The Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska met on February 28, 2004, at 8:35 a.m. in the Board Room at Varner Hall, 3835 Holdrege, Lincoln, Nebraska, in publicly convened session, the same being open to the public and having been preceded by advance publicized notice, a copy of which is attached to the minutes of this meeting as Attachment 1.

In compliance with the provisions of Neb. Rev. Stat. Section 84-1411, printed notice of this meeting was sent to each member of the Board and was posted in the first floor lobby of Varner Hall. In addition, copies of such notice were sent to the Lincoln Journal Star, Daily Nebraskan, The Gateway, The Antelope, Kearney Hub and Omaha World Herald on February 16, 2004.

Regents present:
Kyle Arganbright
Ryan Arnold
Don S. Blank, Chairman
Jonathan Croskey
Randolph M. Ferlic
Chuck Hassebrook
Howard L. Hawks, Vice Chairman
Jim McClurg
Michelle McGeorge
Drew Miller
Kent Schroeder
Charles S. Wilson

University officials present:
L. Dennis Smith, President
Jay Noren, Executive Vice President and Provost
Nancy Belck, Chancellor, UNO
Harold Maurer, Chancellor, UNMC
Douglas A. Kristensen, Chancellor, UNK
Harvey S. Perlman, Chancellor, UNL
John Owens, Vice President and Vice Chancellor for Agriculture and Natural Resources
Kim M. Robak, Vice President for External Affairs and Corporation Secretary
David Lechner, Vice President for Business and Finance
Richard R. Wood, Vice President and General Counsel

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

The Board convened at 8:35 a.m. in the Board Room at Varner Hall, 3835 Holdrege, Lincoln, Nebraska, Saturday, February 28, 2004. Attendance is indicated above.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND RATIFICATION OF ACTIONS

Motion
Moved by Hawks and seconded by McClurg to approve the minutes and ratify the actions of the regularly scheduled meeting of January 17, 2004.
February 28, 2004

Action


IV. KUDOS

Regent Arganbright presented a KUDOS award to Thomas J. (“TJ”) McAndrew, Research and Production Coordinator in the Department of Agronomy and Horticulture in the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Regent McGeorge presented a KUDOS award to Mary Daake, Director of Advising at the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

Regent Croskey presented a KUDOS award to Amy German, Academic Advisor at the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

Regent Arnold presented a KUDOS award to Susan Blum, Supervisor of Procurement at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

RESOLUTIONS

Motion

Moved by Arganbright and seconded by McGeorge to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS the increasing costs of education are preventing many students from attending college and putting more significant financial burdens upon students who do attend college, and,

WHEREAS borrowing limits on federal student loans have not changed since 1992 and freshman loan limits have essentially remained unchanged since 1972, and,

WHEREAS the Coalition for Better Student Loans is a group of students, parents, administrators, financial aid administrators, lending institutions, and experts in higher education, and,

WHEREAS the Coalition for Better Student Loans has developed a set of proposals to improve access to higher education by increasing Stafford loan limits, providing origination fee relief for low-income students, improving repayment options, and developing loan consolidation and forgiveness programs.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED we wholeheartedly support the Coalition for Better Student Loans in their efforts, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED we commend this coalition for their commitment to the accessibility of higher education.

For copy of Loan Policy Proposal, see documents file.

Discussion was held.

Motion

Moved by Miller and seconded by Schroeder to table the resolution until the April meeting

Action


Resolution tabled until the April 24, 2004, meeting.
Regent Hawks presented the following resolution:

Whereas, Kyle W. Arganbright has served with distinction as student regent and president of the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska since March 2003; and

Whereas, Regent Arganbright effectively presented the views of University of Nebraska-Lincoln students to fellow board members, the Nebraska Legislature, and the citizens of the state; and

Whereas, the UNL Newspaper Readership Program was successfully implemented on a campuswide basis under Regent Arganbright's leadership; and

Whereas, Regent Arganbright has strengthened relations between ASUN and the athletic department, and worked with the athletic director to successfully introduce the Husker Nation t-shirt that generates revenues in support of the NU on Wheels safe ride program; and

Whereas, the ASUN bylaws and committee structure have been strengthened under Regent Arganbright's leadership; and

Whereas, Regent Arganbright has opened new avenues of dialogue with the UNL Academic Senate, with one positive result being a comprehensive review of the UNL Deadweek Policy; and

Whereas, the Big XII Conference of Student Government Leaders will be held at UNL in the fall of 2004 because of Regent Arganbright's leadership and commitment to supporting this highly productive annual meeting.

