Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
March 25, 2014
Student Union Bldg., 208 A/B

Meeting Called to order at 12:15pm by Chair Werth


Single Meeting Proxy: Susan VanBeuge for Marcia Ditmyer; John Filler for Jeff Gelfer; Cory Lampert for Sylvia Southwick. Absent: Bill Werner

Long term Proxy: Abbie Kirkendall for Cecilia Maldonado; Fred Krauss for Kara Wada.

Approval of minutes: A motion was made by Senator Bayer, seconded by Senator Filler to amend the minutes of January 28th by adding a statement that the minutes are paraphrased. A motion was made by Senator Filler, seconded by Senator Moerhring to approve the motion and the minutes, both were approved unanimously. The minutes of February 18th were moved for approval and likewise passed unanimously.

Chair’s Report: Chair Werth gave his report to the Senate.

- Senior Senators are already conducting college elections with results due by April 4th for Senate elections, and May 1 for committee elections. Executive Committee self nominations are due by April 4th, election to be held at the April 22nd Senate meeting. In order to conduct busy, next mtg may begin early @ 11:30 AM.
- The recent Presidential Search Town Hall had dismal attendance. However, the first meeting of the full Presidential Search Committee will be held in the T&M Board Room on March 28 @ 9 am. All are invited to attend with time set aside for public comment. Advisory Ctme members seek input from constituents.
- Chair Werth updated the Senate on the latest UNLV Medical School developments. An earlier MOU was modified by the BoR to allow UNLV to seek its own accreditation. Advisory committees are being formed.
- Tier One initiative: President Snyder, Provost White, Chair Werth, Vice Chair Montgomery and Senator Ditmyer recently attended the Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce luncheon at which both president and provost had the opportunity to explain the value of a Tier One institution to the State of Nevada and the importance of such to the local economy and community. Both are dependent upon each other.
- Library Serials review was explained as included in handout. The process of reducing subscriptions while still maintaining faculty resources and collection costs about 16% of the library budget per year or $2 mil just to stay status quo. The collections are valuable community resources too. But there are no Tier One funds
to increase acquisition budgets. Inflation money is needed over the next biennium, until then...costs must continue to be reduced.

**Informational Item: Guest Speaker Mark Fink – NSHE E-Learning Task Force**

Originally formed by Chancellor in September 2013 charged with establishing statewide online instruction for remedial math and remedial English; also charged with establishing phased online General Education courses (Ncore). This includes student services and budget plans. The task force meets monthly and Phase One report is due to Chancellor in June 2014. Phase II in December 2014 (Ncore). Recommendations are also due in December 2014. Handouts provided.

**New Business:**

- **Annexation of Crimea by UNLV –** a proposal by Chair Werth. Despite the obvious similarities to UNLV, the Senate recommended the proposal be sent to an unnamed committee for vetting, perhaps concerned that the recently published History prof has been “celebrating” a wee too much!

- **Definition of faculty types in UNLV bylaws:** a several page description of suggested changes to various faculty titles was introduced by Chair Werth on behalf of the Vice Provost office. Several had been raised at Retreat. The definition of Clinical faculty should be added, and FIRs and Administrative Faculty clarified. Several senators questioned the readiness of the draft stating that it should go to committee first. Categories and tenure eligibility by units need to be considered (research, scholarship and service) as well as a definition of adjunct faculty. Tenure for instructors was thought to have been deleted from the bylaws some time ago. Chair Werth is referring the document to the Bylaws committee with charges.

- **Tier One Resolution:** Introduced by the Senate Chair, vetted by the Executive Committee and endorsed by the administration, this resolution differentiates the Tier One Carnegie Very High Research designation that UNLV strives to attain as opposed to the top tier for which its sister institution UNR is acknowledged by US News and World Report. There is no comparison in recognition, research and prestige. It will also require more legislative and community financial support to achieve. In light of these support efforts, a resolution was drafted to reflect the continued perseverance of the UNLV faculty, staff and students to reach this prestigious goal.

