

**MINUTES**  
**October 25, 2023**

**University of Nebraska – Lincoln**  
**Academic Planning Committee**

**Members Present:** Ankerson, Bloom, Boehm, Button, Clarke, Cressler, Davis, Doll, Heng-Minter, Moss, Hiatt, Hole, Latta Konecky, Mowat, Ourada, Theiss-Morse, Tschetter, Vuran, Haake, Gonzales

**Members Absent:** Latta Konecky, Gonzales

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

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**1.0 Call**

Vuran called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

**2.0 Approval of October 18, 2023 Minutes**

Vuran asked if there were any revisions or comments on the minutes. Clarke noted that she had one minor revision which she sent to Griffin. Davis moved for approval, motion seconded by Hiatt, and approved by the APC.

**3.0 Budget Reduction Process**

**3.1 Budget Framework**

Vuran reported that after last week’s meeting he spoke with Chancellor Bennett and Davis about the timeline and budget framework proposal and after the discussion the framework was revised to address UNL’s budget deficit of \$12 million. He noted that the timeline for the APC to review the proposed reductions and to provide its recommendations to the Chancellor was changed from November 15 to December 1. He stated that he appreciated Chancellor Bennett’s flexibility for accommodating this change.

Bloom made a friendly amendment to the budget framework to include the word “academic” to clarify that the proposed reductions do not include elimination of existing academic programs. Motion seconded by Clarke and approved by the APC. Ankerson then moved to approve the budget framework. Motion seconded by Hiatt and approved by the APC.

The APC then reviewed and had some discussion on the proposed budget reductions. The Committee then agreed that further questions on the proposed reductions needed to be submitted by the end of the day on Friday. Vuran pointed out that it is up to the APC to define what kinds of input it wants to give on the proposed budget reductions.

Vuran noted that the APC more than likely would be dealing with additional budget cuts in the spring semester and asked the APC if they would be available to meet via Zoom beginning either January 3<sup>rd</sup> and/or January 10<sup>th</sup>.

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

Ankerson noted that dealing with further budget reductions is difficult and challenging for everyone, but she hopes that we can have collegial conversations and for people to keep in mind of where we are going and that we are trying to do the least amount of damage as possible with the reductions.

Jones reported that we are on a record setting pace for research expenditures this year and that we have the number one University Press in the Big Ten. She stated that Research Days will begin on November 10<sup>th</sup> and she hopes everyone has the opportunity to at least attend a portion of it. She stated that she is enjoying the opportunity to serve as Interim VC of Research and Economic Development and is working to move forward with making further progress.

Boehm stated that harvesting is happening across Nebraska and tomorrow there will be an announcement from the director of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) that the Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute (DWFI) has been selected to lead a global, multi-partner collaboration focusing on smallholder irrigation and mechanization needs. He stated that the \$19 million is for a five-year period with the potential to expand the program with more activities up to \$40 million. He noted that the DWFI project is part of a USAID initiative funding a series of Feed the Future Innovation Labs which address a range of challenges for global food security and nutrition. He stated that this is the first time in quite a while that the University has had one of these labs and out of the 21 that exist, 14 of them are managed by AAU schools. He reported that he recently found out that we landed another \$5 million grant for sustainable agriculture systems and that just in the last six months faculty in IANR have generated \$66 million in research grants.

Ankerson reported that three candidates for the Dean of Libraries will be making presentations beginning tomorrow and asked faculty who attend the presentations to provide feedback.

The meeting adjourned at 4:54 p.m. The next meeting of the APC will be on Wednesday, November 1, 2023. The minutes are respectfully submitted by Karen Griffin, Coordinator.