The Faculty Senate held its regular meeting in the Marjorie Barrick Museum auditorium October 10, 2006. Chair Bill Robinson called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

Present: Paul Aizley, Peter Bayer, Gregory Borchard, Ralph Buechler, Elaine Bunker, Phil Burns, Margot Mink Colbert; Roseann Colosimo, Kevin Crehan; Nasser Daneshvarya; Jennifer Fabbi, Tod Fitzpatrick, Bernard Fried, Tim Gauthier, Cyndi Giorgis, Kendall Hartley, Carolyn Hensley, Helene Jackson, Gary Larson, Kathy Lauckner, Cecelia Maldonado; Samir Moujaes; Angel Muleshkov; George Pales, Steve Phelan, Clint Richards, Bill Robinson, Adam Sikula, Jennifer Smith, Stan Smith; Bryan Spangelo, Shannon Sumpter, Denise Tanata; Ken Teeters, Paul Thistle, Jason Vaughn, Ron Wilburn; Matthew Wright, and Deborah Young.

Single Meeting Proxies: Georg Mauer for Wolf Bein; Stan Smith for Malcolm Nicol; Bill Robinson for Alan Schlottmann.

Absent: Matt Pedersen, Steve Rowland

Special invited quests: Sam Connally, Associate Vice President for Human Resources

Chair Robinson called the Senate to order in its temporary location at the Barrick Museum. The next meeting on October 24th will be in the usual MSU 208AB. Chair Robinson highlighted future guest speakers: UNLV Athletic Director Michael Hamrick and President David Ashley at the October 24th meeting, and the Co-Officers in Charge of the Executive Vice President and Provost office will be on the agenda in November or December as their schedules permit. Meeting minutes for September 19 were approved unanimously.

The Chair gave an update on several policies that were scheduled to come before the Board of Regents later in the week. He stated that UNR and all other Faculty Senates were in opposed to the job abandonment policy. Both UNR and UNLV Presidents are in support of the faculty on this issue. In regard to the policy on grievance for merit/annual evaluation the word “amount” has been reinserted, which is important to UNLV faculty. The policy on degree revocation is going as desired. Chair Robinson also discussed that during Jane McCarthy’s term as Senate Chair, the Regents had denied the Chancellor control of the NSHE Handbook. However, now the Chancellor was permitted to add and delete items in the Policy and Procedure manual. This has lead to many items being removed from the Handbook and placed in the Policy manual, often without notification.

Action items:

**Alternative Admissions Policy Recommendation:**
In June of this year, the admission standards changed from 2.75 to 3.0. However, the Alternative Admission policy that had been mentioned early in the Executive Summary was deleted. What was not deleted at that time will now be deleted by the Chancellor’s office. Approx 500 students (10%) who do not meet entrance requirements would be effected by the Alternative Admissions policy. It was agreed that the faculty should set admission policy rather than the BOR. The President agrees. The current policy ins in effect until new policy is passed. Since exceptions to the policy must come through the Faculty Senate Admissions’ Committee, the Senate through the Admissions Committee should set the criteria. If the President agrees, it will go out to the faculty for a vote, then to the BOR for their vote. Since the Admissions Committee would set the criteria, if a sliding scale were to be used, it should be their decision. The Handbook allows 10% alternative admissions to encourage diversity. Minority enrollment has to be accessible. Senator Stan Smith indicated that additional language in regard to special talent as a criterion is not necessary. Past Chair Richards pointed out that the criteria is in the Regent’s Handbook. Additionally, there are still other ways to enter the university: as a non-admit student or to transfer from another institution such as community college or the state university. Senator Gary Larson, seconded by Tim Gauthier moved to approve the Alternative Admissions policy. It passed with a vote of 34 yeas, no nays.

**Addition to Academic Standards Committee membership:**
Senator Daneshvarya moved and it was seconded by Senator Fabbi to add the ex-officio position of Executive Director of Academic Advising (Gayle Juneau) to the ASC membership. It was approved unanimously with 34 yeas.
Dean Performance Evaluation:
This proposal hopes to standardize the 3 yr faculty evaluation process for Deans. It was discussed that comments must be signed, put into double envelopes so that they cannot be tracked. These comments would then go to the Faculty Senate office for retention and not to the Provost. The Senate office staff would then type up the comments to be used in the Dean’s evaluation. It is permissible for unsigned but authenticated comments to be put into the individual’s personnel file. This policy could be interpreted to include chairs and administrators. The policy would allow each department to evaluate the administrator, but doesn’t force them to do so. Since chairs are now considered administrators, this policy gives the flexibility to request evaluation of them. Senator Daneshvary, seconded by Senator Muleskov moved this for approval. It was discussed that the Faculty Senate will develop procedures for evaluation, but that it does not have to be carried out. Senator Thistle so moved and the motion was approved by a vote of 27 yeas. A motion was made by Senator Lauckner, seconded by Senator Mink Colbert to change the wording to read: Shall be returned to and read by “representatives” of the Senate and Vice President. This motion passed with 28 yeas, and no nays.

Several items were briefly discussed: 1) should separate commencement ceremonies be put on an upcoming agenda? The majority responded yes. 2) should the grading scaled be addressed? The Senate indicated “no”. 3) should the issue of other administrators’ evaluation policy be discussed? The Senate agreed “yes”.

Future Action Items:
Chair Robinson indicated that Senator Sikula of the College of Urban Affairs had done some research and put together a policy for Senate vote to standardize the Latin designation among all the colleges. Currently, the policy differs year to year and college to college. It was argued that this would increase marketability of students. It was also offered that the Boyd School of Law likes the flexibility to change the designation annually. Chair Robinson said he would make Senator Sikula’s data available on a website. Being in the Honors program presently is not necessary for the designation.

Guest speaker Sam Connally shared spreadsheet data for two years regarding the distribution of merit broken down in charts to compare faculty and prostaff against total employees as well as faculty by rank compared to total faculty. HR’s Employee Salary list is once again available on their website to assist in equity compensation, although it does not breakdown stipends. Senator Aizley commented that salary adjustment is the same as equity and should also be available to the public.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m. Next regular meeting of the Faculty Senate is scheduled for October 24, 2006, in Moyer Student Union Lounge 208AB.