

UNL FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES
East Campus Union, Great Plains Room
March 6, 2012
Presidents LaCost and Lindquist, Presiding

1.0 Call to Order

President LaCost called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m.

2.0 Announcements

2.1 Streaming of the Senate Meeting

President LaCost reported that the plan was to stream today's meeting but unforeseen technical complications did not allow it. She stated that the plan is to stream next month's meeting.

3.0 Dan Duncan, Executive Director, Nebraska Innovation Campus (NIC)

Executive Director Duncan thanked the Senate for inviting him to speak and stated that he will provide an overview of where we are with NIC and what we have left to do to get this phase of the development started. He reported that the Nebraska Innovation Campus Development Corporation (NICDC) is owned by the Board of Regents and the NICDC Board of Directors reports to the Board of Regents. He stated that the NICDC Directors include university people and private business people. The members are: Dana Bradford, President, Waitte Corp.; Tom Hening, CEO, Assurity Life Insurance Co.; JoAnn Martin, CEO, Ameritas Life Insurance; Tonn Ostergard, President & CEO, Crete Carrier Corp.; Matt Williams, President, Gothenberg State Bank; President James B. Milliken, Chancellor Perlman, Vice President and Vice Chancellor Green, and Vice Chancellor Paul. He noted that Associate to the Chancellor Nunez serves as Secretary, Vice Chancellor Jackson serves as Treasurer, and General Counsel Pederson serves as legal counsel.

Executive Director Duncan reported that the NICDC Board of Directors developed a strategic plan for NIC. He stated that the vision statement is to create a dynamic environment where university and private sector talent transform ideas into innovation that impacts the world. He stated that creating the strategic planning framework gave the Board of Directors the opportunity to consider the desired outcomes that will be generated by NIC. He reported that a draft of the business plan is nearly complete although this will probably not be made public.

Executive Director Duncan stated that the physical characteristics of NIC include two million square feet of space which can house 7,000 people when completed. He pointed out that unique construction and amenities to support the campus will be needed. This could include food service providers and workout facilities and other buildings and services that would help make the NIC a more urban environment where people would want to work.

Executive Director Duncan stated that the targeted outcome is to provide the most talented people to NIC where they can come together to transform ideas and put them into innovations. He noted that the NIC has to help stimulate interaction and the buildings will need to feature unique designs and places where people can interact socially. He reported that a suggestion has been made of having a faculty club on NIC.

Executive Director Duncan stated that the plan is for UNL employees to make up one third of the people working on NIC. He reported that there will be a huge financial outlay to develop the campus and the goal is to determine strategies that will minimize the University's financial responsibilities to the campus. He noted that a lot of work needs to be done to bridge the vision of the campus with the outcomes. He pointed out that the general themes of the campus are food, fuel, and water. He noted that these themes were developed by consultants in 2009 and where the niche is for the state and some of the experts we have on campus. He stated that this does not mean that all we will do on NIC will be related to the three themes, other areas of faculty excellence will be considered as well.

Executive Director Duncan reported that several weeks previously an agreement was made to swap some of the land of NIC with the city of Lincoln which would square out the property and provide more land for constructing buildings. He noted that initially surface parking will be available but eventually the goal is to have some parking garages. He stated that two companies interested in building on NIC want greenhouses available. He pointed out that development plans may change as the process of developing the campus continues.

Executive Director Duncan stated that infrastructure for the entire area is now going to be put into place. He noted that a centralized energy facility for the campus will be located on the outskirts of NIC. He stated that we want to reduce our environmental footprint as much as possible and consideration is being given to heat exchangers which will be cheaper than buying energy from Lincoln Electric System. He pointed out that the site is wonderful for fiber network construction and several companies already have fiber lines running along the NIC. He noted that eventually a fiber network loop could be developed.

Executive Director Duncan reported that there will be a lot of greenhouses on NIC which will all need water. He stated that the plan is to bring water in from two different city sources and electricity would be from two different substations. He noted that the plan is to have two different sources for both water and electricity so there is a back up should one of the sources fail.

Executive Director Duncan reported that the former 4-H building was a livestock arena but it will be converted and into a conference facility and office space. A companion building will be attached to the north of the 4-H building and will act as the campus nucleus for activity and shared amenities. He stated that the 4-H building will house seminar rooms and provide conference seating for nearly 400 people. He stated that the building might be used to showcase the work of the companies on NIC. He stated that the companion building will have a restaurant and the possibility of a faculty club next to the restaurant. He pointed out that one of the main reasons faculty clubs are not successful is because of the cost of providing food, but having a restaurant next to the faculty club could be successful.

