

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Present: Adenwalla, Belli, Franco Cruz, Dawes, Fech, Hanrahan, Kolbe, Peterson, Vakilzadian

Absent: Buan, Leiter, Purcell, Renaud

Date: Tuesday, April 2, 2019

Location: City Campus Union, Regency Suite

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 (*Hanrahan*)

Hanrahan called the meeting to order at 4:09 p.m.

2.0 Announcements

2.1 Meeting with Associate VC Walker Regarding Non-Tenure Track Faculty

Belli reported that he met with Associate VC Walker to focus on the June 2016 Best Practices for Non Tenure Track document that was created by the Senate's ad hoc committee. He noted that Walker indicated that she sees considerable value in having a vibrant Faculty Senate. He reported that she would like to see progress on issues confronting non-tenure track faculty and asked for his comments on the issue so she could make a presentation about the issue at the deans' meeting.

Belli stated that he and Walker also discussed: revising the hiring templates for non-tenure track faculty members which would be presented to the Senate Executive Committee for comment and approval; the ability for lecturers to have a 3-year contract if specifically requested and approved; issues surrounding promotion for lecturers; the possibility of permitting lecturers to have a service apportionment; the difference and similarities in the intended roles of Professors of Practice, Lecturers, and Lecturer T; the timing of notification for non-tenure track faculty members. He stated that they also discussed having the Executive Committee consider making a recommendation for Academic Affairs to review multi-year contracts which are currently written by the colleges.

Belli noted that Walker would prefer having the Senate Executive Committee work on moving the best practices forward for non-tenure track faculty members rather than forming a committee which she thinks could slow the process down. Hanrahan pointed out that committees review proposed changes more carefully and consider ramifications thoroughly. Adenwalla stated that the practice of hiring more non-tenure track faculty members is occurring at universities across the country, and EVC Plowman has made it clear that she thinks this is what we should be doing here. Belli stated that he does not think the intent of the EVC's office is to take any action without approval from the Senate.

2.2 Meeting with Chancellor Green

Hanrahan reported that he met with Chancellor Green and the Chancellor plans to charge the RCM Committee to examine the current administrative process to determine whether it is sufficient, or whether there are too many administrators and whether changes need to be made.

Hanrahan stated that he discussed the on-going issues with the Computer Science & Engineering department being in two colleges. He stated that he was told that there was a positive meeting with all those involved and people were open minded about the possibility of having the department in one college.

Adenwalla pointed out that the last time the administration tried to move the department into one college four faculty members in the department left the university. She thinks the administration is trying to weaken the College of Arts & Sciences by removing departments. Vakilzadian pointed out that the concept to the change is to make the university better. Adenwalla stated that the RCM model will be based on student credit hour production and research dollars, and moving Computer Science & Engineering to the Engineering College will weaken Arts & Sciences and strengthen Engineering. Kolbe pointed out that moving the department into Engineering could make the department more unified because they would not be reporting to two different colleges.

Hanrahan reported that at the Board of Regents meeting a presentation was given regarding the use of the Duo Authentication security system. He noted that UNL is significantly behind UNK and UNO and so are their educational aspects of computer technology that would address the workforce crisis in Nebraska. He pointed out that, in his opinion, the recent scholarships announced by the Governor could be going to UNK and UNO rather than to UNL unless we better position ourselves within the system and advance our computer science and engineering program.

Hanrahan reported that the Faculty Senate Presidents met with President Bounds and asked about Executive Memorandum 32. He stated that President Bounds stated that the policy is to ensure that the campuses are following procedures when they begin developing campus policies that may affect the whole system. Hanrahan noted that he informed President Bounds that the policy was in conflict with the Board of Regents Bylaw which states that campuses could develop their own policy addressing discipline and academic freedom, such as the students revising the Student Code of Conduct.

Hanrahan stated that this summer the Executive Committee will discuss whether there should be a Code of Conduct for Faculty. He noted that currently the University has no code, and it cannot do anything when a faculty member's behavior violates the law. He pointed out that the public perception of the university is negatively impacted by a faculty member's unlawful behavior. He pointed out that faculty members need to understand that even when they speak as a private citizen they are associated with the university. Belli reported that AAUP's policy states that faculty members have the right to free speech and are not to be censured for their personal statements made outside of the

university. Dawes questioned whether having a Code of Conduct for faculty members would have repercussions.

3.0 Approval of March 26, 2019 Minutes

Hanrahan asked if there were further revisions or discussion on the minutes. Hearing none he asked for unanimous consent for approval. The minutes were approved with one abstention.

4.0 Unfinished Business

4.1 Executive Committee Elections

Griffin reported that three senators have come forward to run for election to the Executive Committee.

4.2 Resolution on Lecturers 90-Day Notification

The Executive Committee reviewed and worked on revising the draft resolution. The Executive Committee will continue working on the resolution at its next meeting.

4.3 Additional Survey Results

Hanrahan presented some comments from the faculty survey regarding the Faculty Senate. Griffin suggested that it would be good for the Committee to review the comments and use them to identify goals for the Executive Committee this summer.

4.4 RCM Committee Update (Peterson)

Peterson reported during the Senate meeting that the RCM steering committee has 18 members directed by the Vice Chancellors and administrators and is working with the Huron Consulting Group. He noted that there is a website (<https://budget.unl.edu/responsibility-center-management>) dedicated to providing information about the RCM and the committee's work. He stated that work is beginning on the guiding principles and the committee will continue to work through the end of the semester and during the summer with the goal of having a sense of the model by the end of the year. He noted that the idea with the RCM budget model is to have decentralized budget decision making which would provide incentives for colleges and departments to be more productive through teaching and research. He pointed out that there will be some concerns that have to be considered before the model could go into a testing mode.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:53 p.m. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be on Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 2:30 pm. The meeting will be held in 203 Alexander Building. The minutes are respectfully submitted by Karen Griffin, Coordinator and Lorna Dawes, Secretary.