FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING WITH ADMINISTRATION
March 30, 2005

Present: Chancellor Kristensen, Kathy Smith, Randy Haack, John Oseth, Finnie Murray
Senators Bridges, Darveau, Kruse, Miller, Unruh, Young

1. Update on Searches:
   Three candidates have submitted applications for the position of campus NCAA representative. Chancellor Kristensen will interview them and complete the search by early next week.

2. Update on Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) – Will there be an opportunity for Senators to provide feedback?
   Chancellor Kristensen says yes. The plan has not yet addressed operational issues; instead, the SPC is working with big ideas, a framework. Committee members will submit their comments on the latest draft by 3/31, then the document will go out to campus for discussion. The next phase is working on data, strategic assessment, and the development of objectives. Another committee may be formed at that point. The draft of the current document will be available before the 4/7 FS meeting.

3. Policy Clarification regarding Student Alcohol Consumption on Field Trips:
   What are the guidelines regarding alcohol consumption of students and faculty on field trips, more specifically on overnight trips? What policies regarding alcohol consumption (either the faculty member’s or students’) apply to faculty who sponsor such trips?

   VC Haack replied that there are no specific policies regarding faculty/student drinking other than those that apply to legal age and state property. The group decided this is most appropriately a matter for the Professional Conduct committee.

4. Climate Survey – How can FS assist with this project?
   The survey has been reviewed by the executive committees of Faculty and Staff Senate. The Chancellor replied that it should take no longer than 10 minutes to complete. He hopes the survey will provide a “truthful, accurate picture of what the climate is.” A good response is important; results will contribute to planning. This survey will provide baseline data. In order to maintain confidentiality among respondents, analysis will go no further than the college level.

5. Outside Employment – How does a faculty member get permission to teach a course for another institution, particularly an institution outside the NU system?
   Administrators replied that faculty must follow BOR policy regarding outside employment that requires the instructor’s services more than 2 days a month (16 hours total). The BOR policy, along with a permission form, can be found online.
6. Reports from Administrators –

Chancellor Kristensen reported that the topic of differential tuitions is in the discussion phase, along with a proposal to waive non-resident tuition for students from Colorado. (Differential tuition involves a system whereby tuition is based on a number of factors including department, program, or even time of day when classes are offered.)

We are watching the state budget for news of salaries. Residence halls are probably not included in any bonding issues.

Lyn Wallin Ziegenbein is tentatively scheduled to speak at Spring commencement.

The Unity Conference begins Friday and promises to bring lots of students to campus.

Discussion is occurring over the role of marketing.

The NU Foundation will soon have a change of leadership.

President Milliken is looking favorably upon UNK and speaks highly of our needs.

The new deans of CB&T and CFAH will have a positive impact.

VC of Business and Finance Randy Haack reported two action items forthcoming at the April BOR meeting:

1. Review and approval of the Wells Fargo contract which would enable the new ID cards to serve as check cards.
2. Mandatory fees

The clappers in the Carillon bell tower have been repaired and will soon be operating.

A proposal has been made to TIAA/CREF to fund two SAFE awards in the amount of $1000/yr.

4/21 – dedication of Frontier Lab
4/22 – Celebrating Excellence retirement luncheon

The Kearney Cranes basketball team has asked for practice time in the Health and Sports Center. In return, they will play a benefit game on campus on 4/15. April 29 will be UNK night at the Tri-City Arena with reduced ticket prices for UNK students, faculty, and staff.

John Foss is no longer with Chartwells; Renee Grueschow is serving as interim director and everything is going smoothly. An internal, then national, search will be conducted. Per agreement with Chartwells, VC Haack’s office will be included in the interviewing and selection process.
Interim VC for University Relations Kathy Smith announced that the new web site will be launched 5/9.

Plans are underway to re-do the print materials going to institutions along the I-80 corridor; the result will be a uniform look for the marketing tools.

An emerita/us faculty member will most likely be the summer commencement speaker.

In terms of legislative action, the overall budget is looking pretty good.
   LB 608 – the maintenance bill is not looking good for residence halls. We don’t know how much we’ll get.
   LB 47 – endowed professorship bill. Current proposal is that the legislature would provide $3 million to match what campuses would raise. The bill may end up providing $1.5 million or a change in the formula for matching funds.
   LB 668 – the transfer of land near Bico’s from Health and Human Services to UNK has been completed.

3/9 – Breakfast with Lincoln area high-school counselors. We continue to make inroads in the Lincoln-Omaha area. Q: Is it possible to establish a permanent office in the Omaha area? A: Probably not. The cost would be prohibitive, though next year Omaha will most likely have additional full-time coverage.

4/5 – Chancellor’s brown bag luncheon with CB&T
4/29 – Arbor Day and Cranes game. Beginning of Centennial tree planning

We had good feedback from the BOR over the March 4 meeting at UNK.

Q: Speaking of trees (see above), where are memorial trees planted -- for example, trees planted in memory of a faculty member’s relative?
A: Rather than planting a specific tree in memory (which must be fertilized and/or may die), it is probably better for UNK to donate to a tree fund instead.

SVCAASL Finnie Murray thanked the deans’ search committees for a timely job well done.

Central Administration is trying to clear up issues with facilities containing the name “Center” or “Institute.” UNK is checking into which of our facilities bear these names and deciding whether to seek BOR approval for these names or to re-name them.

Dr. Murray will attend a discussion on 4/1 regarding payment for Blackboard.

Letters for faculty sabbaticals are going out now; P&T letters will go out soon.

Executive Assistant to the Chancellor John Oseth reminded the group of the positive things happening at UNK. For example, the Jane Goodall appearance was put together quickly and efficiently and attracted over 2000 people.

Martha Kruse, recorder