

January 13, 2001

Lincoln, Nebraska  
January 13, 2001

The Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska met on January 13, 2001 at 8:30 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.

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III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND RATIFICATION OF ACTIONS**

Motion Moved by Schroeder and seconded by Matzke to approve the minutes and ratify the actions of the regularly scheduled meeting of December 9, 2000 and the emergency meeting of January 9, 2001.

Action Student Opinion: Aye: Samuelson, Schafer, and Winterboer. Absent: Marunda. Voting Aye: Ferlic, Hassebrook, Matzke, O'Brien, Schroeder, Wilson, and Blank. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Miller. Motion carried.

IV. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Motion Moved by Schroeder and seconded by Blank to nominate Regent Wilson for the position of Chairman of the Board.

Nominations were closed.

Action Regent Wilson was elected as Chairman of the Board by Acclamation.

Chairman Wilson expressed his appreciation for the Board's confidence.

Motion Moved by O'Brien and seconded by Blank to nominate Regent Schroeder for the position of Vice Chairman of the Board.

Nominations were closed.

Action Regent Schroeder was elected as Vice Chairman of the Board by Acclamation.

Vice Chairman Schroeder thanked the Board.

Chairman Wilson thanked Regent Hassebrook for a job well done as Chairman and presented him with a gift.

Regent Hassebrook thanked everyone for their support and cooperation while he was Chairman of the Board.

Chairman Wilson welcomed back Rick Edwards, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, UNL.

V. **KUDOS**

**Regent Schafer presented a KUDOS award to John Goldrich**, Counselor in the Office of Counseling and Psychological Services at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Health Center.

**Regent Winterboer presented a KUDOS award to Amy Lamer**, Coordinator in the Finance and Business Services Office at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

**Regent Samuelson presented a KUDOS award to Eve Scantling and Scott Unruh**, who work in the Department of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation at the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

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## **RESOLUTIONS**

The Board of Regents accepted the following resolution presented by Regent Schroeder by Acclamation.

**Whereas**, Ryan Samuelson has served as a member of the University of Nebraska Board of Regents and Student Body President of the University of Nebraska at Kearney during the 2000-01 term; and

**Whereas**, Regent Samuelson has emphasized and elevated the importance of effective communication with his fellow students; and

**Whereas**, Regent Samuelson has guided the development of a website devoted to UNK students' interests; and

**Whereas**, Regent Samuelson and his cabinet re-established the Envoy program as a student communication and recruitment vehicle; and

**Whereas**, Regent Samuelson has served with diligence on both the Technology Advisory Committee and the Academic Computing Committee at UNK; and

**Whereas**, Regent Samuelson assisted in the planning process for the Nebraskan Student Union renovation project, for which ground was broken in December 2000;

**Now, therefore, be it resolved**, that the University of Nebraska Board of Regents congratulates Ryan Samuelson for his distinguished service as a Regent and for his

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VIII. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Planning

Regent O'Brien reported that the committee met yesterday and heard the final report on the Fairfield Committee Report that was compiled by Ernst & Young. O'Brien stated that the Board needs to have a discussion about compensation packages during a closed session.

Academic Affairs

Chairman Wilson reported that the committee met yesterday and discussed a resolution in regard to core curriculum.

Motion Moved by Wilson and seconded by Blank to adopt the following resolution on Core Curriculum:

**Whereas**, a broad educational background is essential to understanding our natural world and our diverse global society, and

**Whereas**, the explosion of knowledge in recent decades can place enormous pressure on universities to develop curricula that concentrate on specialized, narrow disciplines early in the undergraduate experience, and

**Whereas**, specialization early in the educational process may limit productive and synergistic interaction with other disciplines and may inhibit the student's ability to adapt to rapid and dramatic change, and

**Whereas**, the University of Nebraska Board of Regents acknowledges that judgement regarding which learning objectives should be included in general education curricula is properly the responsibility of faculty, and

**Whereas**, the Board of Regents nevertheless wishes to support, in principle, the requirement for strong undergraduate core curricula;

**Now, therefore, be it resolved**, that the University of Nebraska Board of Regents strongly reaffirms its support for the development and enhancement of general education requirements and applauds campus efforts in this important area of instruction. The Board especially encourages general education requirements which enhance the ability of students in all disciplines to read critically, think analytically and creatively, and communicate clearly in both written and oral expression.

Discussion was held.

Action Student Opinion: Aye: Schafer, Winterboer, and Samuelson. Absent: Marunda. Voting Aye: Hassebrook, Matzke, O'Brien, Schroeder, Wilson, Blank, and Ferlic. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Miller. Resolution carried.

Chairman Wilson asked the Chancellors to make sure the Resolution is directed to the appropriate entities and faculty that understand the Board's sense of commitment on this issue.