Therefore, be it resolved, that the University of Nebraska Board of Regents expresses sincere appreciation for Kyle W. Arganbright's dedicated service and effective leadership as a member of the board, and wishes him well in all of his future endeavors.

Regent Schroeder presented the following resolution:

Whereas, Michelle McGeorge has served as a member of the Board of Regents representing the student body of the University of Nebraska at Kearney during the 2003-2004 term; and

Whereas, Regent McGeorge worked with the UNK admissions office to help recruit future students through statewide Blue and Gold receptions and through telecounseling with prospective students; and

Whereas, Regent McGeorge established the "UNK Ryde" program through which students can access transportation throughout the Kearney community by paying a single small fee; and

Whereas, Regent McGeorge coordinated the "PR Blitz Conference" to educate student organizations on how to better publicize their activities; and

Whereas, Regent McGeorge worked with campus recreation and student government to establish a special student fee to address important needs, such as new windows and flooring for Cushing Coliseum.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the University of Nebraska Board of Regents congratulates Michelle McGeorge on her distinguished service and wishes her well in all her future endeavors.
February 28, 2004

Motion

Moved by Hawks and Schroeder and seconded by Miller to adopt the Arganbright and McGeorge resolutions.

Action

The resolutions were adopted by acclamation.

V.

STRATEGIC OR POLICY ISSUE

John Owens introduced the topic of Cooperative Extension Education and the following presenters:

Elbert Dickey, Dean, Cooperative Extension Division, IANR,
Beth Birnstihl, Associate Dean, Cooperative Extension Division, IANR.

During the presentation, Elbert Dickey introduced a guest speaker, Ben Steffen, incoming President, Nebraska Association of County Extension Boards

(For PowerPoint, see Documents File.)

Discussion was held.

The Board recessed at 10:10 a.m. and reconvened at 10:20 a.m.

VI.

HEARINGS

None.

VII.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

VIII.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Business Affairs

The Business Affairs committee met twice on Friday afternoon. The first meeting had discussion of the Audit Report. The second meeting had discussion of Preliminary Estimate of Needs: FY 2005-07 Biennium.

Information Technology

The Information Technology committee met on Friday afternoon and the topic of discussion was Information Technology: Continuous Improvement, Enabling the Future.

Moved

Moved by Hawks and seconded Wilson to accept the audit reports as presented in the committee meeting.

Action


IX.

UNIVERSITY CONSENT AGENDA

Motion

A. ACADEMIC

IX-A-1 President’s Personnel Recommendations.

University of Nebraska at Kearney

New Appointment

Finnie A. Murray, Professor of Biology (Continuous), Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Student Life (Special); effective 06/01/04, salary $135,000 FY, 1.00 FTE.

Leaves of Absence

Kennard Larson, Professor (Continuous), Industrial Technology, Faculty Development Fellowship with full pay, effective 08/16/04 to 01/02/05, $68,834, AY current salary, 1.00 FTE.

Lon Pearson, Professor (Continuous), Modern Languages, Faculty Development Fellowship with half pay, 08/16/04 to 05/13/05, $74,463, AY current salary, 1.00 FTE.

Charles A. Peek, Professor (Continuous), English, Faculty Development Fellowship with full pay, 01/03/05 to 05/13/05, $62,527, AY current salary, 1.00 FTE.

Lewis (Lee) Snyder, Professor (Continuous), Communications, Faculty Development Fellowship with full pay, 01/03/05 to 05/13/05, $60,743, AY current salary, 1.00 FTE.

Laurie S. Swinney, Professor (Continuous), Accounting & Finance, Faculty Development Fellowship with full pay, 08/16/04 to 01/02/05, $89,400, AY current salary, 1.00 FTE.

University of Nebraska at Omaha

Leave of Absence

Betty L. Hickman, Associate Professor (Continuous), Mathematics; Leave of absence, without pay effective 03/01/04 to 05/14/04, $72,425 AY, 1.00 FTE.

Adjustments

John Christensen, Vice Chancellor (Special), Academic and Student Affairs and Associate Professor (Continuous), Special Education and Communication Disorders; effective 02/01/04, salary $170,000 FY (includes $15,000 administrative stipend), 1.00 FTE. Change title from Interim Vice Chancellor to Vice Chancellor and salary from $130,000 (includes $20,194 administrative stipend).

