I. Roll - The following Faculty Senate members were absent: Afolayan, Condon, de Alba, Evans, Herold, McMahon, and Roh.

II. Communications from the Provost - Provost Eggers announced that he plans to resign as provost at the end of this year, which is his tenth in that office.

III. Discussion with the President - President Leitzel said that the university will mount a national search for a provost, after careful consideration about the position. The search committee will be chaired by a senior faculty member and will include faculty from each college, some deans, and a representative from Computer and Information Services.

A search for a Vice President for Research and Public Services will also be undertaken. Don Sundberg had been the acting vice president for two and one half years and was then appointed as vice president for a two-year term which ends in January. This year there should be an internal search, because the position requires a great deal of knowledge about our institution and its relationships with business and government. Vice President Sundberg will be a candidate for the position, and the search committee will be chaired by a senior faculty member and include faculty from each college, the dean of the Graduate School and one other dean.

The Board of Trustees met on September 10 and discussed in-state tuition. A compromise was reached which would include in-state tuition increases of six percent for each of the next two years in the board’s request to the state legislature. A five percent increase in the operating budget is envisioned, along with two percent of the current base budget for instructional technology in each year of the biennium. Efforts will be made to increase student scholarship support through the current fund-raising campaign; and the state will be asked to match small gifts at one half and gifts of one million dollars or more dollar for dollar. Additional support for library acquisitions has been requested.

The president considers that three important issues for the university this year are private fund raising which is progressing well, responsibility-centered management, and enrollment management. We must give attention to both student retention and recruitment. A professor asked for feedback from the committee that went to Indiana University in Bloomington to look into responsibility-centered management there. Another faculty member asked for serious discussion on any such plan for UNH, since there are concerns about the plan’s affect on academics. The president said that the Faculty Senate should discuss the proposal and help to clarify values and priorities. The president was asked about her role in the negotiation process and whether she supported the board’s decision. The president responded that the negotiation process is one in which the president has no role and that fair labor practices limit what she can say to faculty about issues under negotiation. She indicated that she was disappointed about the impasse.

IV. Communications from the Chair - The chair passed out a list of Faculty Senate committee assignments, adding that those faculty listed as committee chairs are actually conveners who have agreed to chair the committee if elected as chair by the committee. Also, the Academic Affairs Committee needed a chair with knowledge of last year’s work, and Deborah Winslow has agreed to be its convener. If elected as chair of that committee, she would resign from the
Agenda Committee; and Don Chandler would be willing to become the new member of the Agenda Committee if elected by the Faculty Senate.

This summer the Agenda Committee agreed to meet several times with the deans regarding the budget shortfall. Both the past chair and the new convener of the Faculty Senate’s Finance and Administration Committee also attended these confidential meetings. This group of faculty senators was able to give input early in the process of budget planning and plans to write an impact statement when the deans have prepared their recommendations. The impact statement will focus on university-wide issues and implications. During the summer, these faculty senators raised a number of issues for consideration and stated that any substantial general education changes must be approved by the Faculty Senate. The president has said that she will forward a copy of the final version of the deans’ budget recommendations to the Agenda Committee within a week, so that the impact statement can be prepared. Some faculty expressed concern about the Agenda Committee’s role in the budget process. The Faculty Senate may debate the issues at a later date.

V. Enrollment Management - The Vice Provost for Enrollment Management plans changes in such services as admissions and financial aid, in order to encourage early applications and thus increase the length of time in which the university can contact applicants. In the past, we usually have contacted new applicants only once or twice, whereas other schools reach out to these prospective students more frequently. The vice provost is working on a long-term strategic process for enrollment and also intends to make it easier for prospective students to reach an admissions counselor by phone. UNH already has a good relationship with guidance counselors, and the vice provost is contacting school principals, superintendents and business people. UNH recruits students when they are high school seniors, but the university needs to work on long-term prospect development. For example, whenever high school students attend a continuing education or summer program at the university, their names should be sent to the Admissions Office for use in recruitment efforts.

A professor expressed concern that UNH sends millions of dollars to the system office which uses part of that money to support the College of Life-long Learning and its advertising, which competes with the university’s summer program and Division of Continuing Education. The vice provost said that adult students are a fast-growing segment of the student body and that we need to address their needs more fully. He suggested having a faculty committee advise on strategic planning for enrollment. Professors are also concerned about the quality of students. There could be a faculty committee to review those cases which the Admissions Office feels are deserving of special consideration. There may be greater interest in technology-mediated learning and learning on the internet. UNH attracts more female than male students. The vice provost wants to research this and other factors and to contact prospective students sooner and more often.

Applications went down by fifteen percent in the same year that, because of budget difficulties, many fewer names of Scholastic Aptitude Test takers were purchased and fewer schools were visited. We put our names in front of ten thousand fewer families and had about 1,250 fewer students apply. Last year seventy-eight percent of the applicants were admitted. The university will become more active in communicating with the prospective applicant pool.

VI. Minutes - The minutes of the May 11 Faculty Senate meeting were approved unanimously.

VII. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned.