

Minutes  
Faculty Senate  
Meeting # 36  
November 11, 1981

The Faculty Senate met on Wednesday, November 11, 1981, at 3:30 p.m. in the Senate Room of the University Center with Benjamin H. Newcomb, President, presiding. Senators present were Anderson, Bacon, Benson, Biggers, Blaisdell, Brink, Burkhardt, Cepica, Chonko, Cochran, Cummings, Denham, Elbow, Filgo, Freeman, Gipson, Graves, Harris, Hill, Horridge, Hudson, Keho, Kunhardt, Masten, Maynard, Mogan, Moreland, Nelson, Rude, Schoen, Smith, Stewart, Urban, Volz, Williams, and Zyla. Senators Bartell, Berlin, Clements, Conover, Malloy, Pearson, Sowell and Tan were absent because of university business. Senators Kimmel and Wilson were absent because of illness. Senators Gilbert, Hickerson, and Owens were also absent.

Guests included John R. Darling, Vice-President for Academic Affairs; Preston Lewis, University News and Publications; Ernest Sullivan, Parliamentarian; Mark Henderson, President, Student Association; Kippie Hopper, University Daily; Pat Graves, Avalanche Journal; and representatives from the television media.

#### SUMMARY OF BUSINESS CONDUCTED

At its November 11, 1981 meeting, the Senate:

1. heard a report from the Faculty Status & Welfare Committee, Faculty Senate Study Committee A, and Faculty Senate Study Committee C;
2. heard a report from the ad hoc Committee on Tenure Procedures;
3. discussed at length the response of the Vice President for Academic Affairs to the Senate's pass/fail recommendations;
4. moved the referral of procedures for faculty evaluation of administrators to a Senate Study Committee;
5. approved two faculty members as nominees to serve on the Search and Screening Committee for a Director of the Library;
6. requested the Senate president to obtain an update of the status of the poll of faculty members concerning health insurance;
7. was informed of the formation of two new university committees - Academic Affairs Information Systems Committee and Energy Use and Conservation Committee;
8. discussed the Faculty Senate Budget.

Newcomb called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. and introduced the four new senators, Dan Benson, School of Law; James Brink and Jerry Hudson, College of Arts and Sciences; and Gary Elbow, Department of Geography, member at-large.

#### I. MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 30, 1981 SPECIAL MEETING

Anderson moved approval of the minutes as distributed. The motion passed.

#### II. MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 14, 1981 MEETING

Anderson moved approval of the minutes as circulated. The motion passed.

### III. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES

The chairperson of the Committee on Committees was absent from the meeting and thus there was no report. Members of the Committee on Committees present indicated that the committee had not met since the October 14 Faculty Senate meeting.

### IV. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE

Budget Study Committee - The chairperson of this committee was ill and did not attend the meeting. Thus there was no report.

#### Faculty Status and Welfare

Nelson reported that the committee met on November 5, 1981, and he was elected chairperson of the committee. At that time the committee discussed the resolution presented by Zyla at the October 14, 1981 meeting in which it was suggested that a better and more appropriate meeting place for the Faculty Senate should be secured. The committee discussed possible alternatives - Law School Chambers, The Board Room in the Administration Building and the Home Economics Auditorium - and concluded that none of these sites was suitable. The Committee does not recommend that the Senate meeting place be changed from its present site. The Committee would welcome any suggestions from Senators.

Zyla suggested that the present offices of the Faculty Senate in Holden Hall, with certain changes, would make an ideal meeting room and thought that the administration perhaps could be convinced that the Faculty Senate is a vital part of the faculty government whose prestige is worth the money needed in preparing a better meeting place.

#### Faculty Senate Study Committee A

Moreland reported that this committee has divided into two subcommittees and is studying the matter of campus security, such as bomb threats and academic discipline. The committee is still considering these matters.

#### Faculty Senate Study Committee C

Rude reported that the committee continues to meet and discuss the feasibility of a lawyer to represent the faculty.

### V. REPORT OF AD HOC COMMITTEE ON TENURE PROCEDURES

Smith reported one meeting of the committee since it last reported. At this time deliberations are at a standstill. Attrition has created a problem concerning membership and it has been suggested to the administration that the membership be brought up to its specified number and that the committee resume its work as soon as possible. The original charge of this committee was to try to reconcile the differences between the administration and the faculty on procedures in filing a tenure appeal.

### VI. RESOLUTION TABLED AT THE LAST MEETING

This resolution made by Zyla at the October 14, 1981 meeting was tabled until the November 11, 1981 meeting. The motion, made by Schoen, to remove the resolution from the table was not seconded and thus the resolution was not considered at this meeting.

