I. **Roll** - The following Faculty Senate members were absent: Bornstein, de la Torre, Grenier, Gross, Niman, Pugh, Roh, Wang, Williams, Zia and Zsigray. Absent as work to rule were Brinker, Carr, Coon, Echt, Garland, Krysiak, McNamara, Reardon and Zunz. Excused were Macieski and Naumes.

II. **Communications with President Leitzel** - The president discussed the legislative initiative to meet the Claremont requirements and how those efforts might affect funding for higher education. If the university were not to receive the five percent increase in its operating budget which was requested by the trustees and the governor, the six percent tuition increase already in the budget would need to be augmented by 8.5 percent, for a total tuition increase of 14.5 percent. Faculty are asked to communicate with legislators about university funding. Names and addresses of key legislators will be available through the senate office. Discussion ensued about system costs and system reserves.

The university may have 200 to 250 more students for this coming year than during the current year, and the quality of the entering students seems good as well. Applications have increased more from out-of-state students than in-state students. Concern was expressed by some faculty about the quality of freshmen and their motivation.

The president reported on the previously-announced plans to reduce the UNH administrative budget by 2.3 million dollars. Reductions are expected in the subsidy to the Alumni Affairs Office, in the medical-withdrawal rebates, in the funds sent to the system, and in the growth of the renovation and repair budget. Revenue increases are planned through Media Services, from endowment funds for financial aid, through higher DCE enrollment and an expanded English as a Second Language Program, and from higher tuition and improved freshman retention. Music scholarships will be replaced with private funds, and more funds will come from indirect cost recovery. Also, some one-time monies will come from scholarship and gift accounts. These changes are expected to equal more than 2.3 million dollars.

The university has been trying to find students who meet scholarship qualifications and to get agreement from donors to modify the restrictions on certain scholarships for which candidates are difficult to find. In addition, external support for research increases each year. $200,000 will be provided by the Student Affairs Office either through improved freshman retention or from its own budget. The Writing Center is instrumental in improving retention, but its budget was recently cut.

The president, in discussing to what extent she is free to talk about issues being bargained, pointed out that in the past, after the fact finder gave his report, her administration prepared a letter urging faculty to accept the contract offer. However, there were immediate charges of unfair labor practice; and the letter was retracted. The president also said that it is not in the faculty’s interest for her to lose her influence with the Board of Trustees. She added that the latest blue sheet from the union contains errors. The administration provides data to both the trustees and the faculty union during the bargaining process. The president added that, indexed by rank and time in rank, UNH full professors are paid 0.9 percent more than those in peer institutions but associate professors are paid 1.7 percent less and assistant professors are paid 3 percent less. The president would like the bargaining process to be reviewed after this contract
A faculty member said that, at the last Faculty Senate meeting, the senate passed a motion to create a new University Curriculum and Academic Policies Committee. This motion referred to the Constitution of the Faculty Senate which states that “The faculty has primary responsibility for such fundamental areas as curriculum, subject matter and methods of instruction, research, faculty status, and those aspects of student life which relate to the educational process. On these matters the power of review or final decision lodged in the governing board or delegated by it to the president should be exercised adversely only in exceptional circumstances and for reasons communicated to the faculty.” The president agreed with that and said that curriculum, programs, degrees and standards are all faculty issues.

III. Communications from the Chair - The Faculty Senate chair said that a number of reports from Faculty Senate committees and university-wide committees have been distributed to the senators. If we receive additional reports, we will distribute those also. The Agenda Committee met with the Board of Trustee subcommittee which is reviewing the structure of the system administration. The subcommittee had received information about cost, program duplication, and other concerns; and a recommendation for some change is likely. The president has invited the 1998/99 faculty senators for a picnic at her home on May 13 from 12:30 to 2:00, and responses should be returned by May 10.

