

University of Nevada, Reno
2007-08 Faculty Senate

Meeting Minutes August 30, 2007

RSJ 304

Meeting 3

1. Roll Call and Introductions

Present: Eric Albers (HHS), Gale Craviso (SOM), Gale Craviso for Barbara Scott (SOM), Maureen Cronin (SS), Donnelly Curtis (Library), Dean Dietrich (DEV), Bill Follette (CLA), Alan Fuchs for Mano Misra (EN), Michelle Gardner (Pres), Jodi Herzik (Provost), Guy Hoelzer (COS), Stephen Jenkins (COS), Cindy Kiel (Research), Doina Kulick (SOM), Alex Kumjian (COS), Steve Lafer for David Crowther (COE), Tom Lean (A & F), Normand LeBlanc (SOM), Bourne Morris (JO), Elliott Parker (COBA), Hans-Peter Plag (COS), Steve Rock (COE), Nelson Rojas (CLA), Aaron Santesso (CLA), JoAnne Skelly (COOP), Judith Sugar (HHS), Ginny Vogel (CLA), Jill Wallace (IT), Esmail Zanjani (CABNR).

Absent: Leah Skladany (SOM), Patricia Swager (SOM), Leonard Weinberg (CLA)

Guests: Mark Brenner (Research), Marvin Castagna (EL), Bill Cathey (Prov), Brian Duggan (Sagebrush), Shannon Ellis (SS), Jessica Estepa (Sagebrush), Milton Glick (President), Pam Haney (Ombudsman), Gena Jones (HR), Tom Judy (A & F), Nancy Markee (Prov), Paul Neill (Prov), Reg Stewart (CSCD).

2. Conversation with President Glick: On Growing the Student Body

President Milt Glick complemented the campus on the student orientation. Faculty and staff did a great job and the feedback he heard was that orientation was a most rewarding experience. The Summer Scholars Project also worked very well. This year 90 fewer freshmen enrolled than last year. The number of students from Washoe and Clark Counties increased, but the number of rural students decreased. The deans have set a goal to increase student population by 500 students per year. The university's goal was to raise the quality and diversity of our students as well as increase enrollment. The provost search began in August with the search committee having met once with the search firm. The search firm, Isaacson, Miller will be back on campus September 11, 2007 to meet with students, staff and faculty to hear their ideas on what they want in a provost. This search firm tailors its search of qualified candidates to each university's needs. The search firm would do the legwork and heavy lifting for the search committee. Candidates would be narrowed down in degrees with a final three or four recommended by the committee with strengths and weaknesses and then a final decision made by the president. The university should be able to attract excellent national candidates for the Dean of Journalism, with the donations received from the Reynolds Foundation and the chair named after Jackie Chandler's mother. At this time there were no plans to use a search firm for the Dean of Health and Human Sciences (HHS) search. Chair Steve Rock would bring a set of proposed metrics and goals based on feedback from the university community and would be asking the senate to adjust that set of goals. The accreditation site visit was scheduled for October 2007 and we should be reaccredited with five stars. Many people would be talking with the site visit committee and it would be important for them to be forthcoming and candid with the committee. Glick's first year has been a good year and he was very impressed with the faculty, staff and students and their commitment. Currently, students don't come here to have a good experience, many of them come here because it is convenient. The university would need to become a destination university to achieve its goals and it would be critical for students to make their education at the university their first job. Studies have shown that students who take more than 12 credits do better. One of the conversations that would be regarding tuition, such as a plateau system where the charge is the same for 12, 15, or 18 credits as opposed to penalizing the students for taking more credits by charging them a per credit fee. The university would be using the auditorium in JTSU to create a 400 seat classroom on a trial basis in spring 2008. The seating would also allow for group work which could be beneficial to classes. Retention was very important to the campus and part of the motivation behind raising the Grade Point Average (GPA) was to increase student success. A sticky campus would be

University of Nevada, Reno
2007-08 Faculty Senate

Meeting Minutes August 30, 2007

RSJ 304

Meeting 3

most important to freshmen and sophomores who need to interact with a community. The University would not be looked at "by who was admitted, but who was graduated." The university was still recruiting for a diverse student population. This would also allow the university to be more effective in the community. The university made a compromise by raising GPA to 3.0 and raising the number of special admits to 15% last year. Glick would like to stop calling them special admits, they are talented but have a lower GPA. Both the Joe Crowley Student Union and the Knowledge Center were on schedule with the budget and timelines. Glick reported that Roger's had originally agreed to donate the 3 million to the Math and Science Building and after the unpleasant public evaluation, Rogers and his family declined to continue with the funding. Glick was apprised of this prior to the report in the Reno Gazette Journal. Glick said the university would continue to search for funding for the math and science building.

