

MINUTES OF FACULTY SENATE MEETING #107

The Faculty Senate met on Wednesday, May 3, 1989 at 3:30 p.m. in the Senate Room of the University Center with President Michael C. Stoune presiding. Senators present were Barnard, Barr, Bravo, Brink, Burnett, Cartwright, Couch, Coulter, Dometrius, Ethridge, Fish, Gettel-Pearson, Gustafson, Hall, Hayes, Hildebrand, Hildreth, Kimmel, Long, McClendon, Mann, Mathis, Payne, Peters, Peterson, Reid, Rinehart, Rogers, Savage, Schoenecke, Strauss, Trost, Vann, Wagner, Whitsitt, J. Wilson and M. Wilson. Senator Howe is on leave from the university. Senators Craig Ketner and Mehta were absent because of University business. Senators Finn, Koh, Lee, Petrini, Samson, Westney and Weninger were absent.

President Stoune called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. and recognized the following guests: Elizabeth G. Haley, Interim President; Donald R. Haragan, Executive Vice President and Provost; C. Len Ainsworth, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs; Margaret Simon, News & Publications; Kim Davis, Lubbock Avalanche-Journal; and Professors Peder G. Christiansen and Donald L. Durland representing Library committees.

Professor Norwood Andrews served as Parliamentarian for the meeting.

I. Consideration of the minutes of the April 12, 1989 meeting

The minutes of the April 12, 1989 meeting were approved with one correction. On page 5, Item VI., Faculty Status & Welfare Committee Report, line 10 beginning with the words "A motion that the last two categories, Faculty Fellowships and Distinguished Professorship be reversed and that the ..." should read "A motion that the words, 'or above' be added to item 3 under Faculty Fellowships and item 3 under Distinguished Professorships was accepted and the motion to adopt the report passed.

II. Recognition of Retiring Senators and Introduction of New Senators

President Stoune acknowledged the contributions of Senators completing their terms this year, and introduced the newly-elected Senators.

III. Remarks by Dr. Donald R. Haragan

Dr. Haragan reported on the status of higher education budgets in the Legislature. There was a difference of 300 million dollars in Senate and House budgets; at least 2 weeks will be necessary for the compromise committee to complete its work.

It appears funding will be provided for TASP, so university plans are proceeding. Considerable discussion followed concerning remedial courses, instruction and related matters.

Dr. Haragan summarized the status of Ph.D. program reviews by the Coordinating Board.

All Senators, along with all faculty members were urged to attend Commencement May 13.

IV. Remarks by Dr. Elizabeth G. Haley

Dr. Haley reported that the Board of Regents was studying the academic status of athletes. The Board asked her to relay to the faculty their request that class absence reports be turned in for athletes missing classes.

The compliments of the Senate were conveyed to Dr. Haley for her excellent performance as interim president and for her concern for the faculty and her regular and valuable attendance at Senate meetings.

V. Report of Library Committees

Reports by the University Library Committee and the Provost's ad hoc Committee to Study Library Resources were distributed with the agenda of this meeting and are on file in the Senate office. The acceptance of both reports was moved, seconded and passed.

VI. Reports of Faculty Senate Standing Committees

Faculty Status & Welfare Committee

Senator Margaret Wilson moved acceptance of this committee's report of the revised intellectual property policy, which was distributed at the meeting. Wilson's motion to accept the report passed. This report will be forwarded to the appropriate administrative officials by Senate President Stoune.

Study Committee "A"

Senator Burnett reported on review procedures for untenured faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences. The earlier Faculty Senate report on the procedures proposed by the Dean was accepted by the Senate and forwarded to the Dean. However, the original policy, strongly opposed in the Senate report, was adopted in that College. Senator Brink moved that the Senate go on record as opposing the Arts & Sciences policy for review of untenured faculty. The motion passed unanimously.

Study Committee C

Senator Jane Ann Wilson noted one correction needed. She then moved the adoption of this report, which was distributed with the agenda. The motion passed. Senator Wilson moved adoption of the following recommendation concerning summer scholarships for athletes:

"In regard to the disbursement of summer athletic scholarship funds the committee acknowledges that the athletic department has the right to spend its funds generated by athletic events or privately donated as it sees fit. However, it abhors the practice of rewarding failure and punishing the student who makes good enough grades to remain eligible. While we sympathized with the problems of keeping athletes eligible, we think the practice of granting summer scholarships to ineligible students is counterproductive in the long run and unjust."

