

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Present:** Adenwalla, Buan, Franco Cruz, Hanrahan, Kolbe, Latta Konecky, Minter, Peterson, Purcell, Woodman

**Absent:** Fech, Vakilzadian

**Date:** Tuesday, January 21, 2020

**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.

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### 1.0 Call (*Hanrahan*)

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

### 2.0 Announcements

#### 2.1 President Carter's Visit to UNL

Hanrahan noted that President Carter had a successful visit to the campus on Friday and reported that he is meeting with the Senate Executive Committee next week.

#### 2.2 Service Delivery Initiative Survey

Hanrahan reported that a survey about proposed changes to financial transactions has been sent out, but faculty were not being surveyed. Kolbe pointed out that the survey is for the people who actually do the work of processing the transactions. Griffin noted that the proposed changes are to journal entries, transfer of funds from Foundation accounts, payments from Foundation accounts, and similar other transactions which are usually done by the staff, not the faculty.

Buan stated that there is concern about how administrative staff will deal with large grants that involve multiple colleges and departments. She pointed out that the faculty need to be able to provide feedback if the service operations are not meeting the needs of the faculty.

### 3.0 Approval of January 14, 2020 Minutes

Hanrahan asked if there were any corrections to the minutes. Hearing none he asked for approval of the minutes. The minutes were approved. There was one abstention.

### 4.0 Unfinished Business

#### 4.1 Review of Executive Committee Goals

Hanrahan reported that in reviewing the Executive Committee's goals for the year nearly all of the goals have been accomplished or are in the process of being addressed.

#### **4.2 Executive Committee Elections**

Hanrahan noted that there will be a number of seats opening up on the Executive Committee: President-Elect, Secretary, an Extension Educator representative, and four members of the Committee. He asked the Executive Committee members to speak to Senators to encourage them to run for election to serve on the Executive Committee.

#### **4.3 Video on Academic Freedom**

Hanrahan noted that he has not had anyone volunteer to work on developing a video about academic freedom that would be shown to the faculty. He asked if the Executive Committee should try to continue the effort. Kolbe pointed out that creating a video takes considerable amount of time and effort. Minter suggested developing a good Faculty Handbook that includes a section on academic freedom.

### **5.0 New Business**

#### **5.1 Draft Sexual Relations Policy**

Hanrahan noted that there is an existing Policy and Procedures on Unlawful Discrimination, Including Sexual and Other Prohibited Harassment [https://svcaa.unl.edu/faculty/policies/discrimination\\_policy\\_08.pdf](https://svcaa.unl.edu/faculty/policies/discrimination_policy_08.pdf). The Executive Committee then discussed the proposed Sexual Relations Policy that Academic Affairs has asked the Committee to review and provide feedback. Overall the Committee felt that while there should be some policy to address concerns, particularly when there is a power differential or involves a student taking a class from an instructor or faculty member, the proposed document was overreaching, contained conflicting objectives, and was punitive. Hanrahan pointed out that the existing policy addresses the power differential situation and states that anyone in a relationship with a member of the UNL community who they supervise or evaluate must recuse themselves from that position and make suitable arrangements for the objective performance or academic evaluation of the other.

Hanrahan asked the Executive Committee if the document should go forward to the full Senate. Purcell noted that the committee that was working on the policy only met initially for a few times and the members were not fully in favor of the policy. The Executive Committee agreed that rather than having a new policy the existing policy should be improved. Franco Cruz suggested that the committee that initially worked on the draft be reactivated to work on the existing policy. Hanrahan stated that he would relate the Executive Committee's concerns to Associate VC Walker.

#### **5.2 Draft of Bullying Policy**

The Executive Committee reviewed and discussed the draft Bullying Policy being proposed by Academic Affairs. After consideration the Committee felt that a statement of values is needed rather than a policy. Hanrahan stated that he would contact Associate VC Walker to inform her of the Executive Committee's feedback.

#### **5.3 Agenda Items for President Carter**

The Executive Committee identified the following agenda items for its meeting with NU President Carter:

- How can the Faculty Senate help him get connected with the faculty at UNL?
- Faculty Representation at the Board of Regents Level
- Update on Efforts to Remove UNL from the AAUP Censure
- How Will He Lead Greater Sustainability on Campus
- How to Improve Faculty Salaries
- Update on the Resolution for Extension Educators
- Improvement of Mileage Reimbursement Rates

The meeting was adjourned at 4:47 p.m. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be on Tuesday, January 28, 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.