Chair Steve Rock thanked Glick for coming to the senate meeting.

Effort Reporting Update: Mark Brenner, Vice President for Research

The major concern was explicit accountability regarding faculty being 100% grant funded. If a faculty member is 100% grant funded, they cannot perform any institutional duties, except for 5% leeway. There would be a problem particularly for department chairs, faculty who are teaching, or even senate service, and writing proposals for new grants. Research and the provost's office have been looking for ways to help with bridge funding to alleviate some of these issues.

Posting Mid-term Progress Reports for Freshmen: Shannon Ellis, Vice President for Student Services, Bill Cathey, Vice Provost, Paul Neill, Director, Core Curriculum

Paul Neill thanked the senate, the executive board, and Robin Gonzalez for making the summer scholars program a success. There had been discussion regarding ways to provide students enrolled in 100 and 200 level classes of their academic performance and would there be value to the students in providing them that information. Should a mid-semester progress report be provided, and if so should it be done using CAIS or WebCT. Faculty discussion and questions were: if a class was back loaded would the use of a mid-semester progress report give students a false sense of how they were doing, would this help foster the idea with students that they could just slide if they were carrying a good grade, if a faculty member uses the gradebook with WebCt, would they have to use CAIS as the preferred package, wouldn't feedback along with the grade be more beneficial to the students, what about the idea that students were supposed to be responsible for knowing how they were doing, would this actually provide what the students need to keep them in class, keep them on track, what is the problem that we are trying to address, why does the university use that particular drop date, would it be more effective if students could drop with no academic penalty at anytime, could the senate have more qualitative information before making a decision, should this be sent to the Academic Standards Committee for further discussion? The senate decided that this proposal should go before the Academic Standards Committee with Paul Neill presenting the proposal to them.

Travel Reimbursement Rates: Tom Judy, Associate Vice President, Business and Finance

The new travel policy created by the legislature was to ease the burden on state employees for in-state travel. The Nevada State Board of Examiners met and added some revisions to the original travel policy that would provide some relief to university faculty traveling out of state. The Grid for reimbursement is at this link:

http://www.unr.edu/vpaf/controller/travel/documents/Travel_Policy_Modification_Chart_8-31-07.doc

University of Nevada, Reno
2007-08 Faculty Senate

Meeting Minutes August 30, 2007

RSJ 304

Meeting 3

The travel policy for non-surveyed areas is \$60.00 but in-state can have exceptions of up to 150% of the standard federal rate plus lodging taxes, out of state exceptions were up to 300% plus lodging taxes. The per diem for meals and incidentals was also increased and university employees were not required to take only 75% of meals and incidentals reimbursement on travel days, but could use the full 100% based on travel times. Receipts would be required for hotel lodging over \$60.00. For anyone who had sent in a reimbursement for travel after July 1, 2007 but under the previous travel rates, please resubmit your travel reimbursement form and the correct amount will be reimbursed. When traveling out of state attach a copy of federal rate page to the travel claim so there would no problems later in the year if rates changed. Rates will change formally every year on October 1 and were posted in advance of the October fiscal year date. The federal government surveys areas to determine what an acceptable rate would be, so the rates could be changed throughout the year.. Very few hotels normally exceed the federal rate. Senators asked if the language would be broadly interpreted, so it would include more than meetings or conferences., if it would be possible to survey the top places where faculty go to conferences and see what the going rates are to build a data base.

Ombudsman Update: Pam Haney

Pam Haney introduced herself and said that her office is in Reynolds School of Journalism Room 106. She was an independent source for the university and represented faculty and staff if they had problems. The information she received was held confidential unless the person requested that she speak on their behalf. Her job was to make suggestions as to what could be done, she could mediate, but she had no authority to make changes. She could not handle matters outside the university. Her office was neutral and would not advocate for either side. Any reporting that would be done would be on an aggregate basis. Pam had 26 calls since she started and only 3 or 4 of them were from staff.

Chairs report: Steve Rock

The executive board spent some time tracking the changes to the travel policy.