IV. Minutes - The minutes of the last senate meeting were approved unanimously.

V. Report from the Agenda Committee on 1998/99 Activities - The chair said that during this year, with difficulties caused by budget cuts and the lack of a contract, the Faculty Senate has demonstrated its influence. We must continue to build the legacy of credibility of the Faculty Senate. It is very important for us to have a strong faculty voice. This past summer, the Agenda Committee was involved in the university’s budget discussions. Several concerns were raised on general education issues at that time. We took a strong stance and had a major influence. Two Faculty Senate committees have been working hard on the issue of decentralized budgeting. Special thanks are expressed to those committees and their chairs. The discussions will continue through the summer and into the fall, and the 1999/2000 Faculty Senate will have an opportunity to discuss this matter.

General education is a primary responsibility of the Faculty Senate. The recent change in the writing requirement was passed by the Faculty Senate, and this year the senate passed a motion to establish the General Education Study Committee. In addition, the senate adopted a plan to create the University Curriculum and Academic Policies Committee. Discussions have also been held about a faculty advisory committee for enrollment management. Requests have been made for course release for faculty who are heavily involved in certain committees. The discussions with the trustee subcommittee which is reviewing the structure of the system administration may result in changes with momentous potential. Also helpful were talks with John Crosier, President of the Business and Industry Association. As a result of faculty suggestions, the senate has arranged for publication of “Faculty in the News”, which will be distributed at college open houses, to faculty, to legislators, and by the UNH Foundation. The Distinguished Alumni Event has also been designed and implemented.

VI. Open Mike - Thanks were expressed to the Faculty Senate chair, the Agenda Committee, the standing committee chairs and committee members, and the senate assistant. The official opening of the faculty lounge and the faculty carrels in the Dimond Library was announced for Friday, May 7, from 9:00 to 11:30; and senators were asked to share this information with their
The senate’s Campus Planning Committee affirmed that it is determined to get more input from the Faculty Senate regarding master planning. A faculty member expressed concern about a four-credit course, HHS 798, which would be taught by staff from Health Services and other offices and which would not be under the auspices of any academic department or faculty member. This matter can be put on the agenda of next year’s senate Academic Affairs Committee.

VII.  Adjournment - This meeting of the 1998/99 Faculty Senate was adjourned.
I. Roll - The following Faculty Senate members were absent: Bornstein, Christie, de la Torre, DeMitchell, Grenier, Gross, Henke, Herold, Kaye, McCann, Nordgren, Planalp, Pugh, VonDamm, Williams, and Zsigray. Absent as work to rule were Carr, Echt, Garland, and Reardon. Excused were Macieski, Naumes, and Pearson.

II. Election of Officers - A motion was made and seconded that the 1999/2000 Faculty Senate chair and vice chair be Pedro de Alba and Robert Connors respectively, and that the other members of the Agenda Committee be Donald Chandler, Sarah Sherman, and David Pearson. After a discussion of the mission of the Agenda Committee and the Faculty Senate, the motion passed with three abstentions. The discussion about decentralized budgeting is not confidential, but the details of the proposal are still changing and not yet firm enough for the senate to review. The Faculty Senate will look at the decentralized budgeting in the fall.

III. Open Mike - Thanks were expressed to the outgoing Faculty Senate chair, John Seavey, who has worked hard to uphold the right of the faculty to be consulted. A professor pointed out that an academic program is being reviewed at the present time and that the Faculty Senate should strongly uphold the standards in the Faculty Handbook which states that programs should be reviewed on long-term educational considerations only and not on cyclical fluctuations in enrollments, unless a financial exigency is officially declared. Issues for the 1999/2000 Faculty Senate include decentralized budgeting, general education, the master plan, and student quality. Discussions with senators will begin during the summer to bring up other agenda items. A professor said that the senate should also look into the new course that will be taught by staff and not faculty. James Farrell will send information on that course to the new Faculty Senate chair.

IV. Adjournment - This meeting of the 1999/2000 Faculty Senate was adjourned.