

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Present: Belli, Fech, Hanrahan, Peterson, Purcell, Renaud, Rudy, Vakilzadian

Absent: Adenwalla, Buan, Dawes, Franco Cruz, Leiter

Date: Tuesday, August 28, 2018

Location: 203 Alexander Building

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

1.0 Call (*Rudy*)

Rudy called the meeting to order at 2:33 p.m.

2.0 Announcements

2.1 Digital Learning Center Exam Commons

Rudy reported that there was concern that students could access websites, including Canvas, when they were in the Digital Learning Center Exam Commons. He reported that a data system called Locked Down has now been installed which can lock out all websites, except for the testing website set up by the instructor. Belli pointed out that the Locked Down program is not a default and that it is an option to lock down access to websites. Rudy noted that Apple watches cannot be taken into the Exam Commons, and it is up to the monitor to oversee students taking exams to ensure that students are not accessing websites to look for answers.

2.2 Possible Webcast Information Session on UnitedHealthcare

Fech reported that he is working with Assistant VC Currin on his offer to have a webcast session for Extension Educators regarding the University's change to UnitedHealthcare. He noted that steady progress is being made between the University and UnitedHealthcare, and meetings are occurring weekly to try to address all issues with the change. Purcell reported that Benefits & Risk Management Director Gayle Schanou has taken 200 calls to ensure that health care providers are signed up with UnitedHealthcare. She pointed out that only one out of 200 health care providers was not willing to switch over to UnitedHealthcare. Fech stated that chiropractors seem to be the group of doctors that are most hesitant about switching over.

Rudy stated that he still has concerns for the Extension Educators, particularly those in the rural areas. Purcell stated that some Extension Educators feel that the change in the health care carrier is another budget reduction that will hit them unfairly, similar to the mileage reimbursement. Fech pointed out that UNK employees and NCTA could also be negatively affected. He stated that the faculty needs to be vigilant to make sure that UnitedHealthcare provides the same coverage and service that Blue Cross/Blue Shield did.

2.3 Attendance at National Council of Faculty Senates

Purcell reported that she will be attending the National Council of Faculty Senates in Austin, Texas along with Buan, Vakilzadian, and former Executive Committee member David Woodman.

2.4 Academic Planning Committee Special Election

Griffin reported that there are now three candidates for the open seat on the APC. She stated that two of the people volunteered to run for election last year and another faculty member was nominated who was willing to run for election.

3.0 Approval of August 21, 2018 Minutes

Purcell moved to approve the minutes. Motion seconded by Peterson and approved, with one abstention.

4.0 Unfinished Business

4.1 Proposed Revision to Academic Rights & Responsibilities Committee Procedures

Vakilzadian suggested some further revisions to the procedures. Peterson noted that no formal motion has been made to present the proposed changes to the Faculty Senate. Hanrahan moved, and Belli seconded, the motion to bring the proposed revisions to the procedures to the Senate for consideration and approval. Motion approved. Peterson noted that the motion will be presented to the Senate at the October 2, 2018 meeting.

Vakilzadian asked if the ARRC members need to be tenured. Peterson pointed out that the special hearing committee members need to be at the associate level or above to hear Academic Freedom and Tenure cases, and it is his sense that it is valuable to have faculty members with more experience working on the ARRC and special hearing committees. Vakilzadian asked how the chair of the ARRC is selected. Peterson stated that the chair is elected by the members of the ARRC. He noted that the chair is usually in the third year of their term so they have some experience on the Committee.

Peterson suggested that the next project for the ARRC may be to put together a manual to assist the chairs of the special hearing committees. He pointed out that the chairs, in particular, have a considerable amount of work to do when there is a special hearing committee.

5.0 New Business

5.1 Data on Faculty

Belli asked if a request could be made to obtain data breaking down the categories of faculty members (tenure track, tenured, Professors of Practice, Lecturers, Lecturer/Ts, Extension) by colleges. Rudy stated that he would request this information.

5.2 Non-Tenure Track Faculty Survey

The Executive Committee reviewed the 2014 non-tenure track survey and began suggesting changes for a new survey to be conducted this year. Purcell noted that she and Fech will review the survey for Extension Educators.

Belli stated that he thinks tenured and tenure-leading faculty members might have similar concerns and suggested the possibility of having a survey for these faculty members.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:13 p.m. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be on Tuesday, September 11, 2018 at 2:30 pm. The meeting will be held in 203 Alexander Building. The minutes are respectfully submitted by Karen Griffin, Coordinator and Lorna Dawes, Secretary.