

ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP COUNCIL  
8/26/08 MEETING SUMMARY

Attendance: Marc Johnson (Provost)  
Manos Maragakis (Engineering)  
Heather Hardy (Liberal Arts)  
Marsha Read (Research/Graduate School)  
John McDonald (Health Sciences)  
Greg Mosier (Business Administration)  
Karen Hinton (Cooperative Extension)  
Jack Hayes (Science)  
Jerry Ceppos (Journalism)  
Bill Sparkman (Education)  
Dave Thawley (CABNR)  
Ole Thienhaus (Medicine)  
Steve Zink (Library/IT)  
Elliott Parker (Faculty Senate)  
Steve Rock (Faculty Senate)  
Fred Holman (Extended Studies)  
Mike Collopy (Academy for the Environment)  
Bill Cathey (Vice Provost)  
Paul Neill (Core Curriculum)  
Jannet Vreeland (Vice Provost)  
Bruce Shively (PBA)

Announcements/News:

Mike Collopy described the Lake Tahoe Summit on research recently held. He provided a booklet prepared for the summit which highlighted to work done by students in the Lake Tahoe region. He noted that chairs had received this publication and that it could be found on the UNAE website as well. CDs and additional printed copies are available upon request.

Mike also provided a copy of a brochure they had prepared on undergraduate programs in the environment and asked for any corrections or additions. Copies of these are available for recruiting events.

John McDonald announced CASAT's receipt of an \$8 million grant. He also noted that seven students have already been accepted into the early acceptance MD program.

Steve Rock announced that the bylaw amendments to the approval process have gone forward and will be on the next Board of Regents' consent agenda.

Fred Holman announced the donation of a dome and observatory platform in addition to a refurbished telescope to be placed a Redfield. The donation includes an endowment for any

future repairs or maintenance. He noted that they have also received a donation of wind generation equipment.

The Provost announced that the proposed moratorium on new programs was not approved by the Board of Regents. However, campuses were asked to be selective on the programs they send forward.

Calls for nominations of the regents' teaching and academic advising awards will go out soon. The deans will be notified of any nominees in their colleges by Audrey Casey.

The deans were reminded that their development plans are due to the Provost by Tuesday, September 2. These plans should include goals, activities planned (donor contacts, solicitation activities) for the coming year.

### Discussion Topics:

#### President Glick Remarks

President Glick was present for the first part of the meeting and thanked the members of the ALC for their wonderful citizenship as the university faced the budget cuts. He noted that there is still much work to be done in order to get a more focused and energetic plan for the next year. This plan will include the actions that will be taken and how we will keep track of our progress.

President Glick presented preliminary information on the soon-to-be-released U.S. News and World Report university rankings. There was a discussion on the steps the university can take regarding these rankings. The various weights of the criteria used were explored, and it was noted that peer assessment was given the greatest weight, and that graduation rates would take the longest to affect. Ideas were shared on how we could affect UNR's ranking. One idea was to select programs that already have national prominence and highlight them. Other ideas were investing in targeted online Chronicle of Higher Education ads, or hosting an event at Lake Tahoe that would bring national university presidents to the area.

#### Budget

Provost Johnson led a discussion on budgetary planning and noted the need to have a mid- and long-term focus as planning begins. As units are examined, the possible outcomes could be to continue the program/unit as is, retain it with savings, reduce it, or close it. He noted that he has seen many times how faculty and staff coalesce behind a longer-term vision during budget cuts. Key is getting support mechanisms and incentives for them to do so.

Bruce Shively was asked to provide an update on where we are with our targets for the next fiscal year. Bruce described the various steps that had been taken to meet the mandates of the special session of the legislature.

The Provost announced that any proposals for using state funds will need to come to the Provost's office for review. These proposals are reviewed in a meeting each Monday of the Provost, Ron Zurek, Jannet Vreeland and Bruce Shively.

There was a discussion of the university's current practice of using available salary savings for hiring LOAs. The merits of getting more full-time faculty in front of freshmen and hiring fewer LOAs were discussed. The obstacles to this goal were also noted and explored. These included the national market for faculty hiring, classroom sizes, maximum class sizes, department controlled rooms and labs, the current method of crediting FTE and the varying number of credit hours to get a degree. Faculty senate is going to look at this last obstacle in the coming weeks. They are also interested in the upcoming program reviews not necessarily for budgetary purposes for but program improvement.

A preliminary list of programs to be reviewed and questions to be answered was distributed. The Provost asked for and received recommendations concerning the questions. The units/programs to be reviewed will be identified in early September with discussions and final meetings occurring by December 1.

There was a discussion on the extent WebCT is used for university courses and whether its use could be expanded.