Wilson's motion to adopt the resolution passed.

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Standing Study Committee Reports continued...

Committee on Committees

Senator Grant Savage referred to a list of additional nominees for university committees and councils and noted that Patrick Dunn, College of Business Administration should be added as a nominee for membership on the University Discipline Committee. Senator Savage's motion that the Senate adopt this additional slate of nominees passed. The completed list will be forwarded to the appropriate administrative officials.

VII. New Business

There was no new business.

VIII. Announcements

Academic Council

A summary report of the April 4 meeting was distributed with the agenda.

Research Council

Senator Randall Peters distributed a summary report of proposed computer usage policies.

Federal Demonstration Project

Senator Barnard reported that a summary of results from a faculty questionnaire will be compiled and distributed, perhaps within 2-3 weeks.

Senator Strauss reported on the status of House Bill 2558, which proposes to reduce state contributions to employee retirement funds by 0.75% and increase salary deductions to offset.

Senator Jane Ann Wilson reported on the remodeling, redecorating and new menus and service in the Faculty Club. She noted that membership is now open to staff also.

IX. Remarks by Senate President Stoune

Senator Stoune, outgoing Senate president, expressed his thanks to all Senators, with special thanks to Grace Frazier, Senate office secretary. His concluding remarks on the past year noted accomplishments, important events and continuing concerns. A copy of his remarks is attached to these minutes.

Senator Whitsitt, incoming Senate president, made remarks, attached to these minutes. She offered a resolution thanking the outgoing officers, which was passed.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted



Kary Mathis
Secretary 1988-89

Remarks from Outgoing Senate President Michael Stoune

May I express my personal appreciation to all the members of the Senate for your hard work, loyalty and support. The effort of each of you is what has made this a productive year. We all owe Grace Frazier a round of applause for her work. She has dedicated 12 years to the Senate and is truly an integral part of the organization.

When we began this year, we anticipated concerns with TASP, General Education and the legislature. After we began the year the University lost President Cavazos to Washington, restructured the central administration and gained a pyramid.

The Senate rewrote the bylaws, offered advice to the administration on many issues of concern to faculty, most of which was taken, participated in the search for a president, presented a major research document and put in place a planning committee.

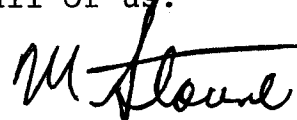
One major concern I have is that in the rush toward a major research effort, we must not relegate teaching to a second level effort. Teaching is a major mission of the university and incentives must continue. Research is important. Teaching is equally critical.

There are several hopeful signs: the insistence by the regents that the faculty play a role in the selection of the new president; I appreciate especially, Senators Gettel, Gustafson and Hildreth for their work on the committees and Regent Masters and Vice-President Colette Murray for keeping us informed and involved.

The lines of communication are open between the Senate and the administration. Thanks to Provost Haragan and Interim President Haley as well as all the Deans and Vice-Presidents the Senate has not been denied a hearing whenever requested. This is a treasured resource and not taken lightly.

The most hopeful sign is the Senate itself. That 50 faculty would take the time to serve the university is a positive indicator of the progress we have made in becoming truly representative of the faculty.

Thank you for making this a great year for all of us.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "M. Stoune". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Remarks by incoming Faculty Senate President Julia Whitsitt

The Senate can be justly proud of its accomplishments this year, not only in the presidential search process but also in the many thorough, valuable studies and recommendations it has made on campus issues ranging from research to tenure review policies, to faculty salaries and benefits. We have indeed been a strong force, acting--not just reacting--for good at this university.

Next year, I hope that we can continue to exert our energies in positive projects on this campus. I plan to ask the Senate to undertake a comprehensive study of teaching, a study complementary to the outstanding research study done this year, so that President Lawless will have strong faculty recommendations for improvement in our two main areas of activity and concern. I also hope that each of you will take a few minutes this summer to jot down your thoughts about what issues need attention. I shall try to see that your ideas are heard and acted upon. I am going to need every senator's help and support as we move into a new decade with a new University President.

As a member of the English department, I feel some trepidation following as I do two outstanding Senate presidents from the School of Music. Does this mean that we can expect less harmony, but more poetry? Will there be fewer noteworthy events? Will we take dramatic initiatives and fight epic battles? I only hope that our essays in faculty governance next year will feature novel approaches without descending into farce.