Executive Director Duncan reported that there will be outdoor plazas on NIC and outdoor activities will be held there. He noted that First Friday art walks could be conducted and the idea is to work with Fine and Performing Arts to showcase student and faculty work. He asked that anyone with ideas should contact him.

Executive Director Duncan reported that the life sciences building will be south of the former 4-H building and attached to the Industrial Arts. He noted that state of the art greenhouses would have to be part of the building.

Executive Director Duncan stated that the night view of NIC will be pretty dramatic because of the unique construction of the buildings and the greenhouses. He noted that the greenhouses planned for the industrial arts building will be double the amount of space currently at the Beadle Center.

Professor Zlotnik, Earth & Atmospheric Sciences, noted that it is important to have a visible structure that attracts attention to the campus such as the windmills that you see in Nebraska when coming in from Iowa. Executive Director Duncan reported that a company approached the Board of Directors about putting up a windmill on NIC, but there was concern about putting up a large wind tower within the city limits. He stated that work is continuing with this company to see if the wind towers could be put elsewhere.

Professor Eccarius, Speech and Communication Disorders, asked if student interns from hospitality and food management will be used in the restaurant area of NIC. Executive Director Duncan stated that this will depend on how the restaurant develops and what kind of restaurant we get. He noted that the idea is to create opportunities and internships on NIC. He pointed out that research shows there are two reasons why private companies will want to come and be a part of NIC, access to faculty and students.

Professor Purdum, Animal Science, asked if NIC will act as a corridor between east and city campus and whether there are plans to facilitate this physically and mentally between the two campuses. Executive Director Duncan stated that future road work will provide some direct access from east campus to NIC.

Professor Neal, Art & Art History, stated that she is encouraged to hear Art & Art History twice during the presentation, but she hopes that the plans are not to turn the Art & Art History department into decorators for NIC. She stated that the faculty would like to have a voice and be an active participant on NIC. Executive Director Duncan stated that he appreciated hearing this and he wants to create opportunities for faculty members to be engaged with the campus. He noted that the campus will provide a lot of options and opportunities for our students.

Past President Lindquist asked what the plans are for the first floor of the Industrial Arts building. Executive Director Duncan stated that currently pilot plants and utilities for greenhouses are being considered but there are a variety of possibilities for the use of this space.

Executive Director Duncan reported that there is a faculty advisory committee working with the Board of Directors and a criteria proposal has just been drafted. He stated that we are currently at a stage where he can get input from the Vice Chancellors and this will allow people to start thinking of the work they want to do and how it can fit in with NIC.

Professor Eskridge, Statistics, noted that the plans are similar to the movie A Field of Dreams, if we build it they shall come. He asked if there is a market for companies that would be interested in setting up their business on NIC. Executive Director Duncan reported that a lot of market research has been conducted about this and there have been some delays with funding, but ground breaking should take place in June. He pointed out that there may be a company who might break ground before the university does although no lease has been signed yet.

Professor Eskridge asked what advantages Nebraska has over North Carolina's Research Triangle. Executive Director Duncan reported that we have a lot of economic development, but we want to increase our research capacity which plays into the Chancellor's goals. He pointed out that there are already companies that want to work with us, but we need to figure out the structures that will allow us to do this.

Professor Hind, Architecture, stated that this is the first time he has heard about plans for having an art walk and providing other social amenities on NIC. He noted that at one time there was some discussion about housing on the campus but he does not see any mention of it in the presentation. Executive Director Duncan reported that housing is not part of Phase 1. He reported that what is envisioned is to have housing near the Bob Devaney Center and these would be built in a later phase. He pointed out that building a hotel and condominiums early in the process would not work because the businesses would not be in place to support them. He stated that there is a limit on how much we can build right now and we need to look at whether some of the proposed housing can be located around the campus.

Professor Carlson, Veterinary & Biomedical Sciences, asked what the situation is with the Ice Box. Executive Director Duncan reported that they have a lease until 2037. He noted that if an ice arena gets built in town it would be for intramural sports for the University and public use. Professor Carlson asked where fans are going to park if the Devaney Center and the Ice Box remain. Executive Director Duncan stated that the parking will evolve and he thinks a future parking garage by the Devaney Center may be built.

