

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Present:** Adenwalla, Belli, Buan, Franco Cruz, Dawes, Hanrahan, Kolbe, Leiter, Peterson, Purcell, Vakilzadian

**Absent:** Fech, Renaud

**Date:** Tuesday, January 8, 2019

**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.

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### 1.0 Call (*Hanrahan*)

Hanrahan called the meeting to order at 3:52 p.m.

### 2.0 Announcements

#### 2.1 Non-Tenure Track Faculty Forum

Belli reported that he had a discussion with former Senate President Woodman about initiating a forum for non-tenure track faculty in April and whether another survey is needed. He pointed out that there might not be enough time to conduct a survey this semester and noted that there are still the recommendations from the report by the Senate's Ad Hoc Committee on Best Practices for Non-tenure Track Faculty that should be considered. He stated that he does not want to wait to start action on the forum since we already have collected data from previous surveys. Purcell stated that another survey could be conducted even though the data from the survey may not be available for the forum.

Kolbe asked what the needs were for non-tenure track faculty members that the Senate identified. Hanrahan reported that issues such as inconsistent practices for reappointments, being hired at the last minute, salary issues and lack of salary increases, inconsistent promotion policies, and the amount of documentation needed for reappointment were some of the issues. Belli noted that the colleges have a great deal of latitude in how they appoint and treat non-tenure track faculty members. Belli indicated we would conduct the survey.

### 3.0 Approval of December 11, 2018 Minutes

Peterson moved for approval of the revised minutes. Motion seconded by Leiter and approved by the Executive Committee. There were two abstentions.

Adenwalla stated that she thinks statements made by EVC Plowman as reflected in the December 11<sup>th</sup> minutes indicate that the College of Arts & Sciences is being diminished in importance. She pointed out that the College of Engineering received 17 faculty lines while Arts & Sciences only received 3, even though it is the college that produces more credit hours. She stated that the statements made at the December 11<sup>th</sup> meeting were in

contrast with what the Chancellor said at today's Senate meeting. She stated that she wants to know if the administrators have an over-arching vision, what programs they want to emphasize, and whether they are prepared to deal with the costs of shifting resources to support the emphasized programs.

#### **4.0 Unfinished Business**

No unfinished business was discussed.

#### **5.0 New Business**

##### **5.1 Report on Board of Regents Meeting**

Hanrahan stated that he spoke with both the President of the UNO Faculty Senate Chris Kelly, and UNMC Faculty Senate President Corinne Hanson about Chancellor Gold's joint appointment as Chancellor of UNMC and UNO. He stated that he expressed the concern that faculty at UNL feel that this appointment is an attempt to merge UNMC and UNO and to weaken UNL. He noted that President Kelly acknowledged that Chancellor Gold has helped UNO, and the UNO Senate supports the appointment. He reported that UNMC Faculty Senate President Hanson stated that the faculty of UNMC were fine with Gold's appointment.

Hanrahan noted that there were faculty members at UNL who felt strongly that he should address the issue of a possible merger and the impacts for UNL by speaking at the Board of Regents meeting, but after thoughtful consideration and consultation with some other faculty members, he decided not to speak. He pointed out that members of the Board of Regents stated during the meeting that the appointment of Dr. Gold was not a merger of UNO and UNMC and furthermore, there were no plans to merge any of the campuses. The Regents stated that any such action would require approval by the Board of Regents.

Hanrahan reported that he had a somewhat serious discussion with President Bounds after the meeting, and President Bounds has agreed to have a meeting with Hanrahan, Belli, and Purcell to try and improve the relationship between Central Administration and UNL faculty. Purcell noted that Chancellor Gold spoke to her about the concern of UNL faculty members and he volunteered to come and speak to the Faculty Senate. Purcell pointed out that Chancellor Gold told her that UNL is the major feeder into all of UNMC programs and the flagship program for the university. Even if all the qualified applicants from UNO went to UNMC, it would not surpass the number of UNL students at UNMC. Chancellor Gold wants to improve the pipeline from UNO to UNMC, but it will still never be able to replace UNL and the importance of UNL students to UNCM.

Hanrahan stated that the President Bounds and Vice President Kabourek will be speaking at an upcoming Board meeting to the faculty senate presidents and president-elects about the university budget.

##### **5.2 Faculty Senate President Newsletter**

Hanrahan noted that he has drafted the President's Newsletter but asked that Executive Committee members to provide feedback by emailing him.

### **5.3 Questions for Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Candidates**

Hanrahan noted that the Executive Committee will be interviewing the four candidates for the Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences. The Committee worked on identifying questions for the candidates.

### **5.4 Faculty Survey**

Hanrahan distributed a draft survey of questions he would like to ask the faculty in order to gauge whether they feel that the Senate is addressing their concerns. He noted that the survey will be brief. He asked the Executive Committee to review the survey so that the Committee could discuss it further at next week's meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:51 p.m. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be on Tuesday, January 16, 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.