

MINUTES

September 12, 2018 University of Nebraska – Lincoln Academic Planning Committee

Members Present: Bender, Bloom, Boehm, Clarke, Gay, Hinchman, O'Connor, Purcell, Purdum, Reilly, Smith, Traynor, Tschetter, Zeleny

Members Absent: Hibberd, Plowman, Sollars, Wilhelm

Others Attending: Associate VC Goodburn

Note: These are not verbatim minutes. They are a summary of the discussions at the Academic Planning Committee meeting as corrected by those participating.

1.0 Call

Bender called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

2.0 Welcome New Members

Bender welcomed new APC members Professor Tim Gay, Physics and Astronomy, and Professor Kevin Smith, Political Science.

3.0 Approval of May 9, 2018 Minutes

Zeleny moved for approval of the minutes. Motioned seconded by Traynor and approved by the APC.

4.0 Election of Vice Chair

Bender noted that the APC needed to vote for a Vice Chair who will serve in this position for this academic year and who will become Chair in the 2019-2020 academic year. He asked if there were any nominations from the floor. Bloom nominated Clarke. Zeleny seconded the nomination. Bender stated that he would welcome a motion to approve Clarke by acclamation. Gay moved to accept by acclamation and Purcell seconded the motion. Motion approved.

5.0 Appointments to Committees:

- Long Range Planning Subcommittee - Clarke will chair, Bloom, Gay, Purcell, Traynor, Boehm, O'Connor agreed to serve on the subcommittee.
- Project Initiation Request - Zeleny, Purdum, and Reilly
- University-wide Aesthetics Review Committee - Hinchman
- University Undergraduate Curriculum Committee - Tschetter

6.0 APC Representatives Needed for Modern Languages and Literature APR and APC Representative for Communication Studies APR

Tschetter volunteered to serve as the APC representative on the Modern Languages & Literature APC.

Smith volunteered to serve on the Communication Studies APR, but there was question whether the APR Guidelines would permit a chair from the same college as the department under review to serve as a member of the APR review team. (Sollars was contacted and said that she would be willing to serve on the APR and she was appointed to do so).

7.0 Proposals - Academic and Research Centers:

- **Delete Center for Instructional Innovation, College of Education & Human Sciences, due to budget reduction**
- **Delete UNL Leadership Institute, College of Business**
- **Delete Gallup Research Center, College of Business (replaced by the Clifton Strengths Institute)**
- **Delete Center for Nontraditional Manufacturing Research**
- **Rename “Boystown Center on Child and Family Well Being” to “Academy for Child and Family Well-Being,” College of Education & Human Sciences**

Bender reported that the APC is being informed of action that has already been taken. Bloom noted that none of these are degree programs, they are administrative structures within the colleges so APC approval is not required.

8.0 Proposal to Create Financial Communications Graduate Certificate

Bender stated that two members need to review the proposal and then report back to the APC on whether they would recommend approval or if they are any questions or concerns that need to be addressed. Clarke and Bloom volunteered to review the proposal.

9.0 Proposal to Create Engineering Management Graduate Certificate

Bender asked for two volunteers to review the proposal. Gay volunteered and Griffin stated that she would check to see if Sollars would review the proposal. (Griffin contacted Sollars who agreed to review the proposal.)

10.0 Reports from the Executive Vice Chancellor, Vice Chancellor for IANR, Vice Chancellor for Research & Economic Development

Goodburn stated that she was reporting for EVC Plowman. She noted that the search for a Vice Chancellor for Diversity and Inclusion is moving along and that phone interviews will be conducted very soon. She reported that in May the EVC Office created diversity advocacy groups that are looking at issues for faculty, staff, and students, and reviewing the diversity of our curriculum. She noted that the groups met during the summer and recently submitted reports that will be reviewed by the Deans Council on September 18. She stated that Professor Combs, Management, has been hired to work as the Diversity Director for Faculty Affairs and will work with Associate VC Walker and Professor Swearer on faculty development. Zeleny noted that Combs will help coordinate the Chancellor’s Commission on the Status of People of Color, the Chancellor’s Commission on the Status of Women, the LGBTQA+ Resource Center, and others. Clarke asked if

Professor Combs will be working with the new VC for Diversity and Inclusion. Goodburn noted that this is unknown at this time because the Office of Diversity and Inclusion still needs to define itself.

Goodburn reported that a Staff Leadership Academy for staff has been launched. She noted that participants will meet monthly throughout the year to receive guidance on topics including leadership, communication, conflict resolution, and creating inclusive workplaces. She pointed out that while there has been a lot of development programs for faculty, development programs for staff have been limited.

Goodburn stated that the Faculty Fellows for Student Success kicked off last month. She stated that originally the plan was to have 3 faculty members shadow programs that have high student success, however, there were over 40 applications so the program has been expanded to 12. Gay asked what the purpose is for this program. Goodburn stated that the goal is to build more leadership of faculty around issues of student success. She noted that the 12 faculty members meet monthly to learn of key issues around retention, diversity in the classroom, and other topics relevant to student success. Clarke asked if the focus is on both undergraduate and graduate student success. Goodburn stated that it is for both.

Goodburn reported that there is a series of activities going on for first generation students including helping support a group of first generation students who will later become advisors to new first generation students, holding workshops for faculty and staff, and hosting lunches for faculty, staff, and students that are first generation. She noted that some first generation alumni will be returning to be featured speakers at an inclusive leadership retreat for students.

