

# MINUTES

## January 29, 2020 University of Nebraska – Lincoln Academic Planning Committee

**Members Present:** Bender, Bloom, Boehm, Clarke, Gay, Hachtmann, Hebets, Moberly, O'Connor, Purcell, Ratcliff, Smith, Tschetter, Wilhelm, Zeleny

**Members Absent:** Geisinger, Hibberd, Johnson, Purdum

**Others Attending:**

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

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### **1.0 Call**

Clarke called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m.

### **2.0 Approval of January 8, 2020 Minutes**

Gay moved for approval of the minutes. Motioned seconded by Wilhelm and approved by APC.

### **3.0 Proposal to Establish a Graduate Certificate in Supply Chain Analytics**

Clarke noted that the proposal is from the College of Business and has been approved by the Graduate Council. She reported that currently the College offers graduate certificates in Business Analytics and Supply Chain Management and pointed out that this would be a third certificate. She noted that the courses would come from the other two existing certificate programs. She then asked for volunteers to review the proposal. Gay and Clarke volunteered.

### **4.0 Update on Incentive-based Budget Model (Bloom)**

Bloom reported that he has taken on a part-time position for the next 18 months in the Chancellor's Office as the Faculty Associate to the Chancellor for Budget Model Implementation. He stated that on July 1 the campus will be in the incentive-based budget development cycle, but units will get the same allocation of funds that they received in the previous budget. In the meantime, he said the governance structures need to be developed and in his role as the Faculty Associate he will continue to look out for the interests of the APC and the Faculty Senate. He stated that there will be a meeting between the Senate Executive Committee and faculty members of the APC on Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup>.

Bloom reported that VC Nunez has a proposal for the governance structure, and while there has been some discussion about the role of the APC in the governing process, it is currently not defined. He noted that there has been some talk about having a faculty committee, and he thinks that having the APC serve in this capacity is still an open issue. He pointed out that all of the committees will have some faculty representation, and his hope is that the faculty will not be appointed, but generated by the faculty.

Bloom noted that there are many questions about the incentive-based budget model and he would like to get people's questions into a database so they can be answered and retained for a FAQ section. He stated that he would like to have more discussion about what the new budget model means, how we value different activities at the University, and if they reflect our values. He stated that he is hoping to be able to get out on campus to have these discussions, and has written a 50-minute seminar about it which he hopes to be able to present.

Bloom reported that the consultants are now phasing out of the process. He noted that the budget change will be a challenging transition, and reported that the University is out bidding for a new software system to work with the incentive-based budget model. He pointed out that the budget model will continue to evolve as we grapple with issues such as how different funds get allocated, and how University-wide centers will be represented in the model.

Bloom stated that it is crucial that we have data quality and we need to make sure that the metrics are as correct as possible. He pointed out that there is a Data Quality Committee that has already been tackling this task.

Clarke asked if Bloom has had a chance to talk to the different colleges to see how they are planning to manage the new budget model. Bloom stated that he has been on a listening tour of the campus and he is scheduled to meet with the Deans Council. He reported that the College of Arts & Sciences has created a committee to help oversee the budget. O'Connor noted that it has not been publicized that colleges should have a committee, but he believes it is critical. He stated that there needs to be more education about the budget model. Bloom stated that he is hoping to provide some education. He noted that the local AAUP chapter has asked if he could give a talk to the campus about university financial budgets, and he is looking to try to schedule the talk in early March.

Boehm pointed out that in the multi-dimensional centers faculty are supported by appropriate state funds, but as we think about the budget models and how they can be a shared opportunity for leveraging, there are also possible liabilities. He noted that things get even more complicated when you have a University-wide center such as the Water for Food Institute. Bloom noted that there is interaction between our campus and the University, and he wondered what the requirements are from Central Administration. Boehm stated that we need to focus on what we are trying to achieve here at UNL. He stated that he was just in a conversation about graduate remission where the focus was about whether to provide funding or having a great graduate program. Bloom stated that the academic mission has to come first, and the budget has to support the mission.

## **5.0 Reports from the Interim Executive Vice Chancellor, Vice Chancellor for IANR, Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development**

### Academic Affairs

Moberly reported that a new Dean of Journalism has been hired and will start on July 1. He noted that Interim Dean Struthers will stay on as the Interim until then.

Moberly stated that two other searches are ongoing: Associate Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management and Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs. He reported that the Associate VC for

Enrollment Management position was posted this week and the search committee is already at work. He stated that he hopes that the finalists can be here at the end of April.

Moberly reported that there was a meeting regarding graduate remission, and work has just been finished on covering undergraduate remissions with Foundation funds. He pointed out that most of the colleges have hit the target of donations for undergraduate remissions, and stated that we need to look at how we can use our Foundation funds strategically to help reduce our undergraduate tuition remission. He stated that we need to question whether our existing policies and procedures are serving our academic mission well.

Moberly stated that the proposed changes to the Regents Bylaws have been approved by the Faculty Senate at each of the campuses, but Central Administration is concerned with the use of the term “immediate suspension” rather than “administrative leave.” He stated that negotiations with the University’s attorneys and the faculty are continuing. He noted that the Faculty Senate would need to approve any change in the language, and eventually the Board of Regents would need to approve the changes.

