

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Present: Bearnese, Billesbach, Boudreau, Eklund, Kopocis, Lott, Minter, Weissling, Zuckerman

Absent: Baesu, Kolbe, Krehbiel

Date: Tuesday, July 12, 2021

Location: 201 Canfield Administration 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 (*Minter*)

Minter called the meeting to order at 2:32 p.m.

2.0 EVC Ankerson/VC Boehm

2.1 Fall enrollment update

EVC Ankerson reported that at this time the total Fall enrollment is projected to be down by 1.9%. She stated that full-time freshman resident enrollment compared to Fall 2021 is down by 2.2% but the full-time freshman national enrollment is up by 6.8%, and the international full-time freshmen rate is flat. She noted that undergraduate transfers were up by 14.3%, or an increase of 98 students, and graduate enrollment was flat. She stated that undergraduate enrollment deposits are up .8% over last year at this time and it is currently projected that we will have 4,736 full-time freshmen. She stated that NSE is working with the colleges to contact those students who have not yet registered for fall classes. She noted that 93% of the full-time freshmen have gone through their advising appointments and 81% of transfers have gone through their advising appointments. She pointed out that once again we had a large graduating class which impacts each of the year of the composition of the undergraduate students.

Billesbach asked how the enrollment affects the bottom line of tuition revenue. EVC Ankerson stated that AVC Volkmer from Academic Affairs and Interim VC LaGrange will conduct a careful analysis on the tuition revenue for the coming year.

2.2 Incentive-based budget model update

- **As we begin fiscal year 2022-23, how were college budget allocations determined? (Using enrollment data and incentive-based budget model formulas or something else?)**

EVC Ankerson reported that over a year ago, it was determined that the state appropriations would be used to ensure that every unit would have a successful budget. She stated that the state appropriations would be distributed incrementally.

- **What have we learned from shadow year(s) and trial runs of the incentive-based budget model?**

EVC Ankerson noted that five or six years ago we did not have sufficient data to be able to have an incentive-based budget model, but we now have great availability to more data which is a huge part of the budget process change. She noted that this availability and access to the data will create more transparency with the budget. Billesbach asked if the transparency of the model will be filtered down to the DEOs and others within the colleges. EVC Ankerson stated that the college leaders certainly see the transparency and campus leaders have gained an understanding of the institution's finances. She stated that there is a shared common understanding of revenues and expenses by area and by fund type and this new access to productivity metrics and financial information should improve strategic decision making at an institutional and college level. She pointed out that the deans and business officers within each of the colleges have varying structure of how they share budget information.

Minter noted that the budgets are complex and for those who don't work with them consistently, it can be difficult to understand things. She stated that the transparency of the budget needs to be made available. EVC Ankerson reported that Business and Finance has updated their website on the [incentive-based budget model](#) to make it more consistent with where it stands now. She pointed out that she asked the deans for questions about the budget model and addressed their questions in meetings earlier this summer, and with the EVC leadership team as well and suggested she could do this with the Senate Executive Committee.

Weissling stated that people are confused about where we actually are in the switch to the new budget model and asked if we are now in the first year of using it. EVC Ankerson stated that the budget model went into effect fulltime with the beginning of this budget year (FY 23). She pointed out that previously the shadow budget model was used to get the needed data and noted that reliable data is essential for the budget model to work well. She stated that there will be some questions regarding the model and some fine-tuning that we will need to be done. Minter stated that the Executive Committee understands that there are formulas driving the budget allocation, but there are still questions that need to be addressed. EVC Ankerson stated that she would be happy to essentially give a primer course on the budget to the Executive Committee at an upcoming meeting. Minter stated that some people have asked if there is a dashboard available which would help explain the formulas. EVC Ankerson stated that information is on the Business & Finance website.

VC Boehm noted that IANR's platform is interesting in that one of its colleges is divided between IANR and Academic Affairs. He stated that center directors and academic leaders have been involved in detailed conversations about the budget model and the implications of it for their units. He stated that his sense is that IANR's budget for this fiscal year will be the same as fiscal year 2022. He pointed out that what is different for IANR is the source of the funds. He believes the real decisions pertaining to the budget model will happen in the third fiscal quarter when we have more accurate numbers and data available. EVC Ankerson noted that there are legislated funds designated for IANR that contribute to the source of funds for the Institute.

- **Enrollment incentives seem well-publicized in the discussions of IBBM (and in President Carter’s recent public remarks). How are we incentivizing research and creative activity?**

EVC Ankerson stated that \$10 million dollars have been committed annually for the next four years to fund the strategic initiatives that are being developed to meet the Grand Challenges and this year’s awards should be announced in August. She pointed out that these initiatives are incentivizing research and creative activity and F & A funding through grants are easy to track in the new budget model.

2.3 Faculty Retention: Do we track and report on the number of faculty members/extension educators who resign annually (or within some timeframe)? If so, do we know how many have resigned since the beginning of the pandemic?

EVC Ankerson stated that she has requested this information but does not have it yet and will report on it when she meets with the Executive Committee in August. She reported that the data will be for the previous two years prior to the pandemic and during the pandemic.

2.4 Title IX: As we head into a new school year what are we doing differently than we did last fall in regard to sexual harassment/assault prevention on campus?

