

**ACADEMIC PLANNING COMMITTEE (APC)  
ANNUAL REPORT TO THE UNL FACULTY SENATE  
Miles Taft Bryant, Chair  
December 2010 - November 2011  
Presented to the Faculty Senate on December 6, 2011**

**Responsibilities:**

- A. Formulate and recommend to the Faculty Senate, to the Colleges, and to the Chancellor goals for UNL in the areas of education (resident and extension), research, and service.
- B. Recommend action to achieve the goals of UNL.
- C. Review with the Chancellor or appropriate Vice Chancellors the Comprehensive Facilities Plan, the campus master land-use plan, and facilities needs as they relate to academic and support program goals.
- D. Use all relevant information and expertise inside and outside UNL.
- E. Concern itself with goals, needs, and resources for a future period as long as is prudent and reasonable in view of the information and advice available.
- F. Empowered to recommend changes in program, including elimination.
- G. Changes or elimination of existing programs shall include time and opportunity for existing personnel to qualify for a position in another program within the University whenever this requirement will not materially interfere with UNL achieving in full measure the goals of education, research, and service.
- H. Encourage academic planning within the colleges and other units of UNL on continuing basis through joint faculty-administrative-student action.
- I. Assist the Chancellor in seeking remedies for a financial exigency.

**Committee Members:**

Miles Taft Bryant (Chair), Stephen Lahey (Vice Chair), William J. Nunez (Secretary), Zoya Avramova, Dwayne Ball, Jennifer I. Brand, Lane Carr, Ronnie Green, Gerard Harbison, Sylvia Jons, Gary Keibel, Christopher Marks, Martha McCollough, T. Jack Morris, Prem Paul, Donde Plowman, Patricia Sollars and Ellen Weissinger. Michelle (Shelly) Green (Coordinator).

The Academic Planning Committee met ten times during the Spring Semester, and seven times during the Fall Semester for a total of 17 meetings. Of those meetings, ten included discussion of budget issues. Additionally, the Academic Planning Committee met three times with the Chancellor following the procedures to be invoked for significant budget reallocations and reductions. One budget reduction hearing was held in May 2011. One more meeting is scheduled before the end of 2011 and eight meetings are scheduled for Spring 2012. APC's annual meeting with the Chancellor is scheduled for May 9, 2012.

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**Recommendations for Action by the Senate:**

- Partnering with Faculty Senate Executive Committee on a faculty driven engagement of conversation regarding the Chancellors initiatives, in particular addition of 160 new faculty members.

- Response needed from Faculty Senate Executive Committee regarding expectation on the description, responsibilities, and the charge of the APC.

### **Summary of Regular, Annual Activities:**

#### Academic Program Reviews (APRs)

Members have served on six APRs in 2011

- Anthropology (April 10-13, 2011)
- Biochemistry (April 18-21, 2011)\*
- Communication Studies (October 23-26, 2011)
- Agronomy and Horticulture (October 3-7, 2011)
- Philosophy (November 6-9, 2011)
- College of Education and Human Sciences (November 29-December 2, 2011)\*\*

*\*The Center for Biological Chemistry and the NE Center for Redox Biology were also part of this APR.*

*\*\*The International Quilt Study Center; Textiles, Clothing and Design; Nutrition and Health Sciences; and Child, Youth and Family Studies were also part of the APR.*

Seven APR reports were submitted to the Academic Planning Committee in 2010-2011

- University Libraries (APR March 21-24, 2010; Report submitted January 26, 2011)
- School of Natural Resources (APR September 21-24, 2009; Report submitted February 9, 2011)
- Chemistry (APR April 18-21, 2010; Report submitted February 23, 2011)\*
- Agricultural Economics (APR November 2-6, 2009; Report submitted February 23, 2011)
- Classics and Religious Studies, and Norman and Bernice Harris Center for Judaic Studies (APR October 25-28, 2009; Report submitted April 13, 2011)
- Plant Pathology (APR October 4-7, 2010; Report submitted November 10, 2011)
- Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication (APR April 20-23, 2010; Report submitted November 15, 2011)

