

M I N U T E S

The Faculty Senate met Wednesday, January 18, 1978, in the Board Room of the Administration Building with Clarence Bell, President, presiding. Members present were: Brittin, Buford, Collins, Davis, Eissinger, Elbow, Kehoe, Kimmel, McGowan, Manley, Nelson, Pearson, Sasser, Smith, Strauss, Tereshkovich, Vines and Wilson. John Hunter was unable to attend because of out-of-town business. Guests included Charles Hardwick, Vice President for Academic Affairs; Richard Klocko, Director of Personnel Relations; and Kim Hovden of the University Daily.

Bell called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. and welcomed the guests.

I. Minutes of the December 14, 1977 Meeting

Buford moved approval of the minutes as distributed. Collins seconded. The motion passed.

II. Announcements

A. Academic Council Minutes

From the minutes of the December 13, 1977 meeting Bell read: "Mr. Campbell (Chuck Campbell, Student Senate President) brought to the council recommendations from the Student Senate. Two of the recommendations related to grade appeals. Mr. Campbell asked that the last part of item 4 of the grade appeals procedures be changed to reflect the numerical vote division of the committee, rather than the existing statement which indicates that members who voted in favor of the board's decision must sign the recommendation.

The next suggestion was that the recommendation of the college councils be sought for students to be appointed to a grade appeals board (item 5 of the grade appeals procedures).

There was no strong council opinion as to the relative differences in the two procedures, but it was deemed advisable to continue for a time under the recently distributed procedures. The deans agreed that the seeking of student representation through the college council would be appropriate but that no word change appeared to be necessary to accomplish that recommendation.

The third request brought by Mr. Campbell related to Student Senate Resolution #1317 regarding the raising of requirements for the Dean's List. The student's request was for raising the minimum grade point average required from 3.0 to 3.25 for the Dean's List. There was a further recommendation of a President's List requiring a 3.75 grade point average. Mr. Campbell indicated the primary intent was to encourage improvement of academic performance.

The council agreed to await Dr. Hardwick's response to the Administrative Council recommendation of a 3.5 base grade point average for the Dean's List before taking further action. The council appeared to favor an increased minimum grade point average but would prefer a single list.

Some discussion was given to FTE faculty projections for Fall 1978. Information was distributed comparing percentage of hours taught for the past two fall semesters and percentage of salary consumed by departments for the past two semesters. A five year history of student faculty ratios, calculated according to gross number of hours and total FTE faculty, was distributed. Deans were asked to review faculty load for this fall and to project areas in which adjustments could be made for next year. The need for new faculty in some areas and improvement in faculty salaries were considered. The conflicting goals of increased faculty salaries and decreased teaching loads to be accomplished from within an established set of appropriated funds was discussed.

A question was raised as whether there is some abuse of the regulation for the last day to drop a course. Deans agreed that this should be a firm date with exceptions being unlikely.

Dean Jones announced that a survey of doctoral graduates for the past year indicated that all those receiving doctoral degrees had accepted employment in an appropriate professional field. He notes that this counters current opinion regarding persons completing advanced degrees.

This concluded Bell's reading of the Academic Council Minutes and he again called attention to the fact that these minutes are on file in the Faculty Senate Office for anyone to read.

B. Bylaws Committee

David C. Cummins, School of Law; Charles E. Dale, Business Administration; James B. Harris, Agriculture; Martha M. Logan, Home Economics; Shamus Mehaffie, Education; Benjamin H. Newcomb, Arts & Sciences; and Russell H. Seacat, Engineering; have agreed to serve on the Bylaws Committee. The writing of bylaws will be a time-consuming task and at this time there is nothing to report from that committee.

C. Tenure Review Committee

This committee has not met since the last meeting of the Faculty Senate and therefore there is nothing new to report at this time.

D. Election Committee

Bell reported that the election process is underway and is consistent with instructions of the Senate at the last meeting. Five senators will be elected whose term of office will begin in May. Thirty six new senators will begin serving immediately after their election.

III. Report of Committee on Committees - Darrell Vines

Vines reported two vacancies on the Grievance Committee, one of which is due to a member of that committee being on leave of absence during the spring semester; the other, expiration of the term of the representative from the College of Education. Strauss moved that the Committee on Committees be prepared to submit the name of a tenured person to fill the vacancy from the College of Education at the February 8, 1978, meeting. Vines seconded. The motion passed. There was discussion as to whether or not the vacancy created by the member on leave should be filled.

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Smith moved that someone be appointed to fill the vacancy created by the committee member who is on leave of absence, and that this name be submitted to the Faculty Senate at its next meeting. Kimmel seconded. After discussion the motion passed.

IV. Report of Meeting Place Committee - Gary Elbow

Elbow reported that after checking into the matter, this committee felt that the most desirable meeting place for a group the size of the Faculty Senate is the Senate Room at the University Center. Special permission must be granted a group wishing to schedule the use of this room on a regular basis for a year in advance. No reply had been received as yet to a letter to the Student Center Board seeking such permission.

V. Consideration of Invocations at University Related Affairs - Neale Pearson

Pearson introduced the topic at the request of faculty members and students. The question had been raised by both faculty and students concerning the appropriateness of invocation or prayer at university-related functions, particularly at a tax supported, secular institution. Pearson noted that the Supreme Court had ruled "in matters of religion the state must be neutral, neutral in neither advancing nor inhibiting religion." After a general discussion Eissinger moved that the Faculty Senate President appoint a small ad hoc committee to study the question and report back to the Senate. Elbow seconded. After further discussion the motion passed.

Vi. Other Business

Bell reminded the senators that 3 of the 41 new senators to be elected would have the length of their term decided by lot. Those include 1 representative of the School of Law whose term will end in either 1979 or 1981, 1 representative from Agriculture will have the length of his/her term decided by lot and 1 representative from Arts & Sciences will have his/her term decided by lot.

Burford moved that the Senate determine by lot the terms of Senators other than those mentioned above, by means of a random selection process to determine the length of the terms of those persons, after they are elected.

Sasser seconded. Discussion was brief and the motion passed.

Burford moved that at this time the Senate determine among the three whose terms are not determined, by first flipping a coin as related to the term of the individual from Law, then Agriculture, and then Arts & Sciences. Smith seconded. The motion passed. The results: The senator from the School of Law shall have his/her term end in 1979; the Agriculture senator will have his/her term end in 1981 and the senator from Arts & Sciences will have his/her term end in 1980.

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roland E. Smith

Roland E. Smith, Secretary
Faculty Senate