The Summer Scholars Program was a success; the faculty senate office spent a lot of time as the coordinating body felt that someone else should take on that role next year. Conversations had been started with Paul Neill, Director Core Curriculum about taking the leadership role in conjunction with the student government and the alumni association. The program involved many from across the campus including athletics who found the money for the books. The estimate was that 60% of students read book and 2,200 students participated

The Search Firm for the Executive Vice President and Provost search was scheduled to be on campus September with an open meeting for faculty from 1:00pm to 2:00 pm. The search committee had met once. If anyone would like to forward names of people that they would like to see as candidates for the position please forward them to the search committee.

Regents meeting debriefing: The Research and Economic Development Committee passed the amendments that the senate presented to increase confidentiality and was scheduled to go to the regents in October. This proposal had received a fair amount of press, for example the Sun wanted to have access to information on any faculty who had consulted and how much they made consulting. System Counsel said that its take on this information was that it was part of the personnel file and not accessible to the public. Regent Anthony Stavros proposed a peace officer training program which would allow select faculty to be trained through Peace Officer Standards Training (POST) and then allowed to carry firearms on campus and act as a Reserve Officer Corp. The executive board had drafted a resolution voicing the concern of training faculty to become reserve peace officers, the

University of Nevada, Reno
2007-08 Faculty Senate

Meeting Minutes August 30, 2007

RSJ 304

Meeting 3

senate felt that it would be better to have UNR Police pursue the development of a Reserve Peace Officer Program with already certified POST graduates.

MOTION: Jenkins/Zanjani To accept the proposal as written. Senators discussed whether or not the resolution should follow the language law, cleaning up the last paragraph.

MOTION WITHDRAWN

Senators asked the executive board to rework the resolution and send it out to faculty as a final version.

MOTION: Jenkins/Zanjani. To pass the resolution as reworked by the executive board and then send the final version out to senators.

ACTION: Passed. 1 Abstention

Proposed Charges and Membership for Senate Committees: Steve Rock, Chair

Committee charges and taskforces: The executive board had many discussions regarding the involvement of senators on committees since the bulk of the work occurred in the committees, it would be good to have senators on the committee or even serve as chairs. Senators were encouraged to think of ways that they could participate. The task force on IRBs would be addressed at the next senate meeting.

Committee Charges:

Judith Sugar asked if the graduate students association had passed an honor code. GSA has not passed one that the senate was aware of. In regards to Academic Standards Charges, could we spell out DQ (Disqualified) Status, Charge # 3 should address not on the degrees of academic dishonesty, but the number of incidences. Charge # 4 added to look at the proposal of mid-term grades. With the Bylaws and Code Committee, Susan Lentz should be listed under CLA not HHS
Technology Committee has no reference to the ERP planning. Maureen Cronin would still like to see a liaison to the Regent's Technology Task force. Hans-Peter Plag would like to see outgoing email size increased as well.

MOTION: Morris/Zanjani. To approve charges as amended.

ACTION: Passed unanimously

Request to Approve June 7, 2007 Meeting Minutes

Amend minutes to reflect that Bill Follette was a proxy for Nelson Rojas

MOTION: Curtis/Wallace. To approve minutes as amended Curtis/Wallace

ACTION: passed unanimously

Elect Members to the Legal Advisement Committee:

A brief description of the committee was given, the committee only meets if there is a need, the last time they met was more than 4 years ago.

8.1.2 Legal Advisement Committee - The committee shall consist of the executive board and two representatives at large, elected by and from the senate. The committee shall advise on the disposition of the Faculty Legal Advisement Fund and on the services of the senate's legal counsel.

Nominations from the floor were Esmail Zanjani and JoAnne Skelly

University of Nevada, Reno
2007-08 Faculty Senate

Meeting Minutes August 30, 2007

RSJ 304

Meeting 3

MOTION: To approve the nominations for the legal advisement committee

ACTION: Passed unanimously

New business:

There was discussion on what could be done on campus to prevent an incident similar to Virginia Tech. The campus had instituted reverse 911, they were looking at monitors, exploring the potential of text messaging and more, the executive board would invite UNR Police Chief Adam Garcia to provide an update on the security measures being taken on campus. Many faculty were concerned about the safety of working on campus on weekends and evenings.

Please access the Office of Sponsored Projects website for opportunities in training workshops.

Bill Follette brought up the subject of mandatory training required when supervising classified staff and wondered what problem it was designed to solve.

The training was mandated by the state.

Meeting adjourned 5:00 pm