

**University of Nevada, Reno**  
**2003-04 Faculty Senate**

Meeting Minutes December 10, 2003

RSJ 304

Meeting 8

Present: Greg Arehart for John Louie (Mines), Jamie Anderson (Medicine), Rafik Beekun (Business Administration), Gretchen Bietz (Advancement), Buddy Borden (Cooperative Extension), Jim Carr for Glenn Biasi (Mines), Rod Case (Education), Rod Case for Pamela Cantrell (Education), Bob Chaires (Human & Community Sciences), Arthur Chenin (Administration & Finance), Amy Childress (Engineering), Mike Collopy (Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources), Joe DeLappe (Arts & Science), Dana Edberg (Business Administration), Rita Escher (Student Services), Johanna Fricke (Medicine), Greg Gardella (Information Technology), Howard Goldbaum for Bourne Morris (Journalism), Chaitan Gupta ((Arts & Science), Jerry Johnson (Arts & Science), Trudy Larson (Medicine), Susan Lentz (Human & Community Sciences), Denise McKee (Medicine), Steve Oberg (Research), Amy Shannon (Library), Paul Starrs (Arts & Science), Mary Stewart (Arts & Science), Shelley Von Berg ((Medicine), Jill Wallace (Provost's Division), Leah Wilds (Arts & Science), Ken Wilson (President's Division). Absent: Greg Pari (Medicine).

**1. Introductions –**

Melody Bayfield (Parking & Transportation), Gary Bishop (Facilities Services), Elizabeth Francis (Nevada Faculty Alliance), John Frederick (Provost), Serge Herzog (Institutional Analysis), Ed Keppelmann (Arts & Science), Cindy Kiel (Sponsored Projects Administration), John Lilley (President), Howard Rosenberg (UCCSN Regent), Bruce Shively (Planning Budget and Analysis), Georgianna Trexler (Administration and Finance), Ron Zurek (Administration and Finance).

**2. Meeting Minutes**

Amy Shannon asked that the November 6, 2003 minutes be amended to show that she was present.

MOTION: Beekun/Edberg. To approve the November 6, 2003 meeting minutes as amended and November 20, 2003 meeting minutes as published.

ACTION: Approved unanimously

**3. Chair's Report**

Chair Trudy Larson reported the following: the Earth Institute review committee has been appointed and will meet in January. Handouts distributed prior to the meeting included the proposal, the charges, and a list of the committee members. Larson encouraged senators to send their questions and comments to her by email: [tal@med.unr.edu](mailto:tal@med.unr.edu). The first reading of the UCCSN Code revisions was heard at the December meeting of the Board of Regents. The second reading is scheduled for the January meeting. A mid-year report from the Bylaws and Code Committee was included in the meeting agenda packets and a final report would be presented in the spring. Dave Westfall, Interim Dean for the College of Science (COS), will conduct the COS election process. The College of Liberal Arts (CLA) nomination process has been completed. The election is scheduled to be completed by December 20, 2003 and the results should be available in January. The president has approved the senate's recommendations regarding the Intellectual Property Policy and Faculty Senate Bylaws. The new senate bylaws will be distributed at the next meeting. Nutrition reorganization review update: Dean David Thawley has consulted with his faculty and has submitted comment to the provost. Dean Jean Perry had not, to date, submitted comment, but Larson expected she would prior to the winter recess.

**4. New Business**

The proposed addition to the Board of Regents Handbook Title 4, Chapter 8, Section 2 General Policy of the Board of Regents on the Recruitment, Admission and Retention of Students was presented for discussion. The addition would bring this section into compliance with the American with Disabilities Act and the Rehabilitation Act. Rita Escher said that the addition of the student section was not very clear or strong and suggested it should be more prominently placed in the document.