Louis G. Pol, John Becker Endowed Dean (Special) College of Business Administration and Professor (Continuous) Marketing/Management; effective 03/01/04, $175,000 FY (includes $10,000 deanship stipend), 1.00 FTE. Change title from Interim Dean to Dean and salary from $162,604 (includes $10,000 administrative stipend and $5,000 professorship stipend). Delete professorship appointment.

IX-A-2 Approve the Awards of Honorary Degrees for the 2004 commencement ceremonies.
IX-A-3 Approve the establishment of the Nebraska Center on Research for Children, Youth, Families and Schools at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

IX-A-4 Approve the requests for outside employment at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for Robert W. Bielenberg, Ronald K. Faller, Jill Knox, Karla A. Polivka, John Rohde, and Dean Sicking.

IX-A-5 Approve the request for outside employment at the University of Nebraska Medical Center for Carl B. Greiner, M.D.

B. BUSINESS

IX-B-1 Approve the purchase and installation of Dental Chairs and Simulation Lab Equipment at the UNMC College of Dentistry and approve financing through the Master Lease Program.

Discussion was held.

Action


X. UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

A. ACADEMIC

Motion Moved by Wilson and seconded Hassebrook to approve item X-A-1.

X-A-1 Approve Doctor of Audiology Degree at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Discussion was held.

Action


B. BUSINESS

Motion Moved by Ferlic and seconded Hassebrook to approve item X-B-1.

X-B-1 Approve the conveyance of real property to the Department of Roads (DOR) for public right-of-way in conjunction with U.S. Highway 83 improvement project and accept the DOR appraised value of the subject tract within the West Central Research and Extension Center (WCREC) property, previously referred to as North Platte Station, south of North Platte, Nebraska.

Action


Motion Moved by Wilson and seconded McGeorge to approve item X-B-2.

X-B-2 Approve the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Campus Identification Card (NCard) Banking Services License and related Banking Facilities Lease Agreements between UNL and Wells Fargo and Company effective March 1, 2004.

Discussion was held.
February 28, 2004

Action


C. FOR INFORMATION ONLY

None.

D. REPORTS

X-D-1  Financial Statements and related auditors’ reports for the University of Nebraska for the year ended June 30, 2003.


X-D-3  Financial statements and auditors’ reports for University of Nebraska’s bond issues for the year ended June 30, 2003.


X-D-5  Management’s Response to Letter of Recommendations.

X-D-6  Financial statements and related auditors’ reports for the University Dental Associates for the years ended June 30, 2003 and 2002.

X-D-7  Financial statements and related auditors' reports for the University Medical Associates for the years ended June 30, 2003 and 2002.

X-D-8  Spring 2004 Headcount Enrollment and Student Credit Hour Reports.

X-D-9  Quarterly Personnel Report for the period October through December 2003.


X-D-12  Gifts, Grants, Contracts and Bequests for the quarter ended December 31, 2003.


X-D-15  Schematic Design Report for the Renovation of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln 1700 Y Street Building for Printing Services.

X-D-16  Design Development Report for Student Apartments - 38th Avenue and Jackson Street at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Discussion was held.

Regent Ferlic had a question about item X-D-8 and headcount. Provost Noren handed out a chart with the Fall 2003 FTE numbers for each campus. (For a copy of chart, see documents file.) President Smith agreed to provide a 10 year student FTE count for each campus.
Chairman Blank accepted the reports.

XI. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Regent Schroeder shared with the Board an anecdotal story on a positive recruiting situation.

Chairman Blank reported that in December there will be an indepth Gender Equity report to the Board. Blank will appoint an Ad Hoc committee within two weeks with Regent Wilson being the Chair of the committee.

Chairman Blank recommended that Standing Committee of the Board be added, entitled, “Student Affairs Committee.” All four student regents will be members of the committee and will alternate as chair of the committee. Regent Arnold will be the interim chair. This committee will address issues that are of interest to the students, including student health and wellness, recreation, green space, residence halls, parking, co-curricular activities, and financial aid. The process will begin to officially add the committee to the Board Policies, but the committee will begin its discussions prior to the policies being changed.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion

Moved by Hassebrook and seconded by Hawks that the Board of Regents go into closed session as authorized by Section 84-1410 of the Revised Statutes of Nebraska for the protection of the public interest for the purpose of holding a discussion limited to strategy with respect to litigation involving the University.

Action


The Board went into closed session at 10:50 a.m. and reconvened the open meeting at 11:15 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kim M. Robak
Corporation Secretary

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Don S. Blank
Chairman of the Board