

1-28-2019

University of Northern Iowa Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes, January 28, 2019

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Regular Meeting
UNI FACULTY SENATE MEETING
1/28/19 (3:30 – 3:53)
Mtg. #1818
SUMMARY MINUTES
Scholar Space (301) Rod Library

No members of the Press or guests were present.

Courtesy Announcements

Chair **Cutter** explained that the Opportunity Hire Policy, 4.29 is up for review until Feb. 1. She asked faculty to review for accuracy the Spring Faculty Roster, and to examine the work of the Faculty Voting Rights Committee. **(See page 4)**

President **Nook** reported on good news from the governor’s budget proposal that includes \$4 million in additional funding requested by UNI which “would allow us to hold tuition flat for next year.” Also included was the full \$38 million requested for renovation of the Industrial Technology Center, although it is to be spread over four years rather than three years. Additionally, the governor added an extra \$1 for STEM education. **(See pages 4-7)**

Provost **Wohlpert** mentioned that the Opportunity Hire Policy is being deleting at the request of faculty and has not been funded. **(See pages 7-8)**

Minutes for Approval: January 14, 2018 (**Mattingly/Choi**) Passed.

No Committee Reports

Consideration of Calendar Items for Docketing

**** (Stafford/Zeitz)** Docketed as a bundle in regular order.

1434 [Proposal to Revise Emeritus/a Policy 4.21](#)

1435 [Purple and Old Gold Award Consultation](#)

1436 [Revocation of Emeritus Status for John Longnecker](#)

1437 Senate Bylaws Revision <https://senate.uni.edu/current-year/current-and-pending-business/senate-bylaws-revision>

Consideration of Docket Items

1311 1432 **** (O’Kane/Stafford)** [Emeritus Request for Mitchell Strauss.](#)
Passed. (See pages 10-12)

1312 1433 **** (Stafford/Skaar)** [Emeritus Request for Tim Strauss](#)
Passed. (See pages 12-14)

Adjournment: (Mattingly/Gould) 3:53 p.m. Passed by acclamation.

Next Meeting:

3:30 p.m. Monday, February 11, 2019
Scholar Space (301) Rod Library
University of Northern Iowa

A complete transcript of 15 pages and 0 addendum follows.

**FULL TRANSCRIPT of the
UNI FACULTY SENATE MEETING**

January 28th, 2019

Present: Senators Imam **Alam**, John **Burnight**, Senator Seong-in **Choi**, Faculty Senate Secretary Gretchen **Gould**, Senators Kenneth **Hall**, Tom **Hesse**, Bill **Koch**, Faculty Senate Vice-Chair Jim **Mattingly**, Amanda **McCandless**, Peter **Neibert**, Steve **O’Kane**, Faculty Senate Chair Amy **Petersen**, Senators Mark **Sherrad**, Nicole **Skaar**, Gloria **Stafford**, Andrew **Stollenwerk**, Shahram **Varzavand**, and Leigh **Zeitz**.
Also Present: NISG Vice President Kristin **Ahart**, UNI Faculty Chair Barbara **Cutter**, UNI President Mark **Nook**, Associate Provost Patrick **Pease**, Associate Provost John **Vallentine**, and Provost Jim **Wohlpart**.

Not Present: Senators Sara **Smith** and Mitchell **Strauss**, United Faculty Chair Becky **Hawbaker**.

Petersen: Alright, let me call the meeting to order this afternoon. Welcome. Thank you all for trekking across campus. I do not see any Press and we do not have any guests today. Let me start by asking Faculty Chair **Cutter** for any announcements, and when Jim (**Wohlpart**) gets his coat off, we’ll check back with him.

Cutter: I just have a few quick things. The first is that I’ve gotten some feedback from some people about concerns about deletion of the Opportunity Hire Policy, 4.29, so I just wanted to tell everyone that it’s on the table until February 1st. It’s

in the policies for review and comment, and so please take a look at that. If you've got any concerns about that.

Zeit: Can you please refresh my mind about what an 'Opportunity Hire' is?

Cutter: It's the Opportunity Hire policy. It was created a few years ago—2015, basically to be able to as it says: to be able to hire highly qualified individuals who will make beneficial contributions to the University community, including individuals who offer diversity in areas where historical underrepresentation exists. Spouses or partners of current or prospective University faculty and staff who themselves have talents that match the needs of the University's et cetera, et cetera. So, sort of policy where one can be hired when there's not a specific line available. One clear example would be a faculty member gets an offer somewhere else and to keep them, a partner might get a line. So that policy is under review, so I just wanted to draw it to everyone's attention, so that if you have comments you can use the webform to voice them. The other very minor things: Just a reminder, I sent out the draft of the Spring Roster today, so if there's anything missing, incorrect about the faculty in your program, please let me or Krista **Herrera** know. The information's on the email. And also I sent out an email last week from the Faculty Voting Rights Committee. So just a reminder to look at that, and there'll be an electronic survey sometime in the next few weeks to follow up on that. That's all I have.

