Faculty Senate Executive Committee & Administration Meeting
April 21, 2008
Warner Conference Room, 2:30 p.m.

Present: Chancellor Kristensen, SVC Murray, VC Carlson, VC Johnson, FS President Miller, Senators Snider, Darveau, Kelley, Frickel

Absent: Senator Hansen

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Priority Programs. Will priority program designations be reevaluated?
   Chancellor, SVC Murray: Reallocated Program of Excellence money can be requested on a competitive basis to help already effective programs improve to the next level. Programs that apply for such funds do not have to be priority programs. Because of this possibility, there is not a pressing need to reassess what programs were originally designated as priority programs.

2. Thompson Learning Communities. Why does the budget for this program differ between campuses?
   Interim Dean Longo: UNK students do not pay for some student services that UNO and UNL students do. Hence, those expenses are included in those budgets. UNK also does not have as many staff and faculty working on the project, so salary stipends are less. Further, adjuncts are less costly at UNK than in Lincoln and Omaha. There are currently 21 Thompson/Buffett scholars at UNK and 51 more will begin in the fall. Further, in the fall there will be an announcement for a program director. Faculty to teach two courses in the Spring will be needed. Longo noted that UNK has been treated generously and fairly, and there is much gratitude to the Susan Buffett Foundation.

3. Administrative Searches. What is the status of the searches for International Studies director, Ethnic Studies director, and dean of Student Life?
   SVC Murray: An offer has been made to a candidate for International Studies director, and we are awaiting a response. A new interim dean of Student Life will likely be appointed in the fall from within that division. In the future, there will be a national search. Claude Louishomme has been appointed director of Ethnic Studies.
   VC Carlson: The search committee for director of Alumni Relations is continuing its work.

4. Budget Issues. What is happening now and what is the process for summer and fall?
   Chancellor: The magnitude of the cuts will be influenced by the level of tuition increase the Regents approve in June, as well as the allocation from Central Administration to each of the four campuses.
   VC Johnson: The deficit in the coming fiscal year will be covered by funds that were held back for such a case. This will allow full discussion in the fall of how cuts should be approached. The mandated adoption of a new student information system, as well as development of other strategic initiatives will affect budget planning.
5. Update from Faculty Senate.

President Miller

Dual credit standards. The Council of Chairs will propose to Faculty Senate on Thursday that departments should determine the appropriate curriculum, materials and teacher qualifications for dual enrollment courses.

5. Reports from Administration

Chancellor Kristensen

a) The Title IX survey committee, chaired by Nita Unruh, has submitted its final report. A summary will be sent to campus via email, which will contain a link to the full data. The response rate was about 61%.

b) The community college is surveying to determine what community needs will affect its planning. They see a need to further develop vocational-technical programs, and to acquire more facilities to meet anticipated needs in the future, such as an expanding nursing program. They will compete for much of the same populace that UNK is trying to recruit.

c) We are awaiting a proposal and price quote from Noel Levitz for consulting services in recruitment, retention, and marketing.

SVC Murray

a) NU system level work on selecting a new student information system vendor is progressing. It is important to make a good choice from the start to avoid mistakes if NU were to adopt a system that then proved inadequate.

VC Johnson

a) Semester grades will be due by 5:00pm on the Tuesday after finals, May 13th. Faculty are advised that there will be no power to campus offices from 7:00am to 5:00pm on Saturday, May 10th. However, power needed for the operation of Blackboard and WebSMART will not be affected, so these platforms may be accessed from home computers.

b) The charrette to discuss possible development and use of land owned by the university south and west of campus will take place Thursday and Friday, April 24th and 25th.

VC Carlson

a) The task force to redesign the UNK website is at work and will continue throughout the summer. This is a major priority for the University Relations office.

Interim Dean Longo

a) Thanks to Rick Miller and all the faculty members who are working to make New Student Orientation a reality. Thirty-three faculty members have committed to participate.

Respectfully submitted,
Daren Snider