Professor Bender, Journalism, stated that there have been different reports about the floodplain area and he asked for clarification. Executive Director Duncan reported that currently it is a bio swell wetland area that would allow for drain off if we experience heavy rain events. Professor Bender asked if there will be walking or bike paths on the campus. Executive Director Duncan stated that eventually we will want to do this. He noted that there is still a race track on the campus and a deal was made yesterday with the track that will allow it to stay longer. He pointed out that currently it is not in the way of any planning.

Secretary Shea noted that mention was made about sustainable energy and green energy sources. He asked about programming in the area. Executive Director Duncan reported that there is an architectural review committee that will be looking at some of these issues. He noted that we want to make sure the buildings are aesthetically appealing however they are private buildings being constructed by private companies and they may want something different. He stated that the idea is to focus on the areas outside the buildings and the Board wants to focus on green energy sources. Consequently, while it may initially be cheaper to go with different lighting, LED street lights may be installed which will create a savings in the long run and fits into the environment that we are trying to create.

President LaCost thanked Executive Director Duncan for speaking to the Senate. She noted that anyone with other questions can contact him directly.

4.0 Kris Baack, Leadership Director of the Center for Engagement and Member of TeamMates

President LaCost noted that after Athletic Director Tom Osborne spoke last month about TeamMates there were a number of questions that were not addressed. She stated that Director Baack was asked to speak to the Senate about her interaction with TeamMates and to answer questions.

Director Baack reported that she has been a member of TeamMates for ten years and is now on the TeamMates Board. She stated that what she did was to show up consistently to meet with the student. Doing this lets the student know that they care because what they need is someone to be consistent in their lives. She reported that the big key and success to the program is being consistent. She noted that a question revolving around this is how a mentor works this into their schedule. She stated that she would go over her lunch break or before

work. She said that sometimes the meeting cannot be for a full hour and it is important to let the school coordinator know if you cannot make a meeting. She stated that just being there for them and listening is one of the most important things you can do for the student. She pointed out that Dr. Osborne even continued as a mentor when he was serving as a Congressman in Washington, DC. She stated that it is about making the student a priority.

President LaCost asked if a mentor can do any email communications with the student. Director Baack stated that mentors can email and text and the TeamMates people will work with you to arrange meetings.

Director Baack said that anyone with further questions can reach her in the Union or email her at kbaack1@unl.edu. She stated that she has been very happy to be involved with the program and feels very strongly about it.

5.0 Approval of 2/7/12 Minutes

Professor Wysocki, Computer & Electronics Engineering, moved for approval of the minutes. The motion was seconded by Professor Rinkevich, Classics & Religious Studies. The motion was approved.

6.0 Committee Reports

6.1 Graduate Council (Dean Dussault)

President LaCost reported that Dean Dussault was unable to attend due to a meeting conflict.

6.2 Parking Advisory Committee (Tausha Ward Armbruster)

President LaCost reported that Ms. Armbruster was ill and unable to attend the meeting.

President LaCost stated that the chairs of the above committees will be asked to present their report at the April 3 Senate meeting.

7.0 Unfinished Business

7.1 Election to Executive Committee

President LaCost reported that one more position needs to be filled on the Executive Committee. She noted that Professor Reisbig, Child, Youth & Family Studies, has agreed to run for election. She asked if there were any nominations from the floor. Hearing none, she asked for a motion to approve by acclamation election of Professor Reisbig to the Executive Committee. The motion was approved.

7.2 Faculty Senate Redistribution Report

President LaCost noted that the redistribution report is done every other year to ensure departments have the correct number of Senate representatives. Past President Lindquist reported that the number of faculty members reported in the report did not match the number listed under recommendations. Coordinator Griffin stated that she would double check the figures and make the necessary corrections to the report. The motion to accept the redistribution report was approved.

7.3 Ballot for Elections to Academic Planning Committee, Academic Rights and Responsibilities Committee, Academic Rights and Responsibilities Panel

Professor Carlson moved to approve the ballot. The motion was seconded by Professor Wysocki. The motion was approved.

8.0 New Business

No new business was discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:24 p.m. The next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be held on Tuesday, April 3, 2012, 2:30 p.m. in the City Campus Union, Auditorium. The minutes are respectfully submitted by Karen Griffin, Coordinator, and Patrick Shea, Secretary.