**5. President's Report**

President John Lilley said there were three important searches being conducted at this time. The Vice President for Marketing and Communications search was in the last stages and was down to 5 finalists. The Presidents Cabinet met with John Brother (a public relations specialist and UNR alumni) who helped the committee with the interviews. Another search was for the Vice President of Health Science and Dean for the School of Medicine. A former dean from Stanford University School of Medicine was the consultant for the search committee. There were 10 semi-finalists at that point. The newest search was for the Athletic Director (AD). This search was in the beginning stages. Lilley said he would ask the Board of Regents to appoint Chris Ault as the interim AD until the position was filled. Jim Carr expressed concern over Ault firing Chris Tormey, then taking the head coach position. As head coach, Ault's salary would be higher than his AD salary; and Ault had never coached a Division 1 team. Lilley said Ault knew the ramifications if the team did not perform well under his coaching. In response to senators' questions regarding the medical school candidates' areas of expertise, Lilley said the candidates had business skills as well as being clinicians. Some senators had questions regarding the course load policy and merit policy. Lilley said that the course load policy would be discussed in detail by Executive Vice President/Provost John Frederick later in the meeting. He said the general public and the legislature were focusing on the issue, because it was difficult for people outside of the university environment to understand the faculty's research responsibilities. People do not realize the amount of time required for research and the funding that it brings to the university. The merit policy subcommittee met with the deans and vice presidents. One of the goals they set was to conduct two training sessions for deans and department heads to teach them how to conduct fair and meaningful evaluations. The other goal was to create a system of fair merit increases, whether

using a percentage or a flat amount. Lilley said there would always be some inequities due to the market rate and starting salaries.

#### **6. Visit with Regent Howard Rosenberg**

Regent Howard Rosenberg opened the floor to questions from the senators. Paul Starrs asked him to comment about Ault. Rosenberg said he had mixed opinions. As a UNR professor he was upset but as a regent he had no opinion. Carr distributed a Reno Gazette Journal article regarding the demotion of CCSN President Ron Remington and John Cummings, and Chancellor Jane Nichols' part in this issue. Carr commented on the chancellor's qualifications, and suggested that she should step down. He asked Rosenberg to comment. Rosenberg said that he thought Carr was personalizing the situation and suggested that he shouldn't. Rosenberg said he thought the chancellor had many accomplishments and had helped the university with the legislative budget crisis this year. She had been "very valuable to the university." Mary Stewart said she was not familiar with the details of the situation and asked Rosenberg to provide some background information. Rosenberg explained that an assemblyman's protégé was hired without the appropriate qualifications. It was thought that the person was qualified, but it was later discovered that she was not. He said that in his opinion the legal counsel should have been involved, not the chancellor.

#### **7. Parking Report**

Melody Bayfield reported on the five-year parking plan. Last year a master planner was hired to coordinate the plan. One thousand parking spaces would be removed from the center of campus to make room for the new library, student union, and green space. Approximately two thousand spaces were planned for the new parking garage. All spaces south of the stadium would become silver permit parking. Parking north of the stadium and in the new parking structure would require green permits. Parking by the baseball fields would require a blue permit. Parking permit fees would increase in April 2005 and again in May 2006. All parking spaces would be removed from the south end of campus under the master plan. Several projects were under way to reduce future parking space needs. Senators expressed concern that the south end of campus would be difficult to get to in the new master plan. The shuttle would not have a route there, handicapped parking would not be located throughout the campus, and people who had difficulty walking would not be able to access all parts of the campus. This would increase travel time from class to office, creating a loss of productivity. Beekun asked the senate to keep tabs on the matter of handicapped parking issue.

#### **8. Conflict of Interest Policy**

Director of Sponsored Projects Administration Cindy Kiel summarized the proposed changes to the conflict of interest policy. Carr asked if the policy had been reconciled with the Nevada Revised Statutes. The reply was yes. Starrs asked about the three degrees of consanguinity. Kiel said it would include great-grandchildren, aunts, uncles, nieces, brothers, parents, etc. Stewart suggested that the policy seemed to be more of a description of the conflict of interest policy as opposed to a definition of the policy. Arthur Chenin suggested that the document needed a summary, in non-legalese, of the purpose and scope of the policy. It was agreed that the last three sentences under purpose and scope would be moved to the first paragraph and serve as a policy statement. Jill Wallace asked if the faculty members mentioned in Section 7 (conflict of commitment), numbers 3 & 4 referred to administrative faculty, and if teaching outside of work hours would be a conflict of interest. Kiel said since administrative faculty don't teach as part of their regular service that she didn't see a conflict of commitment. The time off for consulting reflected university policy. Howard Goldbaum asked if the policy excluded any type of consulting fees, for example bartering. Kiel said anything of value must be considered. A motion was made and seconded to approve the policy as amended. Wallace and Rafik Beekun expressed concerns about approving the policy without seeing a revised copy. Elizabeth Francis said she did not think the senate should approve the policy until the faculty at large could review it and submit comments.

