

Senate Meeting Minutes Sept. 21, 2022

Present: Alexander, Beemer, Adam, Bergland, Chloupek, Ford, Gallaher, Voss, Abington, Bandi, Cline, Myllykangas, Olson, Scofield, Meyer, Islam, Miller, Adebile, Fella, Smith, Skinner, Rourke

Absent: Jornaz, Black

Call to Order

Alexander called the meeting to order at 3:30.

Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the Sept. 7 meeting were approved unanimously.

Reports

NW President's Report (Green)

Budget/Legislative

Performance Funding: The state is re-evaluating whether to implement performance funding again (involving funding increases being pegged to meeting a variety of different benchmarks, such as retention and graduate rates). There is a Dec. 1 deadline for making a decision, so the issue is being fast-tracked. Dr. Egon Heidendal is our point person representing us.

COPHE: Because of the high rate of inflation (9+% CPI) and state budget surpluses, the state universities are asking the state for a 7% increase next year. Green said the governor's office is receptive to such a figure. On a roughly \$30 million budget from the state, that would be an increase of about \$2 million.

Buildings

The university has raised approximately \$1 million toward the \$7 million it needs to raise in the next two years for a matching program funding from the state for the Martindale renovation and is focusing its capital requests on that building. Green said it would be great to push for a tech center and Brown Hall renovation/addition, but we need to put all of our energies and requests toward Martindale. Green also noted that property insurance costs have skyrocketed, increasing from about \$200,000 to now about \$1 million. The university is exploring options to reduce that cost, such as being part of Midwestern compact and looking at moving to more of a self-insured model (such as a \$5 million deductible instead of \$100,000, which would drastically reduce premiums).

Other items

- Issues of identity and race could be the focus of numerous higher ed bills this next year
- The athletic trainers from Mosaic would likely come on board in July 2023
- The remote audit process is going smoothly so far
- Green praised John Gallaher and the Greentower Press and the profession-based learning experience they provide for students.

Provost's Report (Hooyman)

Hooyman also praised Gallaher and the presentation made to NLT; more 15-minute presentations from other groups to NLT will be added in the future.

Hooyman outlined the initiatives from the strategic plan that will be focused on this year:

- 1.1.1 Academic transformation
- 1.1.2 Program inventory
- 1.1.3 Recruitment (Huron consultants)

The university will be putting action teams together after we prioritize items from the roughly 30 initiatives in those sections, likely early in the spring semester. The university will try to implement those over the next 1-5 years.

Human Resources (Barcus)

Barcus noted that Evergreen Solutions has been selected as the third party vendor for evaluating the compensation plan and handled questions regarding the Health Screening and communication about the need to complete both parts of the screening to avoid penalties.

Health Line (Cullin)

Cullen said that Hawley, the crisis counselor, was handling a crisis and not able to come today. Bivalent Covid 19 Moderna and Pfizer are available on campus. Employees, faculty and staff can get shots if 3 or more people sign up for the same slot (the vials are multi-dose and doses would otherwise be wasted). Participants need two months since their last booster to qualify. In addition, she noted that flu shots available at Nodaway County Health and that lots of masks are available.

Senate President's Report (Alexander)

Some highlights from Alexander's report:

- There was a question as to why so much of the NW website is blue – Alexander said she was told blue is complementary to green and gives a nice balance.
- There was continued discussion about having a Faculty Senate presence at Student Senate meetings. Adam noted that they have fun “themed” meetings and are efficient in getting through their agenda.
- Spring courses will be loaded in on the Sept. 26, with classes then visible to students
- Fall Graduation will include 3 ceremonies on Friday Dec. 9 at 10:00, 2:00, 6:00 (if needed Saturday 9:00)
- Enrollment update from Allison Hoffmann: Fall numbers are good, with increases in enrollment, largely the result of OP programs. There were gains in the number of minorities.
- Justin Mallett will soon be seeking applications for a spring Social Justice Institute(1 2-hour class/mo + other events) should be sent out to NW community soon
- Inclusive Excellence Action Team – looking at/surveying demographics of membership

Committee Reports

- Academic Petitions (Miller): Next Meeting Oct. 2
- Academic Appeals (Bandi): Haven't met.
- Curriculum and Degree Requirements (Meyer): Set up procedures and protocols for moving forward. Looked at 7 proposals, sent two back for further work. Meyers looks to have about 25 proposals in the next few weeks and once again encouraged representatives to push for their units to submit materials by Oct. 18 for the Oct. 25 meeting, avoiding a forced push for new programs.
- Designated Curricular Matters (Richardson): No report.
- Assessment (Voss) : No report.

- Faculty Welfare, Budget, and Finance (Gallaher): Two members met with Stacy Carrick. She is very interested in working with committee and having faculty representation in budget conversations throughout the year. He will meet with Hooyman and Barcus next week about the grievance procedures and the committee will also be looking into an exchange program.
- Teaching and Learning (Myllykangas): The committee met and will be looking at process of OP selection of faculty and will be meeting with Hooyman regarding OP/adjunct use of material from previous instructors (copying/using content). The committee is also developing a rubric for teaching and learning grants for comparing proposals. It will also address second year professional advising issues with transition and communication with moving students to their faculty adviser.
- Legislative Committee (Brett Chloupek) : No report.
- COTE, Graduate Council, Research, IRB, Animal Welfare, University Seminar: No reports.

Old Business

The Senate discussed the revised language in technology privacy and praised Lehman for implementing the changes suggested in the previous meeting. Voss moved (Miller second) to pull the motion to recognize/acknowledge as seen the revised policy off the table. Motion carried unanimously. Miller (Meyer second) moved to approve the motion to recognize, with a notation that a revision date be added. The motion carried 18-0-1 (1 abstention).

New business

Alexander called for volunteers to serve on two committees for the strategic plan implementation. The following senators volunteered and were appointed:

Mike Miller: Recruitment

Michelle Skinner: Academic transformation

Proposals

Proposal	Name	Initiator	Senate Action
222-10-04	Test-out	Heather Hill	Passed unanimously
222-68-01	MSE: School counseling	Rochelle Hiatt	Rejected 0-18-1
222-62-01	EDCI 62372	Shantal Farnan	Passed Unanimously
222-AIP-01	Academic Integrity Code	R. Sonnenmoser	Passed Unanimously

Items from floor

Beemer noted Oct. 19 will be the Bearcat Bash. Adam announced that Sept. 22 is the Well-being summit and that Missouri Hope still need volunteers.

Adjournment

Alexander adjourned the meeting at 4:36

Fall Senate Meetings: October 5, October 19, November 2, November 16, December 7