

MINUTES

Dr. Jacquelin Collins, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Faculty Council called the meeting to order at 3:23 p.m. and introduced President Mackey to chair the meeting.

I. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FALL 1976 FACULTY COUNCIL MEETING

The President called for approval of the Minutes of the Fall 1976 Faculty Council Meeting. M. Strauss moved the minutes be approved as distributed. M. Wilson seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as circulated.

II. PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE FACULTY COUNCIL CHARTER, ARTICLE II. SECTION 4.

Chairman Collins introduced the amendment by reminding those present that the Faculty Council Charter requires that amendments be proposed at one meeting and then passed at a subsequent meeting. This one was duly proposed at the previous meeting and is now ready for a vote. The proposed amendment would replace the first two sentences of the Faculty Council Charter, Article II. Section 4. and the amended Section 4 would read as follows:

The Chairperson of the Executive Committee shall serve as Presiding Officer of the Faculty Council. In the absence of the Chairperson, the Vice Chairperson or the Secretary shall preside, in that order. No decision, recommendation, or advice shall come from the general faculty except when one of the above is presiding.

Discussion of the proposed amendment was brief. It was concluded that the reason for including the Secretary of the Executive Committee as an eligible presiding officer was to have a third person available should both the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson be unable to preside.

The amendment passed without expressed opposition.

III. NEW BUSINESS

(a.) President Mackey announced that just prior to this meeting he had received a check in the amount of \$50,000 from W. K. (Bill) Barnett, President of the Ex-Students Association. In answer to the question of how the money would be used, President Mackey replied that of this amount \$20,000 has been earmarked for use at his discretion. He plans to use the discretionary funds for faculty development and academic enrichment. Academic scholarships, academic recruiting and funds for use by the library and Law School were other uses mentioned for this largest donation ever received from this organization.

(b.) The need for a more effective alternative to faculty participation in university governance was another matter mentioned by the President. He has met several times with the committee working on a draft for a proposed charter for a Faculty Senate. They have reached essential agreement on the language and scope of the document and the form such a body would take. He added that he hoped the faculty would give the proposed charter very serious consideration and support.

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President Mackey asked C. Bell, Chairman of the ad hoc Committee on Faculty Charter Revision, for comment. Bell confirmed that the administration and the committee have reached a general agreement. The committee will propose a document which will establish a Faculty Senate. He hopes it will meet with the approval of the faculty and that, with President Mackey's support, the Board of Regents will approve it. Early in the Fall the additional procedures for making this change will be set in motion.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS BROUGHT BEFORE THE FACULTY COUNCIL

B. Newcomb brought up the question of granting additional Faculty Development Leaves by using the funds from the Ex-Students Association. The President responded by saying that at this time he had not had time to study the matter, but he felt something of this nature was what he was thinking of. The Faculty Development Leave Committee probably would be consulted and he would take a look at the current policy. Faculty participation will be sought.

V. "THUMBNAIL SKETCH" OF THE LEGISLATIVE SITUATION AT THIS TIME

In a telephone conversation today with Bill Parsley, Director of Public Affairs, who is in Austin, he reported he feels the House Appropriations Committee is moving favorably with regard to higher education. There is still a question of whether the full House will vote as much money for higher education as the Appropriations Committee will recommend. The principal difficulty with the House bill remains, and that is their position on organized research. The Senate bill provides essentially the same amount for organized research for each year of the coming biennium as we had this year. On all other legislation it is felt we are making good progress. There is a reasonably good prospect for passage of legislation to take care of \$600,000 of our utility deficit and this would put us in acceptable condition so far as utilities go.

The teaching hospital bill has now passed the Senate and will be up for a hearing and probable vote in the House the week after Easter. Prospects are generally favorable for the seven to eight million dollar bill.

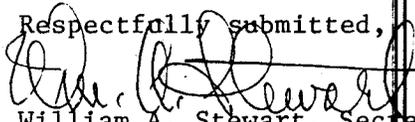
It appears the House is going to work out a much more favorable position on the faculty work load. President Mackey believes the House will adopt something very close to the language proposed by the Council of Presidents Committee which is somewhat like the policy followed here at Tech in the past.

M. Strauss asked if there is anything new with regard to the "punishment" of faculty who have not been teaching a full load. President Mackey said it appears that the retroactive aspect is out and that the faculty will not be penalized.

N. Pearson reported that in recent correspondence from Kent Hance, he had indicated that this issue would die in the Senate.

The meeting adjourned at 4:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
William A. Stewart, Secretary  
Executive Committee  
Faculty Council

4/7/77