*\*The Nebraska Center for Mass Spectrometry was also part of this review.*

Seven APRs are scheduled for the Spring and Fall Semesters

- Teaching, Learning and Teacher Education (March 4-7, 2012)
- School of Biological Sciences (March 11-14, 2012)\*
- Animal Science (May 14-17, 2012)
- History (September 23-26, 2012)
- Biological Systems Engineering (September 24-27, 2012)\*\*
- Modern Languages and Literatures (October 28-31, 2012)
- Statistics (Fall 2012 – Dates TBD)

*\*This review will include a review of the following Center: Cedar Point Biological Station*

*\*\*This review will include a review of the following Center: Industrial Agricultural Products Center*

### Budget Reductions – FY2012

- Approved the Chancellor’s preliminary FY2012 General Budget Framework Document and Timeline.
- Reviewed and considered documents, comments, and testimony.
- Conducted one public hearing on proposed budget reductions and structural changes.
- Discussed with the Chancellor APC’s initial recommendations.
- Issued recommendations on the Chancellor’s proposed FY2012 budget reductions and structural changes (copies attached).

### Reports Received

- Overview of Campus Recreation Center and Outdoor Adventures Center projects.
- Academic Management Information System (AMIS) Ratio Report.
- Parking concerns on campus update.
- Academic planning engagement update.
- APC’s Guiding Principles and Procedures for Budget Reductions.
- Information on the Chancellor’s budget reduction proposals.
- Graduate and Undergraduate Certificates approval process and procedures update.
- Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) visit information.
- Innovating Agriculture and Natural Resources (IANR) to 2025 overview and subsequent updates.
- Current Budget and Projected State Assumptions.
- Reduction in Force procedures presentation.
- Chancellor’s annual briefing.
- Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).
- Senior Vice Chancellor search update.
- Dean of Graduate Studies search update.
- Office of Summer Session dissolution information.
- Nebraska Innovation Campus and Innovation Campus Development Corporation Executive Director update.
- University Curriculum Committee activities.
- Aesthetics Review Committee activities.

### New Undergraduate Certificate Programs Recommended for Approval

- Microbiology Program
- Civic Engagement Program

### New Graduate Certificate Programs Recommended for Approval

- Early Literacy Reading
- Response to Intervention: Reading
- Grassland Management

### New Degree Programs Recommended for Approval

- Establish seven stand-alone Doctor of Philosophy degree programs in the College of Engineering

### Degree Programs Recommended for Elimination

- Eliminate the Bachelor of Science degree in the Plant Protection Sciences Program

#### Name Changes Recommended

- Change the LL.M. degree name from Space and Telecommunications Law to “Space, Cyber and Telecommunications Law”
- Change the name of Water for Food Institute to “Robert B. Daugherty Water for Food Institute” – an informational shared item only
- Change the name of the Department of Textiles, Clothing and Design to “Department of Textiles, Merchandising and Fashion Design”

#### Departmental Mergers Recommended for Approval

- Merger of Department of Mechanical Engineering and Department of Engineering Mechanics into single department named “Department of Mechanical and Materials Engineering”. This department will offer a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering

#### Facilities Project Initiation Requests (PIRs) Recommended for Approval

*None*

#### Programs of Excellence (PoE) Recommendations

*None*

#### Membership

- Miles Taft Bryant, Chair of the Academic Planning Committee, AY2011-12, appointed on August 31, 2011 as APC Vice Chair Deborah Minter resigned in July 2011
- Stephen Lahey, appointed Vice Chair of the Academic Planning Committee on September 7, 2011
- Faculty Senate Representative: Patricia Sollars
- Graduate Council Representative: Dwayne Ball
- Representing Physical Sciences: Jennifer I. Brand and Gerard Harbison
- Representing Arts and Humanities: Stephen Lahey and Christopher Marks
- Representing Business and Social Sciences: Miles Taft Bryant and Martha McCollough
- Representing Biological Sciences: Zoya V. Avramova and T. Jack Morris
- Dean Representatives:
  - Gary Kebbel
  - Donde Plowman
- ASUN Representatives:
  - Lane Carr (Undergraduate)
  - Sylvia Jons (Graduate)
- Ex Officio Representatives:
  - William J. Nunez, Secretary of APC
  - Ellen Weissinger

