

REGULAR MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE

December 5, 1977

MINUTES

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

Edith Anderson	Tom Griffith	Judith Runkle
Lee Anderson	James Morrison	Beatrice Wagner
Donald Crossan	David Reiner	

Senators excused: David Barlow, Meribeth Bunch, Thomas Church, Alexander Doberenz, T. Stevenson Hansell, Charles Marler.

I. Adoption of the Agenda. There were no objections and the agenda was adopted as distributed.

II. Approval of the Minutes. Approval of the Minutes of the November 7 meeting was postponed because they had not yet been distributed.

III. Remarks by President Trabant. President Trabant announced that, in response to criticism that they had been ineffective, he was dissolving the President's Cabinet and the General Council, and that he would replace them with a new advisory group. He then reviewed topics from the recent meeting of the Council of Presidents of the National Association of Universities and Land Grant Colleges and noted that the emphasis at the meeting had been on internationalism and the Title 12 program stimulus, and on Title 14 which sets up and funds a new national program in the area of human nutrition. He reported that other topics discussed at the meeting included: controversial topics on campuses (sexual harrassment, homosexuality, and mandatory retirement ages); the proliferation of accreditation groups; compliance with HEW regulations regarding band performances at sports events; tenure; and the role of provosts.

IV. Announcements. President Pikulski read portions of a letter from Prof. Wolters, chairperson of the Committee on Promotions and Tenure, explaining two rulings of that committee. In response to concerns from the floor that the rulings might be a change in past practices, Pres. Pikulski requested that all comments be sent to the committee or to the Executive Committee. (The text of the rulings is Attachment 1.)

President Pikulski also announced that nomination forms for the Excellence in Teaching Awards are available; that the Committee on Academic Ceremonies had voted to include professional staff members in the commencement exercises; and that the UDCC had completed its appointments to Senate committees. He concluded with a request for suggestions to the Committee on Committees of graduate students who would be willing to serve on Senate committees.

V. Old Business. Agenda Items A and B were new recommendations from the Committee on Graduate Studies for the items which had been returned to that committee and the Committee on Committees at the November 7 Senate meeting. Prof. Settles, chairperson of the Committee on Committees, distributed a set of recommendations from that committee for changes in the items as they were given on the agenda.

Item A, the Graduate Studies Committee recommendations regarding the duties and membership of the Committee on Graduate Studies, was introduced by Pres. Pikulski. Prof. Settles discussed the changes which her committee was recommending, and

Prof. Kwart, chairperson of the Committee on Graduate Studies, accepted the changes in Items A-2 and A-3 as editorial changes.

Senator Cole suggested that A-1 be changed to read:

The faculty members of the Graduate Studies Committee shall be selected by the Senate Committee on Committees from among experienced scholars of the faculty, who shall possess established reputations in their fields, a strong commitment to the highest graduate standards, and experience with various types of graduate degree programs.

Prof. Kwart felt that this represented a substantive change and that it should be dealt with as an amendment; it was moved and seconded, and the amended version of A-1 was approved by voice vote.

Senator Warren made a motion, which was seconded, that A-1 be further amended to read:

The faculty members of the Graduate Studies Committee shall be elected by the Senate Committee on Committees from among scholars of the faculty who are presently participating in a graduate program of the University.

After much discussion the motion was defeated by voice vote.

Senator Braun made a motion, which was seconded, to amend A-2 to read:

The chairperson of the Committee on Committees shall annually solicit nominations for service on the Committee on Graduate Studies from the University Officer of Graduate Studies, the Provost, and other sources.

There was no discussion and the motion passed by voice vote.

Provost Campbell suggested that "University Officer for Graduate Studies" should be in quotes, because that will probably not be the final title.

Senator Lou made a motion, which was seconded, to delete "at least one previous term of membership" from A-4; after a discussion the motion was defeated by a show of hands.

President Pikulski called for a vote on Item A as amended and it was approved by unanimous voice vote, with no abstentions. (Item A as approved is Attachment 2.)

Item B of the Agenda, the recommendation of the Committee on Graduate Studies regarding the Charge to the Graduate Studies Committee was introduced; Prof. Settles then introduced and explained the Committee on Committees' recommended Charge. Pres. Pikulski accepted the Committee on Committees' version as a motion to amend, moved and seconded by the Committee. He called for a vote on the motion to amend (to replace B on the Agenda with the B item from the Committee on Committees) and the motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Senator Warren made a motion, which was seconded, to further amend Item B by the addition, after "necessary" in line 4, of:

In addition the affected unit or units shall be afforded an opportunity to review and comment on the University Officer's review. Such comments from the unit shall also be transmitted to the Graduate Studies Committee.

