussion concerning the difficulties the concert was causing for Parking. He stated that regular parking passes need to be honored, but yet parking passes have been sent out to some of the general public as well. Woodman felt that a significant number of students who had evening labs and lectures may not be able to find parking.

### **2.5 University Health Center Flu Shots**

Woodman reported that some faculty members are expressing concern over the change in policy with the University Health Center no longer willing to file insurance claims when employees get a flu vaccine at the Health Center unless they schedule a one-hour

appointment. He pointed out that providing flu shots with ease would encourage the wellness of the campus.

## **2.6 Invitation to Regent Schroeder and Regent Whitehouse**

Woodman reported that he sent a letter inviting Regent Schroeder and Regent Whitehouse to speak to the Senate and/or the Executive Committee. He noted that he has not received a reply yet.

## **2.7 Revisions of UNL Bylaws – APC Membership**

Woodman reported that the APC voted against the Executive Committee's suggestion to maintain a consistent number of faculty on the APC by having a tenure track or tenured faculty member serve as the ninth faculty member if no non-tenure track faculty members are willing to run for election. He pointed out that keeping the ninth faculty position open loses a faculty vote. Konecky suggested seeing if there is any difficulty in finding non-tenure track faculty members who are willing to serve on the APC. If it is difficult, the Executive Committee might raise the suggestion again to the APC.

The Executive Committee asked for an explanation regarding the inclusion in the revised Bylaws that the Graduate Council representative can serve as chair. Griffin explained that the Graduate Council rep is elected by the Graduate Council and there is precedent of a Graduate Council rep serving as chair in the past. Including the language just clarifies that the Graduate Council representative is eligible to serve as chair.

## **3.0 Approval of September 20, 2016 Minutes**

Leiter moved for approval of the revised minutes. Motion seconded by Rudy and approved by the Executive Committee.

## **4.0 Unfinished Business**

### **4.1 Refine Questions for Vice Chancellor Candidates**

The Executive Committee worked on refining questions for the candidates for the VC of IANR and the Executive Vice Chancellor.

## **5.0 New Business**

### **5.1 Charge for Committee on Developing Best Practices for Non-tenure Track Faculty Members**

Woodman noted that twelve faculty members volunteered to serve on the committee to develop best practices for non-tenure track faculty members. The Executive Committee decided it should have a committee of nine people and the guidelines should focus on the following: baseline salary across the campus; apportionment of duties and workload; evaluation and raises; committee membership and voting rights in departments; orientation for non-tenure track faculty members; honors and awards.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be on Tuesday, October 4, 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.