

**MINUTES #167 - FACULTY SENATE
14 FEBRUARY 1996**

The Faculty Senate met on Wednesday, February 14, 1996 at 3:15 p.m. in the Senate Room of the University Center with Murray Coulter, president, presiding. Senators present were Barr, DeBell, Dunham, Dunne, Durland, Elbow, Fedler, Fox, George, P. Goebel, U. Goebel, Hartwell, Heintz, Held, Herring, Howe, Hufford, A. Khan, S. Khan, McGlone, Mann, Miller, R. Morrow, T. Morrow, Nathan, Pearson, River, Sarkar, Schaller, Steinhart, Stout, L. Thompson, V. Thompson, Welton, Westfall and Whisnant. Senators Fortney, Jackson, Meek, Opp and Tock were absent because of University business. Senator Schoenecke is on leave from the University. Senator Endsle has resigned as a member of the Faculty Senate. Senators Casadonte, Coombs, Dowell and Rickets were absent.

President Coulter called the meeting to order at 3:20 p.m. and recognized the following guests: Donald R. Haragan, Executive Vice President and Provost; John Burns, Vice Provost; Virginia Sowell, Associate Provost; Sharen Hart, Office of Development; Cari Hill Goodyear, Athletic Academic Counselor; Gene Medley, Admissions and Records; Steve Kauffman, News and Publications; and Charles Melton, University Daily.

I. Minutes of the 17 January 1996 meeting were approved as distributed.

II. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

a) President Coulter presented Dr. Lawless' response to the Faculty Senate resolutions that explained his actions regarding the rescheduling of classes was based on only the last two accounting years where there was a decrease in student attendance from the first to the second period. This decrease was not evident when every year of data is taken into account as shown in some plots of data presented by Senator Held and the Budget Study Committee that is on file in the Faculty Senate office. In terms of student credit hours, the last five years show an increase using data provided by the Office of Institutional Research. The second response was regarding the request for a second legal opinion on the issue of the surplus self-insurance funds where Dr. Lawless stated the legal firm used was of the utmost quality and that no second opinion was necessary.

b) President Coulter presented a list of names of people who could serve on the committee to streamline the University's grievance procedures. The list, including Daniel Benson, Gary Elbow, James Gregory, Otto Nelson, and Rodric Schoen, was approved to forward to Provost Haragan.

III. GUEST REPORT FROM GENE MEDLEY

Gene Medley, Director of Admissions and Records, presented a report on the future plans for registration. Current changes involve the allowance of more people to register on the first day. He estimates that phone registration could be in place within about 2 years, but its development must coincide with the new Student Information System for doing degree audits. A committee, chaired by Dr. Ewalt, was established to study the new system and consists of about 20 people. Lastly, he mentioned that anyone having problems with long lines causing a waiting period of more than 30 minutes, should see him and he would take care of the problem.

REPORTS FROM UNIVERSITY COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES

PROVOST COUNCIL-President Murray Coulter made the following points:

- the search for the Vice Provost for Multicultural Affairs is going well
- fees may increase to the maximum allowable of \$32/hour - math placement testing will be in place by this summer
- freshman retention and graduation rates may be used as a way to measure performance of the University
- verbal approval for the Maddox Chair in Electrical Engineering was announced

ACADEMIC COUNCIL-Senator Barr provided a report, which is on file in the Faculty Senate office, that outlined the main issues of the meeting. Moving commencement later in December for the '97-'98 academic year is at the top of the list.

RESEARCH COUNCIL-Secretary Fedler provided a report, which is on file in the Senate office, where the major issue was the new policy for "responsibilities of all non-faculty research personnel" presented for review and approval.

UNIVERSITY CENTER BOARD-Vice President Westfall reported that money from credit cards solicited at the UC puts back into the Tech system about \$150,000 annually, of which nearly \$129,000 went for scholarships and the remainder to various activities such as faculty awards.

GRADUATE COUNCIL-Senator Durland provided a report, which is on file in the Faculty Senate office, highlighting reports on new programs, reviews of graduate faculty, and the proposal for dropping the GRE as a requirement for entrance to the graduate school.

V. REPORTS FROM FACULTY SENATE COMMITTEES

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE-Senator Paul Goebel provided a report, which is on file in the Faculty Senate office, recommending that all faculty, full or part-time instructors, adjuncts, etc. be made aware of the issues of sexual harassment and that the awareness be made through training videos currently available. The Senate approved the recommendation by acclamation.

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES-Senator Dunne reported on the election results for the Nominating Committee for new officers, which are: Senators Barr, Westfall, and S. Khan.

FACULTY STATUS & WELFARE COMMITTEE-Senator Dunham reported that the committee disagreed with President Lawless on obtaining a second opinion concerning the surplus self-insurance funds since the firm making the analysis does not specialize in this area of law. Further discussion centered around the committee looking at what other institutions are doing in similar situations and just forwarding recommendations from the Senate to President Lawless.

FACULTY PERFORMANCE AND PRODUCTIVITY COMMITTEE-Senator Miller reported that the committee wants the administration to consider a banner for faculty at commencement and that it be carried by a member of the Faculty Senate. The recommendation was passed with 2 abstentions and 1 "no" vote.

STUDY COMMITTEE B-Senator Pearson asked to defer their report until the March meeting.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Senate adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Clifford Fedler

Secretary 1995-96