EVC Ankerson stated that she asked VC Bellows of Student Affairs to provide information to address this question and VC Bellows worked with AVC Pearce of Institutional Equity and Compliance (IEC), and Professor Swearer, Chair of the Chancellor’s Commission on the Prevention of Sexual Assault to provide additional information. The following information, which includes some of the updates that have been made since August 2021, was provided:

- 1) IEC has updated their [website](#) with clear guidelines for handling accusations of misconduct and have increased office personnel to maximize efficiency and expedite case resolution.
- 2) Refined the *Catharsis* training required for students, faculty, and staff.
- 3) Trained and utilized the services of two new and different external decision-makers for faculty/staff hearings.
- 4) The CARE office now has a director and additional staff members and has been relocated to a larger space in Neihardt which includes a classroom for working with large student groups. There is also a cooperative agreement between the Clinical Psychology’s Trauma clinic and Student Affairs to have a Psychology Graduate Student Assistant provide therapeutic services to students who seek services from the CARE office.
- 5) New this fall will be the HUSKERS Care peer education network which engages students in prevention education of their community members to thoroughly address sexual assault reports. Other student groups that CARE works with and advises include Care Chairs which is a partnership with Fraternity & Sorority Life, CARE Ambassadors who volunteer to increase awareness on campus by helping with various events and tabling sessions and Know More which is a Recognized Student Organization which began in

spring 2022 and plans to provide space for students to discuss current events around sexual assault and relationship violence.

- 6) A new initiative is the sexual assault prevention training program for all first-year students and transfer students. This program will underscore where the university stands on sexual assault, educates students about the issue and provides practical tools students can use if they feel unsafe or need to report harassment or misconduct. The plan is to extend the training to second-year students, international students, and graduate students.
- 7) New for this fall will be the availability of a certified Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner at the University Health Center. Students can access the nurse at no cost. Further details will be forthcoming in early August from Nebraska Medicine.
- 8) The Chancellor's Commission to Prevent Sexual Misconduct continues to meet monthly and is looking to create an expanded student advisory group and will work with ASUN and GSA to identify undergraduate and graduate student members. A primary focus for the Commission in 2022-23 will be to implement and document the SPACE toolkit on UNL's campus and to support the campus' efforts in rolling-out and evaluating Michigan State University's Sexual Assault and Relationship Violence Prevention program.
- 9) The campus continues to have several education programs including educating students on alcohol safety and how to make smart choices regarding alcohol, ensuring that students know and understand the meaning of consent, training would-be bystanders on how to identify the initial stages of sexual assault and knowing when and how to intervene. Campus Recreation also offers self-defense classes to help students learn how to respond to an attack.

2.5 Executive Committee Retreat

Minter noted that the Executive Committee will be having its annual retreat in late July and asked EVC Ankerson and VC Boehm if they would like the Committee to consider any particular issues. EVC Ankerson said she believes that we all need to work on trust and respect and to keep in mind that we all have the best intentions, and she plans on working on this. VC Boehm noted that great universities that embrace shared governance have a culture of trust where faculty and administrators can engage one another in discussions and decision making and in this kind of environment faculty members should be able to raise local issues that could be resolved locally. He suggested having more real dialogues about substantive things between the administrators and the Executive Committee. Minter noted that an issue the Faculty Senate focuses on is concerns about academic freedom. Weissling asked what kinds of issues a co-governing university should have. VC Boehm stated that there is a real need for some high-level strategic conversations which shared governance needs to be a part of.

3.0 Announcements

3.1 COVID Taskforce

Minter reported that the COVID Taskforce is still meeting and noted that the University is well positioned to ramp up testing if needed. She pointed out that testing is still available at the University Health Center. The Executive Committee agreed to invite

Associate to the Chancellor Zeleny to discuss the University's contingency plans for the fall semester should the COVID rate increase further.

4.0 Approval of June 21, 2022 Minutes

Griffin noted that Chancellor Green is traveling in Africa and has not had the opportunity to review the minutes. The Executive Committee agreed to table the motion until the Chancellor can review the draft minutes.

5.0 Unfinished Business

5.1 Professional Code of Conduct (Minter)

Minter reported that she met with Dean Hope of Graduate Studies to discuss graduate teaching/research assistants and how they would fit in the Professional Code of Conduct. She noted that she incorporated Dean Hope's suggestions in the Code for the Executive Committee to review. She pointed out that she had previously met and reported on her meeting with AVC Walker and Director of Faculty Development Hanrahan and stated that once the Executive Committee has finalized the Code, she will take it back to AVC Walker who would then take it to General Counsel to see if there are any conflicts between the Code and the Regents Bylaws. She stated that after the General Counsel review, the Code will be presented to the Faculty Senate for approval.

Eklund asked who the Code will protect. Minter stated that she believes the Code protects both faculty and administrators. Weissling pointed out that the Code could also help protect students from faculty members in circumstances where the faculty member is exhibiting behaviors that fall outside the code.

5.2 Retreat Planning

The Executive Committee identified themes to discuss at the upcoming Committee retreat. These include shared governance, faculty welfare, Faculty Senate operations and communications with the Faculty Senate at the other campuses, academic freedom, and campus safety.

6.0 New Business

6.1 Correspondence Updates

Minter reported that she received notification of two Senators who have left the university. Griffin noted that she will be sending out a call for nominations to the units to fill these open Senate seats.

Minter stated that she has received correspondence from UNMC expressing concerns over the possible impacts the recent SCOTUS decision overturning Roe vs. Wade will have on the work and service UNMC provides.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:52 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Executive Committee will be on Tuesday, August 2, 2022, at 2:30 pm. The meeting will be held in 201 Canfield Administration. The minutes are respectfully submitted by Karen Griffin, Coordinator and Signe Boudreau, Secretary.