

REGULAR MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE

December 6, 1976

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the University Faculty Senate was called to order at 4:00 p.m. with Vice President Shurtleff presiding. Senators not in attendance were:

Bob Cook	William Gaither	William McDaniel
Anthony Dalrumple	James Kent	Frank Murphey (2nd consecutive)
Alexander Doberenz	Charles Marler	Lucia Palmer (2nd consecutive)

Senators excused: David Barlow, JoAnn Cox, Stephen Finner, Robert Hodson, Edward Kerner, Robert McDonough, Barry Morstain, John Pikulski, Judith Runkle, George Tatum.

I. Adoption of the Agenda. Vice President Shurtleff introduced requests from the sponsoring committees to have two items withdrawn from the Agenda: Item E, providing for the election of undergraduate senators, and Item F, providing for the establishment of minors. There were no objections and the Agenda was adopted with these changes.

II. Approval of the Minutes. Secretary Van Camp announced that in the Minutes of October 11 Senators Biebuyck and Klemas should be listed as excused and Senators Hodson and Watson should not be listed as absent. The Minutes for October 11 and November 1 were then approved as corrected.

III. Remarks by President Trabant. President Trabant addressed the Senate on the following topics:

1. Budget Requests to the State. President Trabant reviewed the recent presentation to State budget officers of the University's requests for operating and capital funds. The request for operating funds was the same as that presented to the faculty earlier. The capital funding request totalled 4.75 million and included requests for funds for the design of an addition to the Morris Library, for the renovation of the DuPont-Evans Engineering building, and to begin the process of bringing University buildings into compliance with OSHA requirements, as well as a request for continuation of the funding for the Agricultural Sciences building. He noted that the current University figure of 120 square feet of space per student is less than the available space ten years ago and below the nationally recommended figure of 168 square feet per student.

2. Parking. President Trabant reviewed the pledge by the University, made after the construction of the Wright Field parking lot, not to build any additional central parking lots on the campus. He said that there have been many requests from the University community for additional central parking space, and he recommended that the Senate consider the problem of whether the University should reaffirm its earlier decision or, if not, how it should be decided.

3. Alcohol Abuse. President Trabant said that he frequently receives correspondence on this topic, and quoted from a recent letter from the national offices of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity on the excessive use of alcoholic beverages by young people. He urged the Senate to give serious consideration to the proposals on the Agenda.

4. Meeting of the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges. President Trabant reviewed several papers, presented at the meeting, on the topics of accountability in higher education, collective bargaining, academic standards and grade inflation, intercollegiate athletics, retrenchment, and predictions for the future of education. He listed, as general themes of the meeting, the lessening gap between public and private institutions, the need for faculty to assume the role of wise managers in making decisions, and the need for universities to establish powerful offices on budget planning and management. (A full transcript of the President's remarks is available at the Senate Office.)

IV. Announcements. (See attachment)

V. Old Business. None.

VI. New Business. Vice President Shurtleff introduced Item A, from the Executive Committee; there was no discussion and the following resolution was approved by unanimous voice vote:

RESOLVED, that the ad hoc Committee on Retrenchment be dissolved, with thanks.

Item B, a resolution from the Committee on Student and Faculty Honors to change the requirements for the Panel of Distinguished Seniors, was introduced. There was no discussion and the following was approved by unanimous voice vote:

RESOLVED, that the requirements for the Panel of Distinguished Seniors be changed to read:

Panel of Distinguished Seniors: This award shall be granted to one graduating Senior from each of the undergraduate colleges who has earned at least 75 percent of his/her total credits at the University, has been enrolled at least six semesters as a full-time student, and has achieved a cumulative index of at least 3.5000. In addition to the required scholastic index, evidence of scholarly and outstanding personal achievements shall be taken into account in choosing distinguished seniors.

Item C, a recommendation for approval of the B.S. degree in Geophysics was introduced; there were no questions and the following resolution was approved by unanimous voice vote:

RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate approves the establishment of a Bachelor of Science in Geophysics as a provisional program pending evaluation in the fourth year of the program.

Item D, a resolution to change the definitions of undergraduate course numbers, was introduced by Senator Toensmeyer, chairperson of the Undergraduate Studies Committee. He noted that his committee felt it is more appropriate to number courses on the basis of content than on the current "class" basis, and that the students on the committee had felt that the new definitions would make course numbering more meaningful. In response to concerns about renumbering existing courses Senator Toensmeyer said that there was no necessity to do this on a "wholesale" basis, but that the intent was to have departments review their course numbering and make any necessary changes when it was feasible--when undergoing a COPE evaluation, for example--and to apply the new definitions whenever new courses were proposed. He emphasized that it did not mandate a "crash" program of course renumbering.

Associate Provost Halio, a member of the committee, suggested that when a course in an "introduction to" at an advanced level but not "introductory" in the 100-200 sense, the word "Introduction" could be dropped from the title but included in the course description.

