

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Present: Baesu, Bearnese, Boudreau, Dawes, Eklund, Kopocis, Lott, Minter, Shrader, Tschetter, Vakilzadian, Zuckerman

Absent: Paul

Date: Tuesday, May 2, 2023

Location: East Campus Union, Great Plains Room A

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 (*Kopocis*)

Kopocis called the meeting to order at 3:48 p.m.

2.0 Announcements

2.1 New Executive Committee Members Welcomed

Kopocis introduced Professor Shrader from the College of Journalism and Mass Communications and Professor Tschetter from History as new Executive Committee members. She welcomed back Professor Bearnese from Nebraska Extension, Professor Vakilzadian from Electrical and Computer Engineering, and Professor Boudreau from the University Libraries.

3.0 Approval of April 25, 2023 Minutes

Kopocis asked if there were any further revisions to the minutes. Hearing none, she asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Minter moved, Tschetter seconded, and the Executive Committee voted to approve the minutes.

4.0 Unfinished Business

4.1 Update on Guidelines for Faculty Evaluations

Minter noted that updating the Guidelines for Faculty Evaluations has been an ongoing process and noted that the Faculty Senate will eventually need to vote for approval of any revisions to the existing document. She stated that the Guidelines seek to layout the processes for colleges and units in the evaluation process and identifies who is responsible during the various stages of the process. She pointed out that nothing in the Guidelines can contradict any university-wide policy.

Minter pointed out that the Executive Committee had a question about whether Professors of Practice could go up for early promotion without being penalized, same as what is done for tenure-track faculty members. She reported that AVC Walker pointed out that that problem is that there is no set timeline for promotion as there is for tenure and noted that if a tenure-track faculty member goes up early for promotion and tenure but then withdraws, they would then go up for promotion and tenure at their originally scheduled time but if they do not receive tenure then their tenure-track position is done at

UNL . AVC Walker also questioned whether Professors of Practice would have the ability to go up for early promotion repeatedly. Minter stated that she suggested that Professors of Practice should be able to withdraw their early promotion request once without penalty. She noted that AVC Walker suggested that the without prejudice provision could apply when there's any non-mandatory consideration for tenure and promotion which could be withdrawn by the candidate at any time before it's conclusion. She thought that this language was a bit confusing though because there was a time when Professors of Practice were required to go up for promotion after so many years. Tschetter pointed out that this was true when the Professors of Practice positions were created but they now can stay in the same position. Shrader stated that there are no policies now requiring them to get promoted within a certain time frame.

Kopocis noted that the Executive Committee was asking for language that specifically addressed Professors of Practice because currently there is no language at all in the Guidelines about Professors of Practice. Eklund asked if there is a reason why the language can't be the same for the different faculty titles. Minter stated that she thinks AVC Walker is proposing this except when tenure applies.

Zuckerman stated that there needs to be clearer pathways in relation to faculty evaluations. She noted that the only time non-tenure track faculty members receive a raise is when they get promoted.

Tschetter questioned whether there is language anywhere that says that if a faculty member is denied a promotion that they need to provide additional information in order to be considered for promotion again.

Bearnes asked if Extension Educators are identified in the Guidelines. Minter stated that it is unclear where language pertaining to Extension Educators would be included in the Guidelines and AVC Bischoff did raise this issue.

Minter stated that she would contact AVC Walker again to tell her that the Executive Committee likes the idea of the "without prejudice" language but that the Committee does have a few additional questions.

5.0 New Business

5.1 Agenda Items for Chancellor Green

The Executive Committee identified the following agenda items for the Chancellor:

You recently announced the formation of a budget advisory committee. How do you see this committee working, what is its main focus, and will this just be an ad hoc committee?

At times there seems to be more of a divide between East and City campus. How can we remove some of the obstacles that exist between the two campuses?

Are there things on the horizon that the University is doing that can influence the community more?

Do we have any hard evidence on why students are not coming to UNL or are we making an assumption that the political climate is the reason students are not coming to the University? Is there anyway the University can get this kind of concrete evidence?

We would like to get your wisdom on this issue, is there any reason that we cannot, as a body of faculty governance, address the Board of Regents to encourage that each of the campuses have the same access to the same students by having similar tuition rates?

Is there a way to incentivize faculty members to recruit more students? Is there some incentive that can be provided to faculty members who are actively involved in recruiting students?

What are your thoughts on how to address faculty/staff burnout and what are the things we could tackle that would address the burnout issue?

What are your thoughts on the January pre-session?

Whose decision was it to change Herbie Husker?

The meeting was adjourned at 4:56 p.m. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at 2:30 pm. The meeting will be held in 201 Canfield Administration Building. The minutes are respectfully submitted by Karen Griffin, Coordinator and Signe Boudreau, Secretary.