Petersen: Thank you. President **Nook**?

Nook: Thank you and welcome to the beginning of the semester, now that we're what—two, three weeks in, but it's the first time I've been able to get here. I

guess this is the second meeting. Just a couple comments really to update you. We are in the legislative session and we've gotten good news from the governor. We'll have to wait to hear about the legislature, but the governor did include everything we asked for and a little more in her budget proposal. So we've asked for \$4 million in additional funding to take us to \$99.7 million in State appropriation out of a total of \$180 million budget. That would allow us to hold tuition flat for next year. It should help us with enrollment; certainly help our students out a great deal if we can do that. She also included the full \$38 million for the renovation of the Industrial Technology Center. The one difference is it's spread over four years instead of three, which gets a little bit interesting to try to figure out exactly how we rework that a little bit. But it is all in her budget proposal. The other things that we asked for were to keep things like our economic development work going inside Business and Community Services—things for the Iowa Governor's STEM stuff. She put an extra \$1 in there. So for STEM education to bump that up, but everything else exactly as we asked for it, which is static. So, good news there. Tomorrow I go down to Des Moines to meet with the Education Appropriations Subcommittee. It's actually the Education Subcommittee of Appropriations. It's a combined Senate and House Committee. I have ten minutes to tell them why we're asking what we're asking for. All three of the Presidents will be there. We each talk for ten minutes. We'll see how that goes. I think I can do it, [Laughter] and I won't comment further. But then there's thirty minutes of questions for us and of course—one of the reasons I'm a little bit late: Ten minutes ago I got a list of nine questions from the staff member, most of which would take us something like two days to pull together. So, we're putting together as best we can some answers to some of those questions about how we

invest the dollars that we have, how we expend some of the dollars that we have, and how our University is actually run. I'll know a little bit more about how things are going to go after I've had a chance to talk with people. My early meetings with leaders in the different approps committees and things have gone very, very well. But you really don't know how much things can change as the session goes on. So, we'll keep working on it; look forward to continuing to work with the students. The students really last year were a remarkable asset to us. Everything that we've talked about so far, students are going to be another remarkable asset to us down at the Capitol this year. I'd be happy to answer any questions. One other comment: I just got back from Florida yesterday. [Laughter]

Wohlpart: Just in time. Just in time.

Nook: I came in on the 1:00 plane. It was raining like crazy when I left, and I can tell you it's nicer to be in Iowa in snow and cold than in Florida in rain because when you're in Florida in the rain, you're thinking about all the things you could be doing outside. That generally doesn't happen this time of year in Iowa. We're happy to be inside and enjoying the furnace and a book—whatever it is. We had some really great visits. We had two good alumni events: 50 at one, 30 at another. I met with four different couples while we were down there. Just excellent meetings, very happy alums with what's going on. One of our students was with us, Hannah **McDermott**, who is a soccer player; graduates this spring—will be going off to law school. She's applied for places; she has offers—acceptances from three. Scholarships from at least one, and one of the people we're talking to is Associate Legal Counsel for Walt Disney World, and I happened to be in the conversation when he was talking with Hannah (**McDermott**) about

which one she should go to and why, and going through all of the advantages of each of them, and the disadvantages of three of the four. And the one he was really recommending was not his alma mater. Which is kind of interesting, but then talking about how to get through. It's fun to see that interaction between a student and an alum, and watch her just really start to figure out how she might make some of these decisions. So it's always good to get our students and our alums together. It's fun to watch that interaction. So, thanks very much.

Wohlpart: It will be better to be in Florida in the rain than it will be to be in Iowa on Wednesday. Just to let you all know, we are watching this polar vortex that's pushing in. It's likely that classes will be cancelled Tuesday night, and we might go to reduced operations on Wednesday. There is a difference. Hopefully, you all know that. When classes are cancelled, all the P & S—all the staff are still expected to show up if they can. When we go to reduced operations, it's essential staff that need to come to campus, and then there's a third area, which is closing campus, in which case we try to keep everybody away. That almost never happens. I understand that University of Iowa has already moved to cancelling classes Tuesday night through Thursday afternoon. So we are watching it. It's likely that we'll send something out tomorrow between twelve and two. So we're watching that. In terms of the Opportunity Hire, I do want to say that we're deleting that at the request of faculty. That policy has never been funded and has been frustrating to faculty because it's never been funded. There's no mechanism to use it, and there have been many instances where it has been misinterpreted and led to a lot of frustration on the part of faculty. So this was actually a request on the part of faculty to take it down.

Cutter: I guess some faculty.