It was suggested that the 400-499 category be changed to 400-498, to avoid confusion with the 499 number for Special Winter Session Projects; this editorial change was accepted and the following resolution was then approved by unanimous voice vote:

RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate approves the following definitions of undergraduate course numbers:

001-049 *Non-degree courses*
051-089 *Associate in Science*
100-199 *Introductory level courses*
200-299 *Introductory and intermediate courses, usually requiring some previous knowledge or experience in the discipline*
300-399 *Courses with a more concentrated focus on subject matter in a particular discipline*
400-498 *Advanced courses for majors and other qualified students*
500-549 *Courses for advanced undergraduate and graduate students*
X66 *Special problems and independent study*
X67 *Experimental courses (may be offered on 2X)*
499 *Special Winter Session Projects.*

Item G, the report and recommendations from the Committee on Student Life on the student use of alcohol on campus, was introduced by the Committee chairperson, Prof. Greenberg. There was no discussion of the statement of policy and the following resolution was passed by unanimous voice vote:

RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate approves the adoption of the "Faculty Senate Policy Concerning Use of Alcoholic Beverages by Students."

(The policy was included as Attachment 2 of the Agenda announcement, 11/19/76.)

After noting that the number of committee members should be given as 10, Vice President Shurtleff opened the discussion on the proposed committee. Senator Braun questioned the size of the committee and asked why it should be a Faculty Senate standing committee if faculty were a minority of the membership; he suggested that it should either be an administrative committee appointed by the University President, or the composition should be restructured. Prof. Branca, past chairperson of the Student Life Committee, explained that during his tenure he had surveyed various campus agencies with regard to the use of beverage alcohol, and the size and composition of the proposed committee was a result of responses to these inquiries. He stressed the importance of providing for continuing communication between these various agencies through this committee. Senator Gaertner and Senator Boyer asked why the committee charge did not include concern with the use of drugs on campus, and Mr. Butler, a member of the Student Life Committee, responded that they had felt that alcohol was the only drug over which they could exercise any control, and that the inclusion of other drugs would dilute the function of the proposed committee.

Senator Braun introduced a motion, which was seconded, to change the resolution to read:

RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate recommends that the President of the University establish a standing Committee on the Use of Beverage Alcohol on the campus of the University of Delaware

and that the title of the proposed committee be changed to read:

A Proposed Standing Committee on the Use of Beverage Alcohol on the Campus of the University of Delaware.

Vice President Worthen and President Trabant spoke against this motion, noting that they felt the problem was a faculty responsibility. Prof. Greenberg pointed out that the committee would report directly to the Senate and that it would be operating under the policy which had just been approved by the Senate. Senator Braun said that he felt the faculty had fulfilled its responsibilities by approving the policy and developing the charge for the proposed committee.

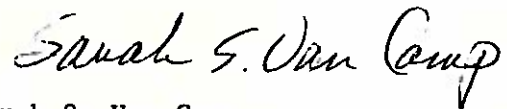
Vice President Shurtleff called for the vote on the substitute motion and it was defeated by a voice vote. He then called for the vote on the original motion and the following was approved by voice vote:

RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate establish a standing Committee on the Use of Beverage Alcohol on the Campus of the University of Delaware.

(The committee description was Attachment 3 of the December Agenda distributed to all senators and units on November 19, 1976.)

A motion for adjournment was made, seconded and approved, and the meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Sarah S. Van Camp
Secretary
University Faculty Senate

SSVC/bp

Attachment: Announcements

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Beginning with the end of this week, Barbara Martin will be on a six-month's leave of absence from the Senate office. Starting on January 3, 1977, Mrs. Susan Alexander will replace her in the Senate office. Until January 3 there will be a part-time secretary in the Senate office for two hours each day, to take messages, sort mail, and to provide limited assistance to senators and committee chairpersons.
2. Some difficulty has arisen with respect to the policy regarding attendance, and we feel as though we have no alternative but to rather mechanically apply the policy as it was approved by the Senate:

"That the Senate may function as an effective representative agent of the University Faculty, elected senators shall promptly notify the Secretary of the Senate of any temporary disability to attend regular Senate meetings, or otherwise discharge their responsibilities. Any elected senator's absence from two consecutive regular meetings of the Senate without such notification shall constitute a nonfeasance of the office, and the seat of that senator shall be vacant. The Secretary of the Senate shall immediately notify the senator's unit of the vacancy, which shall be promptly filled by special election in a manner to be provided by the unit. . . ."

We do not feel it appropriate to consider appeals or after-the-fact explanations for absences. If the requirement is too stringent, the Senate has the opportunity to amend the requirement, but we are in the position of having to enforce it.

3. Prof. Victor Spinski has been elected to the Faculty Senate from the Art Department to replace Prof. Holmes.
4. Prof. Robert Dean has been appointed to the Committee on Physical Planning and Utilization to replace Prof. Furber.