

**ACADEMIC PLANNING COMMITTEE (APC) ANNUAL REPORT TO THE UNL  
FACULTY SENATE**

**Kurt Geisinger, Chair**

**December 2019 – December 2020**

**Presented to the Faculty Senate on February 2, 2021**

**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 relevant campus physical planning documents as they relate to academic program needs and education research and service goals, and the Committee shall make recommendations.
- D. The Committee is empowered to approve or disapprove proposed new academic programs and changes in existing programs, including elimination.
- 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. 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.
- G. Encourage academic planning within the colleges and other units of UNL on continuing basis through joint faculty-administrative-student action.
- H. Assist the Chancellor in seeking remedies for a financial exigency.  
(To see the complete list of responsibilities, go to UNL Bylaws  
<https://www.unl.edu/chancellor/bylaws> Section 1.2.7 Academic Planning Committee)

**Current Members:**

- Kurt Geisinger, Chair, Educational Psychology
- Frauke Hachtmann, Vice Chair, Advertising
- Ken Bloom, Physics & Astronomy
- Eileen Hebets, School of Biological Sciences
- Ann Tschetter, History, Non-tenure track faculty representative
- Timothy Gay, Physics & Astronomy
- Kevin Smith, Political Science
- Sydney Everhart, Plant Pathology
- Joan Latta Konecky, University Libraries
- Jennifer Clarke, Chair, Graduate Council Representative
- Faculty Senate Representative: Nicole Buan, President, Faculty Senate
- Dean Representatives:
  - Katherine Ankerson
  - Richard Moberly
- ASUN Representatives:
  - Roni Miller (Undergraduate)

- Eric Rodene (Graduate)
- Ex Officio Representatives:
  - Mike Zeleny, Associate to the Chancellor
  - Elizabeth Spiller, Executive Vice Chancellor
  - Mike Boehm, Vice Chancellor of IANR
  - Bob Wilhelm, VC of Research and Economic Development
- Non-Member Representative:
  - Karen Griffin, Coordinator of Faculty Governance

The Academic Planning Committee met five times during the spring semester, four times during the summer, and thirteen times during the fall semester for a total of twenty-two meetings. Chancellor Green gave his annual report to the Committee at the April 22, 2020 meeting.

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**Recommendations for Action by the Senate:**

None

**Summary of Regular, Annual Activities:**

Academic Program Reviews (APRs)

Members served on the following APRs:

- Political Science (February 23-25, 2020)
- Teaching, Learning, and Teacher Education (September 13-15, 2020)

**NOTE:** Several APRs were postponed in the fall due to the COVID pandemic

Two APR reports were submitted, and accepted, to the APC during 2020:

- Modern Languages and Literature presented February 12, 2020
- Jeffrey Raikes School of Computer Science and Management presented March 11, 2020

**Summary of Activities (complete details can be found on the APC Minutes website**

**<https://www.unl.edu/apc/minutes>):**

- The APC worked on revising the Academic Program Review guidelines and approved the change to delete the External Review Team's required meetings with the Dean of Graduate Studies and the Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development.
- The APC met with the co-chairs of the N2025 Strategy Team to review and discuss the final draft of the N2025 Strategic Plan.
- Bloom provided an update on the Incentive-Based Budget Model including a proposal for a governance structure which could include the APC. The Committee also met with Dean Farrell for a further update and to discuss the project timeline for implementation of the full budget model.
- Discussed the APC's role in space allocation requests at UNL made by Central Administration.
- Chancellor Green gave his annual report to the APC discussing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic including how it might impact the University budget, construction plans, hiring freezes, plans to provide a safe campus for everyone

during the pandemic, and the new budget model.

- The APC met in July with the Chancellor who invoked the procedures to address significant budget reallocation and reductions. The Committee began meeting in early August and then met weekly from August 19 – December 2 to work on the proposed budget cuts. The APC recommended not to eliminate the Textiles, Merchandising, and Fashion Design department but approved all other proposed budget cuts.
- Reports were given at most of the meetings from Executive Vice Chancellor Spiller (Academic Affairs), Vice Chancellor Boehm (IANR), and Vice Chancellor Wilhelm (Office of Research and Economic Development).

#### New Graduate Certificate Programs Recommended for Approval

- Quantitative Measurement and Modeling
- Supply Chain Analytics
- Marketing
- Marketing Analytics
- Education Neuroscience

#### New M.S. and Ph.D. Graduate Programs Recommended for Approval

- Master's Degree in Supply Chain Management

#### Change of Name for Graduate Certificate Program Recommended for Approval

- Supply Chain Management Systems

#### Establishment of New Center

- Center for Agricultural Profitability
- Center for Resilience in Agricultural Working Landscapes

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

- Hamilton Hall Renovations
- Law Library Renovation

#### **Appointments 2020-2021:**

APC representatives were appointed to two University-wide committees:

- Aesthetic Review Committee – Katherine Ankerson
- University Undergraduate Curriculum Committee - Ann Tschetter

Members were appointed to seven APC subcommittees:

- Project Initiation Request Subcommittee (standing committee): Mike Zeleny, Bob Wilhelm, and Joan Latta Konecky
- Long-range Planning Subcommittee (standing committee): Frauke Hachtmann, Eileen Hebets, Kevin Smith, Katherine Ankerson, Richard Moberly, and Roni Miller
- Subcommittees were created to review program proposals (see above under Summary of Activities for list of proposed programs)

APC representatives were appointed for future Academic Program Reviews:

- History – Kevin Smith (February 2021)

**Upcoming Issues:**

- Continue working on proposed budget cuts.
- Develop a guideline of criteria to consider when the Committee reviews program proposals.
- Consider a possible Memorandum of Understanding between colleges that share programs.

**Summary of Additional Activities:**

None

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