Wohlpert: Um, and understandably so, because there's no funding behind it; there's no opportunity to use it and so it misleads people, has been the sense. Any questions? Anything else? Thanks.

Petersen: Alright. United Faculty **Hawbaker**, she is travelling today. She asked me to share with all of you that negotiations continue around bargaining of our contract. Kristin (**Ahart**) did you have any announcements on behalf of students today?

Ahart: The student leadership awards--nomination forms are out, so if you have any students that you think are phenomenal leaders, don't forget to recommend them to be recipients of those awards. I know it means a lot to them to receive those nominations from you all, regardless of whether they win or not. So, don't forget to submit those, and we have cancelled our trip to the Capitol for tomorrow for weather reasons. This is the second trip we've had to cancel due to weather, so we're looking forward to kicking up our lobbying schedule next week.

Wohlpert: When it returns to the 20's?

Ahart: Yes.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

Petersen: I don't have any announcements this afternoon. The minutes for January 14th were distributed. Is there a motion to approve the minutes? Thank you, Senator **Mattingly**. Thank you, Senator **Choi**. Any discussion, corrections,

revisions needed? Alright, all in favor of approving the minutes from January 14th, please indicate by saying 'aye.' Any opposed? Any abstentions? The motion passes.

CONSIDERATION OF CALENDAR ITEMS FOR DOCKETING

Petersen: We have four items for docketing for our February 11th meeting. These items include the Proposal to Revise the Emeritus Policy, a Consultation by Joyce **Morrow** on the Purple and Old Gold Award, the Revocation of Emeritus Status for John **Longnecker**, and a Revision to the Senate Bylaws. What I'd like to do is request a motion to bundle these for docketing. Is there a motion to do so? Thank you, Senator **Stafford**. And a second by Senator **Zeitz**. Is there any discussion needed? Would anyone like to pull out any of these?

Hesse: I just had one question about The Revocation of Emeritus Status for John **Longnecker**. Is any supporting documentation going to be provided by the person who submitted that?

Petersen: There are links on the website to the articles that were in the press.

Hesse: When I checked two days ago, there was nothing.

Petersen: I just did it this afternoon.

Hesse: Okay.

Petersen: This petition came to me in a very roundabout way. It was difficult for me to assign it to a particular petitioner, so I am the petitioner.

Hesse: Okay.

Neibert: This person was convicted, right?

Gould: Yes. There's the links.

Zeitz: He's sentenced to 95 years.

Neibert: It's pretty significant.

O'Kane: When did that happen?

Petersen: In 2000, he was sentenced. And again, today we are just docketing this and we can have additional discussion around the issue and if it meets the intent of the policy on the 11th. Any other discussion around these items? All in favor then of docketing the four items for our February 11th meeting, please indicate by saying 'aye.' Any opposed? Any abstentions? The motion passes.

CONSIDERATION OF DOCKET ITEMS

Petersen: We have two items to consider today. The first is the Emeritus Request for Mitchell **Strauss**, and he had emailed and shared with me that he preferred not to be present, so if you're wondering where he is this afternoon, that is why he is not here. But I invite anyone to speak on his behalf, and I do have a letter from Brenda **Bass**, the Dean of the College.

O'Kane: I had the privilege to serve with him on the Honor Code committee and it was just a delight to work with him. He had done such great work where he came from—I forgotten which university—Kansas?

Petersen: Not to interrupt you, but Brenda (**Bass**) noted that he was especially proud of that Honor System that he had developed in Kansas.

O’Kane: He worked very, very hard on that and was just a delight to work with, so I know him in that capacity.

Petersen: Thank you, Senator **O’Kane**. Let me share with you the letter that Brenda (**Bass**) provided: Dr. **Strauss** was in Higher Education in this field for over 35 years, 20 of which were here at UNI. He coordinated the UNI Textile and Apparel program for those 20 years here at UNI. The University of Northern Iowa’s Textile and Apparel Program has often been noted by outside reviewers as one of the strongest fashion degrees from a technical standpoint in the field, and Dr. **Strauss’** expertise has contributed extensively to that reputation. To that end, he was awarded the University Book and Supply Outstanding Teaching Award. He also has a number of research credits to his name. He co-authored a book on fashion change theory, co-edited an encyclopedia of ethnic fashion and published several papers and encyclopedia articles on the meaning of dress in Civil War re-enacting which are often cited by other researchers in the field. He also served as the primary investigator on the National Science Foundation grant that funded the building of an extensive, state-of-the-art textile testing laboratory that has been used to give hands-on experience to all textile and apparel majors, many of who have gone on to take leadership positions in the industry. He served in a variety of ways as well, most recently on our UNI Faculty Senate and previously as the Chair of the CSBS Senate. In conclusion, his meritorious service to UNI and to Higher Ed is deserving of emeritus status. His expertise has been invaluable to the development of UNI’s Textile and Apparel Program. He has built excellent

opportunities for students. His research publications have been well-received in his discipline, and he has served the institution in a variety of meaningful ways.