- Ronnie Green
- Prem S. Paul
- Non-Member Representative:
  - Michelle (Shelly) Green, Coordinator of APC

### Appointments

APC representatives were appointed to two University-wide committees:

- Aesthetic Review Committee - Member Zoya V. Avramova
- University Curriculum Committee - Member T. Jack Morris

Members were appointed to six APC subcommittees:

- Project Initiation Request Subcommittee (standing)
- Long-range Planning Subcommittee (standing)
- To review proposed undergraduate Microbiology program
- To review proposed campus-wide undergraduate certificate in Civic Engagement
- To evaluate proposed merger of Department of Engineering Mechanics and Department of Mechanical Engineering
- To review proposal from College of Engineering to establish seven stand-alone Ph.D. degree programs

APC representative appointed as observer to team reporting discussions:

- Innovating Agriculture and Natural Resources to 2025

### Other Actions

- Expansion of the APC from six to eight elected faculty members.
- Further revision to and subsequent approval following due process to the Operating Procedures of the Academic Planning Committee.
- In accordance with Board of Regents approval of the addition of two faculty members, two faculty members were selected by Faculty Senate Executive Committee (Harbison and McCollough).
- Further revisions to and subsequent approval following due process to the Procedures to be Invoked for Significant Budget Reallocations and Reductions document.
- Requested replacements for two APC members who either resigned (Kean and Minter) or on leave serving as a Fellow (Weller).
- Discussion on systematizing APC's engagement with the Chancellor's goals.
- Discussion to determine what APC can do to assist in Chancellor's specific initiatives.
- Discussion on specific initiatives - the 120 credit hour requirement for graduation and goal of attaining 160 new faculty members.
- Conversation on Summer and Summer courses.
- Dialogue with Faculty Senate Executive Committee concerning strengthening faculty governance and inquiry on how faculty governance operates at the other Big Ten institutions.
- Conversation on the Academic Program Review process.
- APC Chair, or Chair designee, to be included in Deans and Directors quarterly meetings.

- Discussion on APC's role in the approval process of new Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degree programs.

### Upcoming Issues

- Revision of the APC Guidelines for Providing Information for Unit Mergers.
- Re-examine and possible revisions to the Operation Procedures of the Academic Planning Committee.
- Project Initiative Request Outline and Facilities Planning Policy Statements to be revised and updated.
- Appointment of Vice Chair and Chair-elect at near future meeting due to anticipated sabbatical vacancy.
- Further discussion on expectation of the APC representative on the University Curriculum Committee.
- Further discussion on expectation of the APC representative on the Aesthetic Review Committee.
- Further discussion on Chancellor's initiative of attaining 160 new faculty members.
- Further discussion and subsequent conversation with the Chancellor focusing on the strategic questions impacting the institution that ultimately leads to his yearly address.
- Further discussion on IANR to 2025 recommendations, in particular the eleven requiring additional discussion/definition before reaching university-wide discussion at UNL as appear non-academic related.
- Re-visit the topic of inviting Deans' to a future APC meeting once strategic and hiring priorities have been formulated.
- Overview of Office 365 cloud-based e-mail system.

### **Summary of Additional Activities:**

The Faculty Senate and the APC hosted two conversations on how joining the Big Ten and the CIC will affect the University of Nebraska. The first forum in March featured Harvey Perlman and the second in April featured Graham Spanier.

### **Recommendations for the Committee for the Next Year:**

The Academic Planning Committee will continue to increase faculty participation in governance and campus vision.