

MINUTES
November 29, 2023

University of Nebraska – Lincoln
Academic Planning Committee

Members Present: Ankerson, Bloom, Boehm, Button, Clarke, Cressler, Davis, Doll, Heng-Moss, Hole, Jones, Minter, Mowat, Ourada, Tschetter, Vuran, Haake, Gonzales

Members Absent: Hiatt, Latta Konecky, Theiss-Morse,

Guest: VC Zeleny

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

1.0 Call

Vuran called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

2.0 Approval of November 22, 2023 Minutes

Vuran asked if there were any revisions to the minutes. Cressler noted that he was in attendance for the meeting. Vuran noted that the minutes would be corrected and then asked for approval of the minutes. Mowat moved and Tschetter seconded approval of the minutes. The APC then voted to approve the minutes.

3.0 Budget Reduction Process

Vuran reported that there have been two subcommittees of the APC that have been meeting weekly in addition to the regular APC meeting to work on the proposed budget reductions and to prepare for potentially further reductions in the spring. He noted that the APC needs to submit its final recommendations on the proposed budget reductions to the Chancellor on December 8. He stated that the meeting today would be used to address any remaining questions the APC members have on the proposed reductions and to have discussions about the categories of reductions. He noted that the APC will vote next week on the categories of the proposed reductions and afterwards he would draft a letter to the Chancellor informing him of the Committee's recommendations. The APC then went into a closed session.

Vuran stated after the end of the budget reduction discussions that the APC has been very open and willing to accommodate the fact that the Committee had to urgently process the budget reductions. He stated that it is important to communicate to the administration that the urgent process does not set a precedent for any and all further budget reductions and the Committee expects a lot more time and detail for any further reductions. He stated that it is important to have open communications to the public about any future budget reductions pointing out that many comments were received stating that it was difficult to provide meaningful input because of the lack of information and detail that was made public. He noted that there were also comments about how the communication this time differed from previous budget reductions.

4.0 Reports from EVC Ankerson, VC Boehm, Interim VC Jones

Ankerson reported that faculty and staff award nominations are due February 1 and she encouraged everyone to submit nominations. The various awards can be found at <https://executivevc.unl.edu/faculty/evaluation-recognition/awards>. She noted that it is important to recognize the work of people here at the university.

Ankerson stated that at the October 5th Board of Regents meeting the Board said it would be addressing the parental leave policy, but after the meeting it became aware that the Faculty Senates were not presented with the proposed changes to the policy therefore they could not provide any input on it. A determination was made to postpone the Board's consideration of the policy to allow further review of it so it will not be on the Board's agenda until sometime in the spring semester.

Ankerson reported that beginning with the 2025-2026 academic calendar year, the university's academic calendar will return to its normal schedule and there will not be any January pre-session. She stated that the last January pre-session will be in January 2025.

Ankerson reported that Bill Watts, Associate Dean for Student Success, who has been with the university for a very long time, has taken a position with Kansas State University as Associate Vice President in the Division of Academic Success and Student Affairs. She noted that there will be a reception for him here at UNL on December 11.

Ankerson stated that an announcement will be made tomorrow naming the new Dean of University Libraries.

Jones noted that Vuran recently gave her a tour around campus, including Vuran's lab in the Schorr Computing Center, she stated that she loved seeing all of the wonderful work that is being done at UNL noting that she hopes that as a campus we can find ways to communicate and talk about the work that is being done here.

The meeting adjourned at 4:54 p.m. The next meeting of the APC will be on Wednesday, December 6, 2023. The minutes are respectfully submitted by Karen Griffin, Coordinator.