EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

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

Absent: Adenwalla, Renaud

Date: Tuesday, March 5, 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 4:30 p.m.

2.0 Announcements
2.1 Faculty Senate Presidents’ Meeting
Hanrahan reported that the Senate Presidents from the four campuses met via Zoom and there was discussion regarding the change with the health insurance. He noted that the other campuses are not getting as robust a response from their Human Resources department about the concerns that have been raised. He stated that the Presidents plan to raise the health concerns with President Bounds when they next meet with him.

Hanrahan stated that there was also discussion regarding Executive Memorandum 32 and the other Presidents plan to ask their Chancellor if they knew of the Memorandum. He stated that it was on the President’s Council agenda in May 2018, but it is uncertain whether it was discussed. He pointed out that the Memorandum came out after ASUN completed the majority of the work to revise UNL’s Student Code of Conduct. He stated that the Senate Presidents will have further discussion about the Memorandum at their next meeting.

2.2 Proposed Professional Code of Conduct for Faculty
Hanrahan stated that he has it on the Executive Committee’s calendar to start discussions about a possible Code of Conduct for faculty in May.

2.3 Proposed Revisions to Academic Rights and Responsibilities Committee Procedures Update
Hanrahan noted that the Senate approved revisions to the ARRC Procedures at the November 6, 2019 meeting, but the Chancellor’s office has been waiting for the AAUP Censure Committee recommendations for further changes before sending them through the process of approval from the Board of Regents. He stated that the earliest the changes could be put forward would be the June meeting, but it is more likely that the changes wouldn’t go to the Board until October. Griffin pointed out that any additional
revisions to the Procedures would need to be approved by the Senate before being sent to the Chancellor and on to the Board.

Peterson noted that work to revise the Procedures began in 2017 and the revisions were approved by the Senate in November 2018. He stated that it would be better if the Procedures were updated sooner rather than later. He asked if the AAUP Censure Committee’s proposed revisions would be ready soon. Hanrahan stated that Professor Falci is taking the lead on working on the ARRC Procedures, but he does not know how quickly they will be completed. Griffin suggested that the AAUP Censure Committee be given a deadline of when the proposed changes need to be made so the Procedures could be moved forward in the approval process.

Peterson stated that most of the revisions approved by the Senate to the Procedures are non-controversial, but he has concerns that if the AAUP Censure Committee’s revisions are controversial it will stall the approval by the Board for the revisions approved by the Senate. Hanrahan stated that he would voice this concern to Associate to the Chancellor Zeleny.

Hanrahan asked the Executive Committee if they were in favor of moving the proposed revisions to the ARRC Procedures now rather than waiting. The majority of the Executive Committee felt that the revisions should be put forward now. Hanrahan stated that he would convey this message to the Chancellor.

2.4 RCM Budget Committee
Hanrahan reported that he spoke with the Chancellor about the composition of the RCM committee pointing out that while the faculty are a greater percentage of employees than administrators, 90% of the Committee members are administrators and there is only one faculty member on the Committee. He stated that he argued that at least a third of the Committee should be faculty members. He noted that he told the Chancellor that if there is not enough adequate faculty input the RCM budget plan will be fraught with problems. He stated that he has been asked to provide a list of faculty members who could serve on the committee.

3.0 Approval of February 26, 2019 Minutes
The Executive Committee approved the revised minutes pending a statement from Fech.

Purcell stated that she wants to respond to section 2.4 of the February 26 minutes. She stated Extension Educators John Fech and Sarah Purcell noted that the Nebraska Cooperative Extension Association (NCEA) members were asked to secure letters from clientele from across the state. NCEA members include Extension Specialists, Extension Educators and Extension Assistants from across the state.

4.0 Unfinished Business
No unfinished business was discussed.
5.0 New Business
5.1 Faculty Recommendations for the RCM Committee
The Executive Committee discussed possible members for the RCM Committee.

5.2 Faculty Survey Results
Hanrahan reported that, based on the number of faculty members stated in the UNL Fact Book, there was a response rate of 44.3% to the survey. He noted that state funding for UNL was the primary concern with an average score of 89.3, where 100 is Extremely Important, 50 is Neutral, and 0 is Not at All Important. Next was by academic freedom/free speech at 83.7. He reported that at the lower end of the scale for concerns was the vehicle mileage reimbursement policy at 55.5 and Concur Travel Software at 57.1. He stated that 38.5% of the faculty participate in shared governance at least once a month and 83.9% of respondents stated that they knew their Faculty Senator(s). He stated that 39.04% of respondents were fully promoted professors (this includes Extension, Research, and Professors of Practice who are fully promoted in their job title), 27.48% were associates, 25.83% where of the assistant professor rank, and 7.66% were lecturers or senior lecturers. He noted that he will give a complete summary of the results of the survey at the April 23 Senate meeting.

5.3 Appreciation of President-Elect Belli’s Support
Fech stated that he wanted to thank President-Elect Belli for continuing to inquire about the status of the proposed Regents Bylaw change that would extend the length of termination notices for Extension Educators.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:53 p.m. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be on Tuesday, March 12, 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.