#### Office of Research and Economic Development

Wilhelm reported that the number of qualitative proposals are up this year and awards are up a bit from last year. He stated that extra mural expenditures are slightly above where we were last year at this time and licensing revenues are also up from last year. He stated that the 12<sup>th</sup> Nebraska Lecturer, Professor Ross Secord, just gave his presentation yesterday on the history of vertebrate paleontology at the University of Nebraska State Museum. He noted that Professor Will Thomas from the History department, will be the next featured Lecturer.

Wilhelm stated that on February 7<sup>th</sup> there will be a workshop on writing successful grant proposals in the Arts and Humanities. He reported that there will be a “Broader Impacts Partner Meet and Greet” on March 11 at the Lied Commons. He stated that faculty who are developing grant proposals to the NSF, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, or other sponsors that require research or creative activity to have broad impacts on society should attend the workshop.

Wilhelm reported that ORED now has a new person working with department chairs to increase the numbers of faculty recognition and awards.

Wilhelm stated that there will be a couple of grant proposal writing and strategies for winning grants seminars coming up in March, and there will be two more faculty connectors in March and April. He reported that Research Day will take place on April 14. He stated that information on all of the upcoming workshops can be found on ORED’s webpage <https://research.unl.edu/>.

Wilhelm noted that ORED is assisting faculty members with larger proposals for funding from NIH, one is on youth and another is focused on HIV and cancer research. He reported that ORED helped Professor Wood submit a program project grant and UNL is the prime submitter on the project. He stated that proposals have also been submitted to NSF, and there is a pending proposal for NSF on engineering and food manufacturing center. He noted that our research team made a presentation to the NSF, but the decision will not be made for a number of months.

He stated that there are four different large scale proposals that are in process right now, and by the end of the week faculty two different NSF training grants will probably be submitted.

Bloom asked what the domain is for the AI area. Wilhelm stated that it applies to agricultural applications and the proposal is to try to assemble different technology for use in agriculture.

### IANR

Boehm noted that his position is not only VC of IANR, but also Vice President of Agriculture and Natural Resources for the University of Nebraska and he now has a new boss with President Carter whom he feels is a wonderful person, a quick learner, and has a good sense of curiosity.

Boehm stated that in an effort to help our Extension Educators be successful the five district centers have now been developed into engagement zones which have been geographically divided. He noted that doing this will effectively reduce the number of direct reports that need to be written. He pointed out that previously each district had between 40-70 direct reports. He stated that the county based programs will still be maintained.

Boehm reported that the Coronavirus situation is being watched carefully by the University. He noted that we have a partnership with a University in Wuhan and some of our students were to go on a study abroad program there, but they will no longer be able to. He stated that we are working with the students to make other arrangements for them.

Boehm stated that while IANR has a faculty liaison committee, it did not have a staff liaison committee. He reported that IANR is now launching a staff liaison council.

Boehm noted that IANR is in the midst of the annual performance reviews and the promotion and tenure process. He wanted to acknowledge the work of the Faculty Compensation Advisory Committee for detecting inequity in salaries, particularly in Extension. He stated that IANR was able to improve the salaries that were inequitable. He reported that academic unit leaders are now being provided all of the salary data for their faculty, and a market analysis with peer groups has been conducted so the unit leaders can look at the data on the equity and market fronts.

Boehm reported that 67 people applied for the VSIP, 14 of these are IANR professors. He noted that all of the separation agreements have been signed, but people can still withdraw their agreement until February 20<sup>th</sup>.

Boehm provided an update on construction projects on East Campus: the Dairy Store is now in its own space, the CYT renovation is progressing and will provide great meeting spaces for students, the East Campus Union dining hall opened in the fall, construction will be completed on the second floor of the Union in February, and many people are looking forward to having Starbucks in the Union.

Boehm recommended that people see “We Are Nebraska” which is a group of students who use improvisation to tell their stories. He noted that the performance includes powerful statements made about inclusive excellence and equity. O’Connor pointed out that the effort was a partnership with many units on campus.

Gay noted that the Faculty Senate Executive Committee met with President Carter and there was discussion about the University needing to burnish our brand better. He stated that there was discussion about how we can be a leader in water research and the need to promote the Water for Food Global Institute. Boehm reported that recently a major donor contributed to the State Museum and the University to help bring in the Smithsonian's traveling exhibit Water Today. He pointed out that now is the time for us to focus on water quality, particularly given the water situation in Flint, Michigan and the nitrate pollution of water in Iowa. Gay stated that we should be the world leader in this research. Boehm stated that he believes we are one of the world's leaders, but we need to continue our efforts to be even a stronger leader.

Boehm asked if the APC is interested in hearing explicitly about some things when the VC's give their reports. Clarke stated that she would like to hear plans around the new budget model, the response to the 2025 Strategic Plan and how it will be implemented on campus. She stated that the issue of funding graduate and undergraduate students is also of concern.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m. The next meeting of the APC will be on Wednesday, February 12, 2020 at 3:00 in the City Campus Union, Chimney Rock Room. The minutes are respectfully submitted by Karen Griffin, Coordinator.