

MINUTES
October 4, 2023

University of Nebraska – Lincoln
Academic Planning Committee

Members Present: Ankerson, Boehm, Clarke, Cressler, Davis, Doll, Heng-Moss, Kelley, Latta Konecky, Mowat, Ourada, Theiss-Morse, Tschetter, Vuran, Haake, Gonzales

Members Absent: Button, Hiatt, Wilhelm

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 3:03 p.m.

2.0 Chancellor Bennett

2.1 Budget

Chancellor Bennett pointed out that going through a budget reduction process is very difficult, but he believes that when the process is over, we will come out of it more focused on identifying our goals and believes that UNL's best days lie ahead of us. He noted that he dealt with budget reductions when he was President at Southern Mississippi University, and he is well prepared to handle the task ahead of the campus.

Chancellor Bennett reported that he is meeting with the APC to officially implement the Procedures to be Invoked for Significant Budget Reallocation and Reductions. He noted that in accordance with the Procedures, he has consulted with the senior leadership team, the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, and the Deans about the budget situation we are in and is presenting the budget framework to the APC. He stated that his plan is to follow the Procedures carefully and stated that he firmly believes in shared governance so he is seeking the APC's input with how the campus should deal with the budget reductions.

Chancellor Bennett reported that the NU system is facing a \$58 million deficit and President Carter has initiated a hiring freeze for non-academic personnel, issued a budget rescission and developed a 5-point plan which involves a zero-based budget to address the deficit. He noted that UNL has carried forward about a \$12 million deficit from previous years and has a \$15 million deficit from the current year. He pointed out that UNL needs to address its budget deficits, and this will be done in two phases. He noted that former Chancellor Green created a budget taskforce which developed proposals for non-academic budget reductions of \$11 million and he will be asking the APC to review these proposals and make recommendations on them.

The APC then went into a closed session to discuss possible strategies that it will use for accomplishing its work on the budget reductions and what its next steps will be.

3.0 Approval of September 20, 2023 Minutes

Vuran asked if there were any revisions for the minutes. Hearing none, he asked for approval of the minutes. Tschetter moved for approval, seconded by Clarke and approved by the APC.

4.0 Reports from EVC Ankerson and VC Boehm

Ankerson reported that there were 398 unique employers at the recent Career Fair on campus and over 4,000 students participated in the event which occurred over several days. She stated that students are very engaged this semester in activities across the campus.

Boehm reported that the Nebraska Forest Service has received a five-year, \$10 million grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service to strengthen Nebraska's urban forest infrastructure in disadvantaged communities throughout the state.

The meeting adjourned at 4:57 p.m. The next meeting of the APC will be on Wednesday, October 11, 2023. The minutes are respectfully submitted by Karen Griffin, Coordinator.