Petersen: I don't think I called for a motion, did I? I think I need to do that. I'm out of order. Is there a motion to approve the Emeritus Request for Senator [Mitchell] **Strauss**? Thank you, Senator **O'Kane**. Thank you, Senator **Stafford**. Is there any additional discussion? Any other words on his behalf?

Stafford: I do know that he is a very accomplished textile scientist, and I'm not sure I understand exactly what that entails, but he is very accomplished and knowledgeable as a textile scientist.

Wohlpert: You all may not know this: There are so many things on this campus that are invisible to us. We have one of only four machines in the world that allows you to simulate draping in different climactic conditions. And ours is the only one that is in a climate-controlled room, and it's because of his work that we have been able to do that. So we are literally leading the world in this industry because of his work. People are so humble here, it's amazing.

Petersen: All in favor of approving The Emeritus Status for Mitchell **Strauss**, please indicate by saying 'aye.' Any opposed? And any abstentions? The second item for consideration is The Emeritus Request for Tim **Strauss**. Is there a motion to approve this request? Thank you, Senator **Stafford**. Is there a second? Thank you, Senator **Skaar**. And now we can have some discussion. Is there anyone who would like to speak on Dr. Tim **Strauss**' behalf? I do also have a letter from Dr.

Alex **Oberle**, the Associate Professor and Department Head in the Department of Geography.

Gould: Could you upload that letter?

Petersen: He writes:

“I enthusiastically support Dr. Tim **Strauss**’ request to become Professor Emeritus in the Department of Geography. I have known Dr. **Strauss** for 13 years, both as a departmental colleague and, most recently, as a departmental colleague who became Interim Department Head to serve UNI Geography during a time of leadership transition. Tim has served in the Iowa Board of Regents system for more than twenty years, first as a Research Associate for the Center for Transportation Research and Education at Iowa State University, and then at UNI since 1999 as an Assistant, Associate Professor, and Interim Department Head. Dr. **Strauss** has had a profound, positive impact on UNI during his tenure here, and I would like to focus on his impressive contributions to UNI students through his commitment to teaching and mentoring.

“From 1999 to 2012 Dr. **Strauss** was the Director of UNI’s Transportation Scholars Program of the Midwest Transportation Consortium (MTC). Through this role, Tim provided a robust learning environment for students, including the longest running videoconference course at UNI, one that regularly brought transportation scholars from across the Midwest to speak to our students. Dr. **Strauss**’ MTC funding provided scholarships and funding for twenty-five students from five different UNI departments. He always placed a high value on mentoring and he chaired eleven grad student thesis/dissertation committees and served as a

committee member on fourteen others. He always took on additional mentoring responsibilities including instructing over fifty independent studies courses.

“Please consider Dr. **Strauss**’ emeritus request. He is somebody who has, in addition to his research and service, profoundly impacted so many UNI students. (**Petersen**: Here comes the best part:) During Tim’s last week at UNI prior to the holiday break, he was helping me access data and resources that I would need as an Interim Department Head. As he was working with me, a student came into the office and shared that Dr. **Strauss**’ class was his favorite course at UNI and that he had appreciated all that Dr. **Strauss** had done to inspire and support him in his academic career. Sincerely, Dr. Alex **Oberle**.”

Pease: I’d like to add with the commentary here on graduate students that there are a couple of people that did their master’s degree in the department and worked with Tim (**Strauss**) and came back. So, they’re are names you’ll recognize: Andrey **Petrov** and Randy **Pilkington**, and so that is an indication of the connection to graduate students. I think that’s worth stating.

Petersen: Any other discussion? All in favor of approving the application of Dr. Tim **Strauss**’ emeritus application, please indicate by saying ‘aye.’ Any opposed? And any abstentions? The motion passes.

Petersen: Is there any New Business? Any further discussion? I should also note, just to give you some forewarning, in addition to the items that we docketed, the General Education Revision Committee will be coming back to us with a consultation on February 11th. I’d left their consultation open in our system, so

that we can be somewhat flexible, depending on their timeline, and they contacted me earlier this week, so know that I'll be sharing some additional materials around that committee's work as well for our next meeting. Is there a motion to adjourn? Thank you, Senator **Mattingly**, and seconded by Senator **Gould**.

Mattingly: Mitch wasn't here. We didn't know who should do it. [Laughter]

Petersen: Alright.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Sundstedt
Transcriptionist & Administrative Assistant
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Next Meeting:

3:30 p.m. Monday, February 11, 2019
Scholar Space (301) Rod Library
University of Northern Iowa