VII. DISCUSSION OF RESPONSE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS TO THE SENATE'S PASS/FAIL RECOMMENDATIONS

Newcomb introduced this matter by referring to Dr. Darling's letter of October 26, 1981 which was duplicated and circulated with the agenda of the November meeting. This letter was the Office of Academic Affairs' response to the Senate's recommendations pertaining to the pass/fail policy.

Harris responded to the issue by saying that his views and judgments with regard to changes in the pass/fail option are all dependent upon the overriding issue of whether or not the students will be allowed to take required courses pass/fail. He stated that there is not a single sound academic argument for this option while the non-academic, "slighty" biased reasons why students want to take courses pass/fail are many. Harris was encouraged by the Vice-President for Academic Affairs' letter of October 26 in which he re-emphasized the original academic goals of pass/fail. He feels that Senators agree in general with the views expressed by the Vice-President. The academic soundness of the pass/fail option should be carefully considered.

Senators Bacon, Brink, Rude, Smith, Stewart, Gipson, Newcomb, Elbow and Zyla asked questions and discussed particular points in Dr. Darling's letter, and there was a general discussion of the academic soundness of pass/fail.

Darling said that the Faculty Senate's recommendation, which would restrict the pass/fail option to general electives, is now being considered by the Administrative Council and will remain under review through the spring. After a proposed revision is drafted by the Office of Academic Affairs and the Administrative Council the proposal will be presented to the Faculty Senate and to the Student Senate for their consideration before being forwarded to the President and to the Board of Regents.

VIII. DISCUSSION OF REFERRAL OF PROCEDURES FOR FACULTY EVALUATION OF ADMINISTRATORS TO A SENATE STUDY COMMITTEE

Newcomb recalled the issue of faculty evaluation of administrators has been before the Senate previously and that in February 1981 President Cavazos declined to accept a recommendation of a process of faculty evaluation of administrators, and the Senate dropped the matter at that time. However, in a later meeting between the Vice-President for Academic Affairs and two faculty organizations, TACT and AAUP, Dr. Darling responded to a question about faculty evaluation of administrators indicating that it might be possible to implement such evaluation. The Agenda Committee of the Faculty Senate suggested that the Senate continue to study this matter and that a study committee of the Senate confer with Darling on this matter. At this point, Darling indicated that he would be willing to pursue the matter with a Senate Study Committee.

Smith moved that the matter of faculty evaluations of administrators be referred to a Senate Study Committee with instructions to confer with Darling. Newcomb indicated that he would refer this matter to Study Committee B. The motion passed.

IX. OTHER BUSINESS

The Vice-President for Academic Affairs has informed the Senate President of the need to form a search and screening committee for Director of the Library. The committee is structured to consist of seven persons — two faculty members, two members of the library staff, two students, and one representative from a dean's office. Darling suggested Ronald Galyean, Chairman of the Library Committee; and Murray Coulter, past Chairman of the Library Committee. Nelson moved the Senate's endorsement of Professors Galyean and Coulter as members of this committee. Nelson's motion passed.

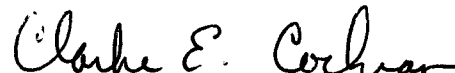
Zyla reminded the Senate that the Benefits and Retirement Committee indicated at the October Senate meeting that a poll of the faculty for input into the type of health insurance desired would be conducted. To date, no survey has been made. Newcomb agreed to contact the Chairperson of the Benefits and Retirement Committee for information on this matter, and perhaps request that the Chairman of that committee report back to the Senate on the status of the survey.

In reviewing the status of recommendations made by the Senate, Newcomb said that the recommendation to form an Academic Affairs Information Systems Committee has been approved by the Administration, and the Senate is asked to forward names to the Vice-President for Academic Affairs for appointment to membership on this committee. The Committee on Committees will prepare a slate of nominees for approval by the Senate.

An Energy Use and Conservation Committee has also been approved, and the Senate will be asked to provide a slate of nominees for this committee.

Zyla reviewed the Faculty Senate Budget and asked specific questions. He thought more travel money is needed and asked how the expense money is allocated and how the budget is prepared. Newcomb, and past presidents of the Senate who were present, explained that additional funds have been obtained in the past for such items as travel and operating and maintenance costs. The printing and circulating of Faculty Senate minutes and the circulating of ballots for Faculty Senate elections were cited as being the largest expense items.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

  
Clarke E. Cochran, Secretary  
Faculty Senate