

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**Present:** Bearnes, Boudreau, Bouma, Eklund, Kopocis, Leiter, Lott, Reimer, Shrader, Tschetter, Vakilzadian, VanderPlas

**Absent:** Baesu,

**Date:** Tuesday, March 4, 2025

**Location:** Nebraska Union, Platte River 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 (*Eklund*)**

Eklund called the meeting to order 4:52 p.m.

**2.0 Announcements**

**2.1 Meeting with Chancellor Bennett**

Eklund reported that he and Shrader met with Chancellor Bennett last week. Shrader noted that they pointed out to the Chancellor that people are asking where the Chancellor has been because he has not been visible on campus and has not met with the Faculty Senate or the Executive Committee since December.

Eklund stated that due to the lengthy Senate meeting prior to the Executive Committee meeting and the deteriorating weather conditions, he will postpone providing more information about the meeting until next week’s meeting.

**2.2 BTAA Faculty Leaders Drafting Statement to go to Washington, DC**

Eklund reported that the faculty leadership of the Big Ten universities are working together to create a shared document in response to the recent federal regulations and the impact they are having on universities.

**2.3 NU Faculty Senate President’s Statement**

Eklund reported that the Faculty Senate Presidents of the four NU campuses are working together to create a statement in support of the University and its budget. He stated that the statement would go to the Legislature and the goal is to have one unified message.

Shrader pointed out that there needs to be a distinct faculty voice concerning the series of recent events that have negatively been impacting the University.

**3.0 Approval of February 25, 2025 Minutes**

Eklund asked if there were any further revisions to the minutes. Hearing none he asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Boudreau moved and Reimer seconded, approving the minutes. Motion approved by the Executive Committee.

#### **4.0 Unfinished Business**

No unfinished business was discussed.

#### **5.0 New Business**

##### **5.1 1977 Unionization of a Bargaining Unit at UNL**

Leiter reported that in conducting some research in Westlaw, he came across a Supreme Court of Nebraska case in 1977 (198 Neb. 243 Supreme Court) where the faculty of the University were trying to establish a bargaining unit, but the Board of Regents were fighting against it. He noted that it was determined by the Supreme Court that the faculties of the College of Law and College of Dentistry were entitled to bargaining units separate from the units for other faculty and the College of Law faculty voted to approve the formation of a union. The College of Dentistry and the faculty of the University did not vote in favor of forming a bargaining union. He pointed out that another interesting part of the case is that it described the administrative structure of the university which is like what is currently being discussed by upper administrators. He stated that he would send a copy of the case to the Executive Committee to review it.

##### **5.3 Agenda Items for Chancellor Bennett, VC Boehm, and Interim EVC Button**

Eklund asked that the Executive Committee send agenda items for the administrators to Griffin.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:11 p.m. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be on Tuesday, March 11, 2025, 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.