The Senate meeting was conducted by President elect Jonathan Henning and Vice President elect Casey Bowen with Senate Advisor Dr. David Carver presiding.

Senate executive members in attendance include: President Jonathan Henning, Vice President Casey Bowen, Treasurer Sarah Keim, and Secretary Curtis McKnight.

Student Senators in attendance were Andrea Schwieger, Bradley Bohn, Carrie Althoff, Chalie Livingston, Christopher March, Dan Sova, Drew Klinkebiel, Erin Rodie, Jacqueline Wells, Jenny Kast, Karsen Duncan, Keith Jensen, Zac Handler, Mario Fernandez, Natalie Riedmann, Razia Aziz-Sieble.

Meeting Minutes
1.0    Call to Order
2.0    Susan Kraft Mann: Business and Finance Office (Student Fees)
   2.1    Currently the students have 2 fees; the first is a Student Health Fee which goes to fund the student health program and referrals to specialists. This fee is $99.75. The second student fee is for operation and maintenance of CFHL, and this fee is $47.25. At this time, these two programs are financially secure, and Susan is not going to recommend a student fee increase to the board of regents. These fees are actually quite low, and UNMC is seen as a shining beacon to the rest of the UN campuses illustrating that efficiency and skill can produce stunning results.
3.0    Approval of January Minutes
   3.1    Minutes approved
4.0    Advisor’s Report – Dr. David Carver
   4.1    If you attend Luau, be vigilant and look out for classmates please. I don’t anticipate any problems, but please be mindful what can go wrong.
5.0    Old Business
   5.1    University Budget Update
   5.1.1    The committee will be presenting the unicameral with a 4% increase for this year and next year. Our request was for 5.1% but compared to the governor’s original proposal, this is a victory. This will likely lead to a 7% tuition increase. 7% is not perfect, but it’s better than a 15% increase that we saw in 2004. The governor still have line item veto power, so we’re not out of the woods yet.
   5.2    Senate Seats in the College of Graduate Studies
   5.2.1    will continue to more forward as this issue will be discussed at the next board or regents meeting
5.3    Recycling
5.3.1 Jonathan took a good meeting with Marty and Rick. Marty Pretymen will be talking to vendors to try to convince them to put recycling receptacles. This is a complicated issue and will continue to require meetings.

5.4 Small Group Study Rooms in the DRC
5.4.1 Students may be able to have small rooms in DRC open all the time for the purposes of studying. Access will be granted via the elevators. The DRC rooms will remain open until 11pm. This new plan should be implemented by mid April. Access will be through elevators only; no stairway access will be available.

5.5 Luau
5.5.1 Luau is next Saturday night. Social committee will meet at 5 pm in 3010 room. A breathalyzer will be available to test all sober drivers. Sober drivers will be rewarded with a gift certificate to the bookstore.

6.0 New Business
6.1 Student blogs
6.1.1 A student senate blog has been started by Jonathan. If any other colleges are interested, please contact Jonathan and he will help you set it up. The graduate student association has a blog called “Life in the Lab”

6.2 Student Health Insurance
6.2.1 The insurance company will be arriving april 19th for a meeting with the exec committee. Our coverage will be further detailed at our May meeting. Currently it seems that most students are ignorant of what our plan offers, and how it compares to our peer institutions. The plan is available on-line. Expanded emergency coverage exists for out of town coverage.

7.0 Announcements/Discussion/Issues
7.1 Cafeteria packaging is plastic and needs to be more environmentally. Charlie Livingston will talk to cafeteria to get a dialogue going.
7.2 Is it time for smoking huts to go? We have no authority over the medical center. We are powerless in this situation.
7.3 If there is interest in having a personal finance officer come give a lecture series on how to manage student loan debt after graduation
7.4 Students would like to see a bike rack in the north entrance of the SLC

8.0 Officer Reports:
8.1 President – Jonathan Henning
8.2 Vice President – Casey Bowen
8.3 Treasurer
8.4 Secretary

9.0 Adjournment