

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Present:** Baesu, Bearnese, Boudreau, Eklund, Krehbiel, Minter, Weissling, Zuckerman

**Absent:** Kolbe, Kopocis, Latta Konecky, Lott, Paul

**Date:** Tuesday, March 28, 2023

**Location:** Nebraska Union, Big Ten Conference Room

**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 (*Minter*)

Minter called the meeting to order at 2:34 p.m.

### 2.0 Announcements

#### 2.1 Humanities on the Edge - First Speaker

Minter reported that the first event of Humanities on the Edge will occur on Thursday, March 30. Dr. Jonathan Zimmerman's title speech is "Democracy in Education? Culture Wars, Free Speech, and the Battle Over America." She noted that Thursday, April 20 and Thursday, April 27 will be the next two events of the three-part series.

### 3.0 Approval of March 21, 2023 Minutes

Minter asked if there were any further revisions to the minutes. The Executive Committee briefly discussed a revision although no further changes were made. Eklund moved and Baesu seconded approval of the minutes. The Committee then approved the minutes.

### 4.0 Unfinished Business

#### 4.1 Update on Ad Hoc Committee to Review EM 16

Minter reported that she has sent out emails to some of the faculty members who either volunteered to be on the committee, or who were recommended for it, and noted that two faculty members have already agreed to serve. The Committee then discussed additional faculty members for the ad hoc committee.

Minter stated that she plans on giving the ad hoc committee a tentative timeline for its work. She suggested that the committee give a report by the end of the semester of where it is in terms of the progress the committee is making. She stated that she hoped a draft report could be shared with the Executive Committee in September and over the fall semester the Executive Committee would work with the ad hoc committee to bring the findings to President Carter and the Board of Regents in December.

#### 4.2 Proposed Revisions to Guidelines for Evaluation of Faculty

Minter reported that currently there is a document on the EVC's webpage, [Guidelines for Evaluation of Faculty](#) that was last revised and approved by the Faculty Senate in 2001.

She noted that the guidelines set up for unit leadership the expectations for assessing faculty work for promotion and/or tenure. However, as the Executive Committee pointed out to administration, it was outdated due to a lack of information for newer titles such as the Professor of Practice role. She stated that AVC Walker and AVC Bischoff worked together, with a committee that included Past President Kolbe and herself and others to revise the document.

Minter stated that she has sent the draft copy of those revisions to the Faculty Senate's Diversity and Inclusion Committee for them to review. She stated that the Diversity and Inclusion committee is going to see if the proposed revisions adequately address concerns for equity. She noted that when she met with the Diversity and Inclusion Committee she asked if they could provide her with some feedback by April 25. Baesu suggested having college diversity and inclusion committees look at the revisions, although she acknowledged that not all colleges may have such a committee. Minter noted that the proposed revisions include a statement that units can have some further specific requirements for promotion and/or tenure and the college committees should focus on the college process and procedures. She believes that the deans will (or may have) receive(d) the revisions, but she does not know if they have been asked for feedback yet.

Minter pointed out that the revised Guidelines would provide greater clarity and transparency at the EVC and VCIANR level about promotion for Professors of Practice. She stated that the current document is not clear.

Weissling stated that the proposed revisions to the existing Guidelines are significant, and the document is very dense. She stated that having a crosswalk document that not only compared the differences between the current Guidelines and the proposed revisions but would also indicate the intent of the change would be helpful, particularly since the Faculty Senate needs to approve any revisions. Minter stated that she would ask AVC Walker and AVC Bischoff for a crosswalk document.

Minter asked if the Executive Committee wanted to wait until the Senate Diversity and Inclusion Committee reports on its findings of the document before moving forward with reviewing the proposed revisions. The Executive Committee decided to wait to hear from the Diversity & Inclusion Committee.

#### **4.3 Chancellor Search Update**

Minter reported that applications for the Chancellor position are due April 7. She noted that the search committee chair, Dean Heng-Moss asked the search firm, AGB, whether the openings for administrative positions at other Big Ten schools will have an impact on our ability to recruit candidates. She stated that the search firm has already received some applications and pointed out that a larger number of applications are typically received closer to the deadline date for submission.

Minter pointed out that due to the changes in the rules pertaining to the recruiting and hiring process for higher administrative positions, only the top candidate will be coming to campus for an interview which might occur in mid-May. She stated that the search

committee will conduct Zoom interviews, probably May 1-3, and will then develop a list of candidates which will be given to President Carter who will then make the decision of who should come to campus for an interview. She stated that President Carter and the search firm are aware that the timeline for the search is not ideal for the campus.

Minter stated that she hopes AGB is networking at a very high level to get good candidates to apply. She stated that the search committee is scheduled to meet again on April 10<sup>th</sup> and noted that the search committee is working well together.

#### **4.4 Update on Request for Trigger Warnings on Course Syllabus**

Minter reported that she contacted ASUN about the Executive Committee's discussion regarding whether instructors should include a trigger warning on their syllabus, but she has not received a response.

### **5.0 New Business**

#### **5.1 Executive Committee Elections**

Griffin reported that there is a candidate for President-Elect, a candidate for the Extension Educator seat, and a candidate for a regular Executive Committee member. She pointed out that a candidate is still needed for Secretary and also for three more Committee members. The Executive Committee suggested the names of Senators who might be willing to serve.

#### **5.2 Nebraska 1862 Research Collaborative – Request for Letter of Support**

Minter reported that she and the Senate Office received a request from the Co-Journey leaders to write a letter of support for their proposal to the Grand Challenges Catalyst Competition. She noted that the proposal is to launch the Nebraska 1862 Research Collaborative which will be a university-wide collaborative that seeks to draw attention and support to existing scholarship on race, racism and antiracism at UNL. The Executive Committee discussed the request but felt that it was not in the purview of the Committee to write letters of support for research grants. It was noted that letters of support usually come from organizations or people who have been involved in similar research efforts. Minter stated that she would write to the Co-Journey leaders and explain the Executive Committee's decision.

#### **5.3 Discussion of Academic Freedom and Tenure-A Final Report and Chancellor's Response**

The Executive Committee reviewed the final report and Chancellor's response on an Academic Rights and Responsibilities Special Hearing Committee report and went into closed session to discuss it.

#### **5.4 Meeting with Faculty Senate Diversity and Inclusion Committee**

Minter reported that she met with the Senate Diversity and Inclusion Committee to not only give them the draft revised Guidelines for Evaluations of Faculty, but to also discuss the Committee's charge. She noted that the charge to the Committee is very broad and may need to be refined and suggested a meeting between the Executive Committee and the chair and several other members of the Committee to discuss revising the charge. She

wondered if there would be value for the Executive Committee to meet once a year with the Diversity and Inclusion Committee to see if there are concerns that they can work on together.

The Executive Committee discussed whether there was a duplication of efforts by the Senate Diversity and Inclusion Committee and the Office of Diversity and Inclusion (ODI) and what the relationship is between the ODI and the Journey for Anti-Racism and Racial Equity Co-Leaders. The Executive Committee decided to put this on the agenda for Chancellor Green when it next meets with him.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be on Tuesday, April 4, 2023, immediately following the Faculty Senate meeting. The meeting will be held in the Nebraska Union, Platte River Room. The minutes are respectfully submitted by Karen Griffin, Coordinator and Signe Boudreau, Secretary.