MOTION: Johnson /Beekun - To table the motion until the latest revision of the policy could be reviewed by the faculty at large.

ACTION: Motion approved.

#### **9. Administration & Finance Report**

Interim Vice President for Administration & Finance

Ron Zurek reported that there were two new projects planned for next year. The first was the acquisition of the Bishop Manogue High School property. The purchase was completed for \$7.5 million, \$2.5 million of which were private funds. The new high school would open next year. The old Manogue gym would be used for women's sports and the other buildings on the property would be demolished. Water rights were acquired with the purchase of this property. The second project was the Redfield Campus. Construction of the first building would be completed by the end of next year and teaching would begin in spring 2005. TMCC would also be building at the site. Zurek said that the wetlands between Enterprise Road and the School of Medicine would be moved to Rancho San Rafael Park in conjunction with the Army Corp of Engineers. That space would be filled giving the university fifteen acres of building space. Ten more houses have been purchased on Evans Avenue and would be used for student housing and research projects. The Stead property would be sold and the proceeds would be used to enhance the main campus. It was expected that the Clifford Young Federal Building would be up for sale. If Washoe County School District relocates there, the university would look at purchasing the

**University of Nevada, Reno**  
**2003-04 Faculty Senate**

Meeting Minutes December 10, 2003

Page 3

building on Ninth Street. In Las Vegas, southern area cooperative extension offices were scheduled to be relocated to the property at the corner of Windmill St. and Highway 215. Carr voiced concern about the use of the storm drains on N. Virginia by the construction company. He said the drains ran directly into the Truckee River. He said he was also concerned about the infestation of tall white top and the wetlands removal. Zurek reiterated that the wetlands project would be done in cooperation with the Army Corp and Rancho San Rafael Park. A large culvert would run through the wetlands from west to east. Affirmative Action and Human Resources (HR) had been merged. The new HR director was Gina Jones and John Burnett was the new Affirmative Action Officer. Zurek said that Burnett was using existing policies but there would probably be changes. He also reported that the affirmative action office was no longer directly involved in the search process. The Admissions and Records Office has been looking for software to optimize space use on campus, technology, and the building schedule process. It was expected that the software would be installed in June 2004 and implemented in spring 2005.

**10. University Workload Policy**

Provost John Frederick spoke regarding the workload (course load) policy. This policy had been in place since 1995. There were some minor word changes, but nothing major. One of the changes was that the graduate classes were quantified. The Legislative Council Bureau would be looking at the course load policy in its audit. The university may have to enforce the policy rigorously. Greg Gardella said that since one of the regents was a UNR faculty member he should understand the difficulties with regard to course load and research. Frederick said that it was difficult for most regents and legislators to understand. Goldbaum asked how many of the faculty would have chosen to work at the university if they were told about the three courses in fall and three courses in spring policy. He asked if the regents' Workload Task Force distinguished between universities and community colleges. Frederick said that they did. Goldbaum asked if the committee knew the national norm. Frederick said probably not. Chenin said he didn't think the task force used the national norm. Dana Edberg said she would like the "course load" to be a "work load" policy. She also said that not only did it not differentiate between levels of research it didn't address research activities at all. If the policy title couldn't be changed to "workload," then she would like to see research modifiers included. Buddy Borden asked how the course load policy affected the cooperative extension faculty. Frederick said it didn't. Amy Childress asked if the policy was a UCCSN or UNR policy. Frederick said it was a UNR policy. Chenin said that unless instructors were listed in SIS as of the application date, they would not receive credit for the class. Some senators expressed concern about the wording of the policy. They said the policy didn't provide criteria to be used in determining when research and service justified a decrease in the course load of three and three. Stewart said it was difficult to comment on the changes without placing it in context of the "old" language. Frances asked that the policy be distributed to the entire faculty before the senate approved it. Frederick reminded senators that the only changes made to the policy were minor word changes and that the baseline was not subject to revision.

Meeting Adjourned