

UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE

SUMMARY OF AGENDA

October 5, 1992

- I. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**
- II. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** September 14, 1992
- III. **REMARKS BY UNIVERSITY PROVOST PIPES and/or VICE PROVOST ANDERSEN**
- IV. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Senate President Lomax
- V. **OLD BUSINESS** - None
- VI. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Recommendation on a statement of mission for the University of Delaware
 - B. Introduction of new business



University of Delaware

UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE
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September 23, 1992

TO: All Faculty Members
FROM: David G. Sperry, Vice President
University Faculty Senate

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David G. Sperry", written over a horizontal line.

SUBJECT: Regular Faculty Senate Meeting, October 5, 1992

In accordance with Section IV, paragraph 6 of the Constitution, the regular meeting of the University Faculty Senate will be held on Monday, October 5, 1992 at 4:00 p.m. in room 110 Memorial Hall. The agenda will be as follows:

AGENDA

- I. Adoption of the Agenda.
- II. Approval of the minutes of the Senate meeting of September 14, 1992.
- III. Remarks by University Provost Pipes and/or Vice Provost Andersen.
- IV. Announcements: Senate President Lomax
- V. Old Business - None
- VI. New Business
 - A. Recommendation from the Faculty Senate Executive Committee concerning the attached statement of mission for the University of Delaware.

WHEREAS, the University should have a statement identifying its purpose and goals, and

WHEREAS, several committees developed a statement of mission for the University during the processes of first the Focused Vision effort, and then the Middle States Accreditation Self-Study, and

WHEREAS, the content and principles of a statement of mission should reflect the consensus of the faculty, and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Faculty Senate to consider a statement of mission, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the University Faculty Senate approves as the statement of mission, the "Mission Statement for the University" and also recommends its approval by the Board of Trustees.

- B.** Such items as may come before the Senate. (No motion introduced under new business, except a motion to refer to committee, shall be acted upon until the next meeting of the Senate.)

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Attachment: Mission Statement

A Mission Statement for the University

1 Chartered as a college in 1833, the University of Delaware
2 has evolved into a comprehensive land-grant and sea-grant
3 institution. The University stands for excellence in the
4 education of its undergraduate and graduate students, in
5 scholarship and in service to its state and to society. The
6 relative emphasis placed on these three elements varies among
7 units, yet all share responsibility in each. To accomplish its
8 mission the University maintains an environment where creativity,
9 critical thinking, free inquiry, and respect for the views and
10 values of others flourish. University governance is conducted in
11 a spirit of openness and cooperative interaction among the
12 trustees, administrators, faculty, staff, and students. The
13 University strives to make all people feel welcome, regardless of
14 their cultural, ethnic, or religious backgrounds or of their
15 race, color, age, gender, or sexual preference. Balance between
16 the liberal arts and technical and professionally oriented
17 disciplines and between undergraduate and graduate education is a
18 University goal.

19 The University reaffirms its historic mission to provide the
20 highest quality education for its undergraduate students. The
21 faculty are responsible for helping students learn to reason
22 critically and independently, gain knowledge of the diverse
23 culture and environment in which they live, and develop into
24 well-informed citizens and leaders. To accomplish these goals,
25 the University provides a learning setting enriched by

1 undergraduate student research, experiential learning, and study-
2 abroad programs. The University places high priority on the
3 education of qualified Delaware residents and provides
4 opportunity for a diverse group of citizens to participate in
5 postsecondary education. Since the University is located in a
6 state with a small population, providing programs of quality and
7 diversity requires a community of student-scholars that reaches
8 beyond the boundaries of the state and that reflects the nation's
9 racial and cultural diversity.

10 The University of Delaware also aspires to excellence in
11 graduate education, the heart of which is scholarship and
12 research. The creation, application, and communication of
13 knowledge is a primary goal of the institution and of every
14 faculty member, providing the substance for creative, informed
15 teaching. Research is typically based on cooperation between
16 faculty and students, whereby faculty mentors teach students to
17 conduct independent research and to master problem-solving
18 techniques. Through involvement of undergraduates in faculty
19 research, the University creates a special bond between its
20 undergraduate and graduate programs.

21 The University is also committed to providing service to
22 society, especially in Delaware and the neighboring region.
23 Public service is a responsibility of every academic unit. In
24 addition, each faculty member is responsible for service to the
25 University community and to his or her profession. The
26 University emphasizes practical research, provides extension
27 services, and works to solve problems confronting the community.

1 The University of Delaware is an intellectual and cultural
2 center for its community and for the citizens of Delaware and the
3 surrounding region, providing lectures, exhibits, performances,
4 and athletic events and facilities. Central to the scholarly and
5 intellectual life of the campus is the University Library, a
6 resource for both the University and the state.

7 Excellence requires selectivity and focus. Institutional
8 vitality depends upon maintaining and building from existing
9 strengths and judging new proposals according to the University's
10 resource base and mission. Priority is given to programs that
11 meet the needs of the society, in particular those of the state
12 and the surrounding community, or that build on the institution's
13 particular strengths and demonstrated excellence. In the
14 development of graduate and research programs, we will continue
15 to reflect our state's and our region's globally oriented
16 economic base, its internationally recognized cultural
17 institutions, and its particular geographical, social, and
18 ecological environment.