Senator Filler, seconded by Senator Culbreth, moved to adopt the resolution. Senator Bayer moved, seconded by Senator Williams, to change the fourth Whereas paragraph to make it more detailed. Senator Pravica seconded by Senator Harry made a friendly amendment to Senator Bayer’s amendment by adding “threat” ...“to the economic prosperity of the region;” in the fourth paragraph. This was approved by a vote of 33-7-1. The Senate then voted on Senator Bayer’s original motion to amend the fourth paragraph as amended by the Pravica amendment. The amendment was approved by a vote of 35-4-1. Senator Bayer, seconded by Senator Filler, moved to delete the fifth Whereas paragraph due to the confusion of the word “largest.” After discussion and a non-pass vote of 6-33-2, Chair Werth said that he would seek a clarification for the word in the final resolution as that paragraph was important to statistics from the Lincy Institute.
Senator Bayer moved to insert the word “aptly” in the fourth Whereas paragraph to read: “study \textit{aptly} identified…” This amendment carried by a vote of 31-8-1.

Senator Bayer, seconded by Senator Filler, moved to include one more Whereas paragraph from his resolution draft so that it would become the final Whereas paragraph before the “be it Resolved” paragraph. After discussion, the paragraph was modified to remove redundancy. This motion was seconded by Senator Wright. The first word “And” in the former last Whereas paragraph would be deleted. This amendment was passed by a vote of 25-9-2.

Senator Spangelo had moved, seconded by Senator Filler, to change the title of the resolution so as not to be confused with UNR’s definition of tier one. After discussion, it was decided to include the words “Carnegie Research Very High University” in addition to the “Tier One” in parentheses. Amendment was approved by vote of 34-1-1.

Following all the amendments and discussion the chair called for a final vote on the Resolution. It passed by a vote of 33-1.

\textit{Resolution of UNLV Faculty Senate}
\textit{UNLV and Carnegie Research University Very High ("Tier One") Classification}
\textit{25 March 2014}

Whereas UNLV faculty takes great pride in its research and creative accomplishments;

Whereas UNLV faculty has sought consistently to maximize its research and creative productivity given available resources and infrastructure;

Whereas in order to move substantially beyond its present state in terms of research and creative productivity, UNLV requires significant new investments in both faculty and infrastructure;

Whereas the 2011 Brookings/Brookings Mountain West/SRI study aptly identified the lack of a Carnegie Tier One Research University in Nevada as a “threat” to the economic prosperity of the region;

Whereas Nevada is the most populous state in the Union lacking at least one Carnegie Tier One Research Institution;

Whereas the UNLV faculty is committed to providing its students with the education and skills necessary to pursue meaningful and prosperous careers as Nevada’s economy grows and diversifies;

Whereas the Las Vegas Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce has recognized in an article on its website that Tier One classification is “a bold, empowering goal for our region” that “everyone with a stake in Southern Nevada, from business owners and employers to families with small children, needs to support”; and whereas the Chamber hosted a well attended half-day event for consideration of this matter on 19 March 2014;

And Whereas status as a Carnegie Tier One Research University demonstrates an educational institution’s excellence regarding the education of its students, the productivity of its faculty and administration, and service to benefit its local, statewide, national and, indeed, international
be it Resolved that the UNLV Faculty Senate declares the faculty’s intention to continue efforts to increase its research and creative productivity on a per-capita basis, consistent with the infrastructure at its disposal;

that the UNLV Faculty Senate enthusiastically embraces the project of moving UNLV systematically towards becoming a Carnegie Research University with “Very High” research activity (thus attaining “Tier One” status);

that the UNLV Faculty Senate regards investments from the State of Nevada to be critical to the attainment of this goal, beginning with the elimination of furloughs and the restoration of full contractual salaries;

and that the UNLV Faculty Senate calls upon the Board of Regents and the Nevada State Legislature to make appropriate investments in the future of UNLV at the 2015 legislative session, with support for new faculty hires and additional resources to support faculty retention and the development of new infrastructure.

Vote for Approval: 33-1-0

Due to insufficient time, these two items of business were held over for future meetings.

Bylaws alteration on presidential search process
Discussion of Merit: Present Implementation & Future Direction

Public Comment - None

Adjourn - Senator Larson (seconded by Senator Pales) moved to adjourn. Chair Werth adjourned the meeting at 2:26 pm. The next meeting will be held on April 22nd.

Respectfully Submitted,
Saundra Pratt, Program Officer
Faculty Senate Executive Committee