The Academic Affairs Committee met at 8:30 AM. A summary of the Financial Aid Overview is found in the minutes of the Executive Committee’s meeting with the Administration.

The Business Affairs Committee met at 9:30 AM. Included in this session was a Strategic Framework Update on Administrative Cost Savings. VCBF Randy Haack delivered the presentation for the UNK campus. Some stats from FY 2002-06:

- Campus operating expenditures: +18%
- VCBF, audit, financial and university services staffing: -5.7%
- Facilities Maintenance Planning and Police: -3.8%
- Campus staffing change: -1.0%
- Campus square footage: +4.5%

UNK at a glance:
- FY budget: $74,000,000
- Personnel account for 83% of expenses (salary and benefits)
- 936 faculty and staff
- 1,017,457 gross square feet

President J.B. Milliken delivered the Legislative Overview. NU has three priorities for the current session:

1. LB 605—Deferred Maintenance Funding. Senators and staffers have been visiting the NU campuses. UNK projects up for consideration include Bruner Hall of Science and utility infrastructure. This bill would require the state to invest an additional $5.5M/year. Central administration is developing a DVD documenting campus-wide needs.

2. Utilities Deficit Request – NU buildings represent more than 70% of the state’s building assets. NU spent $25.8M on utility billings in FY 2004-05. Based on current estimates, NU could be facing a 26% increase in energy expenditures for FY 2005-06. This translates into an estimated $6.4M deficit in our operating budget due to higher energy costs. If funding is not provided, existing programs will have to be reduced or eliminated to cover these expenses.

3. Ag Research and Development Center (ARDC) Environmental Remedial Investigation and Removal Actions Program – Located near Mead, NE, the ARDC is a major research/education facility of UNL’s Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources. The EPA is requiring NU to conduct a remedial investigation to determine the extent of contamination from ordnance operations and removal actions necessary to address buried waste. This project could cost $7M, with the cost to be shared equally between UNL and UNMC.
Appropriation hearings are Feb. 9. Please contact your senator if you wish to comment on any of these 3 initiatives. President Milliken noted that even with the governor’s proposed tax cut, there would still be enough funds to meet NU’s needs.

The afternoon meeting was very brief (one hour). UNK Athletic Director Jon McBride received a KUDOS award. In other business Jim McClurg was elected chair of the BOR and Charles Wilson was selected to serve as Vice Chair.

The remainder of the meeting passed uneventfully.

The only other document of possible interest to the Faculty Senate was Addendum X-D-1 to the agenda, a report on NU tenure density from 1995-2005. UNK’s stats:

From 1995-2005 –
  The number of tenured faculty went from 219 to 190 (-29).
  The number of tenure-track faculty went from 66 to 70 (+4)
  The total number of tenured and TT faculty went from 285 to 260 (-25)
  The percentage of tenured faculty went from 76.8% to 73.1% (-3.7)

Martha Kruse, Faculty Senate President