

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Present: Buan, Franco Cruz, Fech, Hanrahan, Kolbe, Latta Konecky, Minter, Peterson, Vakilzadian

Absent: Adenwalla, Purcell, Woodman

Date: Tuesday, October 15, 2019

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 (*Hanrahan*)

Hanrahan called the meeting to order at 2:40 p.m.

2.0 Announcements

2.1 AAUP Financial Workshop

Hanrahan noted that he sent around the description of the AAUP financial workshop that will be held here on campus on November 2 and asked the Executive Committee if they wanted to pursue encouraging people to attend. Peterson stated that he believed it would be useful for faculty members to have a better understanding of budgeting since it can be so complex. Buan stated that if the administration would help to financially support some faculty members to attend it would show unity between administration and faculty.

2.2 Feedback on EVC Candidates

Hanrahan asked if the Executive Committee wanted to submit a joint response, or just have committee members send their responses individually. Buan suggested doing both. She suggested the letter from the Executive Committee list the pros and cons of each of the candidates. The Committee then discussed what they thought of the four candidates. Minter agreed to draft the letter from the Executive Committee providing feedback on each of the candidates.

2.3 Voluntary Separation Incentive Program

Hanrahan noted that the University is once again offering the VSIP to tenured faculty members who are 62 years or older and who have at least 10 years of service at the university. He reported that he spoke with Chancellor Green about the VSIP just prior to its public release. Kolbe asked why the program is only for tenured faculty. Peterson stated that it is because the State is essentially buying back tenure from the individual faculty members. He noted that the VSIP cannot legally be offered to anyone without tenure.

2.4 Letter of Support from UNKEA

Hanrahan reported that he received a letter from the University of Nebraska at Kearney Education Association and Faculty Senate Executive Committee endorsing the proposed

changes to the Board of Regents Bylaws. He stated that he hopes to have a similar letter from UNO soon, and will be talking to UNMC about the proposed changes and the need for them.

3.0 Approval of October 8, 2019 Minutes

Hanrahan asked if there were further revisions to the minutes. Hearing none he asked for approval of the minutes. The minutes were approved.

4.0 Unfinished Business

4.1 Timeline for Executive Committee Goals

Hanrahan noted that the document is fluid and is just to provide a guideline of items that the Executive Committee wants to accomplish this academic year. Franco Cruz noted that the EVC office has developed a presentation on academic freedom that was presented to departments last year, and asked if this isn't a repeat of those efforts. Hanrahan stated that it would be good to have a presentation on academic freedom that was more faculty centered. Fech noted that having the Senate provide a presentation could raise more visibility for the Senate. Buan suggested working with the administration to improve the EVC office's presentation. She pointed out that educating the faculty about academic freedom is an important process and we need to move forward with it.

Minter stated that she appreciates the work that Hanrahan put into the document and suggested that the list of goals be prioritized. She noted that monitoring the RCM budget model implementation and its impacts seems to be a high priority, and the same is true about moving on a Professional Code of Conduct.

Buan moved to accept the proposed goals and timelines. Vakilzadian seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

5.0 New Business

5.1 Professional Code of Conduct Committee Draft Charge

The Executive Committee discussed the draft charge for a committee that would develop a Professional Code of Conduct. Vakilzadian suggested that each college should have a representative on the committee. The Committee then suggested names of faculty members to serve on the Professional Code of Conduct Committee. Peterson moved to approve the charge. Motion seconded by Fech and approved by the Executive Committee.

5.2 Possible RCM College Committee Resolution

Hanrahan asked if the Executive Committee should put forward a resolution calling for colleges to have a RCM committee. Buan thought we should, but Peterson stated that it was too premature at this point, and it would better to wait to see how things will be set up with the budget model. He noted that some colleges are small and it may not be in their best interest to have such a committee. He suggested first asking the deans how they plan to approach the RCM budget model. Minter noted that CAS Dean Button has already sent out a letter asking faculty members to serve on a budget committee in the

college. Vakilzadian pointed out that ultimately it will be the dean's decision. Hanrahan suggested making an announcement at the November Senate meeting asking Senators to let him or Buan know if their college is developing a college budget committee.

5.3 Agenda Items for Interim EVC Moberly

The Executive Committee identified the following agenda items for Interim EVC Moberly:

- The cost of textbooks and ways to reduce these costs
- A database for course syllabi
- What does he see as the future role of the EVC Office?

5.4 Faculty Needed for VC for Student Affairs Search Committee

The Executive Committee identified additional faculty members to possibly serve on the search committee for the VC for Student Affairs.

5.5 Recycling Efforts on Campus

Hanrahan reported that he has received a request from Sustainability Officer Prabhakar Shrestha to talk about recycling on campus. He noted that the Office of Sustainability is hiring a consulting firm to look at ways to improve recycling on campus. Buan asked what the outcome is that they are expecting. She suggested that the Office of Sustainability might get better information by conducting a poll of the faculty and staff. She suggested that more information is needed from the Office before deciding on whether they should make a presentation to the Senate or the Executive Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:29 p.m. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be on Tuesday, October 22, 2019 at 2:30 pm. The meeting will be held in 203 Alexander Building. The minutes are respectfully submitted by Karen Griffin, Coordinator and Joan Latta Konecky, Secretary.