Athletic

Regent Blank reported that the committee met yesterday and discussed the increasingly high cost of inter-collegiate athletics, looking for possible solutions, particularly at the NCAA level. There will be an on-going discussion on this subject.

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Chairman Wilson accepted the reports.

**IX. STRATEGIC OR POLICY ISSUE**

None.

**X. UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA**

President Smith spoke in regard to a series of four articles that recently ran in the Omaha World Herald. Smith stated the essence of the stories, if read in the entirety, is probably factually correct. Smith objected to the headlines and the sensationalism associated with the headlines. Smith stated that UNL is not a mediocre university; it is a very good university that could be better, but said that UNL is in a competitive environment. President Smith asked Chancellor Perlman speak to the issues raised by the articles.

Chancellor Perlman stated he had a few quibbles with the specifics of the articles, but the articles themselves presented a relatively balanced view of the university that is not reflected in the headlines and the graphics associated with the articles. Perlman stated that the World-Herald reporters did a very professional job and worked hard to find out about our university. Perlman stated the articles recognized 1) the progress UNL has made over the past several years; 2) the role of the university as a research university; and 3) the importance of UNL for the economic development of the state and of the city of Omaha.

Chancellor Perlman asked three things of the Board of Regents in terms of responding to the issues the Omaha World Herald raised. Perlman asked the Board for their help over the next couple of years to communicate to the people of Nebraska not only what a research university is and what is required to make it great, but its importance to the future of the economy of the State of Nebraska. Second, Perlman acknowledged that the Board ought to hold the administration and the faculty of the UNL campus accountable for increasing the quality of the university. Perlman asked that the standards that the Board utilized would be ones that were realistically associated with quality, not the U.S. News and World Report Survey. Third, Perlman asked when assessing UNL's progress that the Board be patient. Perlman stated that universities do not change overnight or by the year. Perlman stated that UNL senses the urgency of the efforts, but maintained that progress needs to be steady to be sustainable.

Discussion was held.

**A. CONSENT**

Motion Moved by O'Brien and seconded by Matzke to approve X-A-1.

**X-A-1 PERSONNEL**

**University of Nebraska at Kearney**

Leave of Absence

Aga, Diana, Assistant Professor (Specific), Chemistry, Leave of Absence without pay, effective 01/15/01 to 12/21/01, \$38,010 AY salary, 1.00 FTE.

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**University of Nebraska-Lincoln**

Leave of Absence

Steven A. Egglund, Professor (Continuous), Educational Administration; Leave of Absence without pay effective 02/01/01 to 05/11/01, \$77,775 AY current salary, 1.00 FTE.

Maher K. Tadros, Professor (Continuous), Construction Systems Technology, Chair (Special) Construction Systems Technology, Professorship (Special) Diamond Professor of Engineering; Leave of Absence with pay effective 01/01/01 to 06/30/01, \$154,497 FY current salary, 1.00 FTE.

**University of Nebraska at Omaha**

Recommendation

David W. Hinton, Lee and Willa Seemann Distinguished Dean (Special), College of Information Science and Technology and Professor (Continuous), Public Administration; effective 01/15/2001, \$155,480 FY (includes \$19,500 administrative stipend), 1.00 FTE.

Action Student Opinion: Aye: Winterboer, Samuelson, and Schafer. Absent: Marunda. Voting Aye: Matzke, O'Brien, Schroeder, Wilson, Blank, Ferlic, and Hassebrook. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Miller. Motion carried.

**B. ACADEMIC**

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

X-B-1 Approve the request for outside employment at the University of Nebraska at Omaha for Gary Day, Joanne Sowell, and Frances Thurber.

Action Student Opinion: Aye: Samuelson, Schafer, and Winterboer. Absent: Marunda. Voting Aye: O'Brien, Schroeder, Wilson, Blank, Fe

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Discussion was held.

Action Student Opinion: Aye: Winterboer, Samuelson, and Schafer. Absent: Marunda. Voting  
Aye: Matzke, O'Brien, Schroeder, Wilson,



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**CLOSED SESSION**

Motion Moved by Blank and seconded by Schafer 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, and to prevent needless injury to the reputation of individuals who have not requested a public hearing, for the purpose of holding a discussion limited to the following subjects:

1. Consideration of the award of honorary degrees;
2. Evaluation of University administrative personnel;
3. A report of investigation on a personnel matter pursuant to subsection (b)(3) of Section 4.14.2 of the *Bylaws of the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska*; and
4. A strategy session with respect to threatened litigation against the University.

Action Student Opinion: Aye: Schafer, Winterboer, and Samuelson. Absent: Marunda. Voting Aye: Schroeder, Wilson, Blank, Ferlic, Hassebrook, Matzke, and O'Brien. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Miller. Motion carried.

The Board went into closed session at 10:25 a.m. and reconvened the open meeting at 12:05 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kim M. Robak  
Corporation Secretary

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Charles S. Wilson  
Chair of the Board