Boehm noted that five national searches for department/unit heads began last spring in CASNR and he is pleased to report that all five positions have been filled. He reported that the internal hires for these leadership positions were: Professor Martha Mamo, Agronomy & Horticulture; Professor Loran Giesler, Plant Pathology; and Professor David Jones, Biological Systems Engineering. He stated that there were two external hires: Mary Ann Johnson, head of Nutrition and Health Sciences and John Ruberson for Entomology. He stated that Professor Julia Torquati will serve as the interim head for Child, Youth, & Family Studies.

Boehm reported that a national search has been launched for the Dean of CASNR. He noted that it is a strong search committee and names of candidates have already been identified. He stated that he hopes candidates for the airport interviews will begin soon with the hope of bringing the final candidates to campus in late October through November. He stated that he hopes to be able to make an offer before the holiday break in December and to have the person start sometime in the spring semester. He noted that hard work was put into creating the position description and colleagues from diverse backgrounds were asked to review the description so that we could minimize any implicit bias in word use.

Boehm reported that a \$10 million anchor donation was received which allowed the campus to move forward with obtaining matching funds for the CYT Library renovations. He noted that the campus has now been authorized to move forward on the planning stages of the renovations.

Boehm reported that the East Campus Union, which opened in 1974, is a very sound, structural building, but it has climate control issues and the infrastructure and fire suppression systems need to be updated which will cost an estimated \$12-\$14 million. He noted that \$26 ½ million has been identified through bond capacity and student fees, and the project received Board approval, but these plans did not include renovation of the Great Plains room which will require an additional \$2 million. He pointed out that the Devaney Center is needing to be used for some East Campus events because there is no longer enough space in the East Campus Union to hold these events. He reported that \$2 million has been taken from the IANR plant funds to cover the additional cost of renovating the Great Plains room. He stated that the soft construction will begin on October 1, and the decision has been made to keep the Union open during the construction which will be a two year project.

Bloom noted that new construction projects come to the APC for review and approval, and he questioned whether significant modifications, the extent to which would require additional Board of Regents approval, should be reviewed again by the APC. Zeleny pointed out that the East Campus Union project is itself still complete. Boehm noted that the project was approved and went through the process of design, and it was during the design process that additional feedback was provided which suggested that the scope of the project needed to be expanded. He stated that because the plan was now to double the size of the Great Plains room, it needed to go to the Regents' Business Affairs Committee and then to the Board for final approval. He pointed out that the APC did not meet until today, and approval from the Board was needed to move the project forward.

Bloom stated that if an initiated project has a 90% change, it is a different project. Zeleny suggested that the APC could vote to approve the modifications to the building proposal. Boehm stated that the bigger issue was the \$26 ½ million limit that was put on the project. He noted that at the time, there was concern whether the funds could be sustained. He proposed that there be more discussion of the front side of a project so the functional needs of a project are discussed initially. Bloom stated that he is concerned with the regularity at which modifications to initial proposals need Board approval, and that these modifications do not also require APC approval. Bender agreed and stated that the APC should be made aware when significant changes are made to a project that has already been approved by the Committee. Boehm asked what percentage of deviation or change to a project would require notification and approval of the APC. Bender pointed out that he does not think this is addressed in the APC's charge and he hesitates to put a number on the percentage of change, but if the change is large enough that it needs Board approval, than ideally the APC should look at the PIR again. He understands that this particular project came up at a time when it is not practical for the APC to meet, but under other circumstances it would be good to bring these modified projects back to the

APC. Bloom suggested that the PIR procedures should be reviewed and revised to address this issue.

11.0 Other Business

Bloom asked how the Husker Dialogues event went. Goodburn reported that 3,410 first year students participated and there were over 300 facilitators. She stated that the student stories were very compelling and she has not heard of any negative feedback.

Traynor stated that a comparison between last year's event and this year's was conducted and the perspective this year was that the conversations were more fruitful, and the delivery of the speakers was a little softer and more approachable. Goodburn noted that the upper class students involved with the event needed to be commended because they facilitated much of the event and served as role models. She stated that an extra 120 faculty and staff members were needed to fill the demand of the students.

Traynor stated that some student leaders from Kansas State University came up to observe the event and they were impressed with it. Goodburn noted that last year a team of staff and faculty members from K-State came last year to observe the Husker Dialogues.

Tschetter asked if the event will be held again next year. She noted that she would have participated, but the invitation came late this year and she had a conflict with her schedule. Goodburn stated that she is still learning from the experience and the event might be held a little in the semester, but they have to take the volleyball schedule under consideration. She reported that one thing they did this year was to have an inclusive leadership retreat where students were trained and certified to be student leaders for Husker Dialogues.

Zeleny reported that VC Wilhelm has hired Dr. Deb Hamernik as Associate VC for Research and Economic Development. He stated that the N150 Commission is moving towards completing its work and the consultants helping with the Commission will be on campus the third week in October and a meeting with the consultants and the APC will be scheduled.

Bloom noted that when Chancellor Green spoke to the APC in May, he gave the Committee an opening to take on a broader mandate in becoming more proactive in campus planning. He pointed out that the APC should follow through with this. Bender stated that he will contact the Chancellor to speak further about this.

The meeting adjourned at 3:56 p.m. The next meeting of the APC will be on Wednesday, September 26, 2018 at 3:00 in the City Campus Union, Heritage Room. The minutes are respectfully submitted by Karen Griffin, Coordinator.