Senator Warter suggested that there should be some idea of timing and sequence, and

Senator Warren agreed that the phrase "prior to any action on its part" could be added at the end. Provost Campbell said that it was not necessary to go into such fine detail because they would know they should send the reports to the units and get reports back. Senator Warren said that if that was understood as the intent he would agree and withdraw the portion of the amendment dealing with the timing; he added that the intent was not to impose restrictions on the committee but to specify a right on the part of a unit to comment on a report made on it, regardless of committee procedures.

President Pikulski called for the vote to amend Item B and the amendment was approved by a show of hands, 21 for and 16 against.

President Trabant suggested that the phrase "concerning periodic internal or external reviews" in the last line be changed to "pertaining to periodic reviews" to remove the ambiguity, and Prof. Settles accepted this as an editorial change.

President Pikulski called for the vote on Item B as amended, and it was approved by unanimous voice vote. (Item B as approved is on Attachment 2.)

VI. New Business.

Item A, a recommendation from the Committee on Graduate Studies to amend the Faculty Handbook to provide for the extended terms of the members of the Graduate Studies Committee was introduced. There was no discussion and the following was approved by unanimous voice vote:

RESOLVED, that paragraph 3 of General Provisions Regarding Committees, I-13 of the Faculty Handbook, shall be amended to read: "Except as otherwise provided in these by-laws, faculty appointments to committees are to be for terms of two years. . . ."

Item B, a recommendation from the Committee on Committees for the confirmation of appointments to Faculty Senate committees was introduced, and the following appointments were approved by unanimous voice vote:

E. Naudain Simons, chairperson, Committee on Student Life
Paul Solano, member, Committee on Educational Innovation and Planning
Mark Amsler, member, Committee on Educational Innovation and Planning
David Pong, member, Committee on International Studies
Edeltraut Gilgenast, member, Committee on International Studies.

Item C, a resolution from the Executive Committee for endorsement by the Senate of the University of Delaware Board of Trustees Proposal for a Delaware Board of Regents and for the establishment of a study committee, was introduced by Pres. Pikulski. A motion was made and seconded to substitute a resolution from the Steering Committee of the College of Arts and Science, which was distributed at the meeting. Prof. Baxter, President of the Arts and Science Senate, spoke for the substitute resolution and described the six changes it proposed to the main resolution.

President Trabant urged the Senate not to vote on either resolution; he noted that the subject was one of great political sensitivity and that any dissident action by the Senate would become a matter of public record. It was suggested that the matter could be studied by a standing committee or a special committee of the Senate, and Prof. Baxter said that if that were done he would withdraw his motion; the second was also withdrawn. President Trabant moved to table the item and the motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Item D, a resolution from the Committee on Faculty Welfare and Privileges and the Committee on Budget Review regarding disclosure of faculty salary and University financial information, was introduced by Prof. Kleinman, chairperson of the Committee on Budget Review. He noted that the resolution reflected the results of a questionnaire poll conducted by the committees to develop a response to a request Pres. Trabant had made to the Senate for faculty advice on a University financial disclosure policy. He also said that one intent of the resolutions was to counter the public perception of the University as secretive in its financial affairs. Pres. Trabant responded that the resolution seemed impractical in view of the large amount of data involved and the constraints of the auditing procedures.

Senator Braun asked for a quorum count and it was determined that a quorum was no longer present; the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Judy Van Name
Secretary
University Faculty Senate

JVN/b

- Attachments:
1. Rulings from the Senate Committee on Promotions and Tenure
 2. Texts of the resolutions regarding the duties, membership and charge of the Senate Committee on Graduate Studies

November 1, 1977

Memorandum

To: John J. Pikulski, President
University Faculty Senate

From: Raymond Wolters, Chairman
University Committee on Promotion and Tenure

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. . . members of the University Committee on Promotion and Tenure are of the opinion that it is desirable for full professors to play a larger role in the promotion process. We believe that full professors are less susceptible to pressure from their chairmen and less likely to feel a conflict of interest. Consequently we believe that full professors are generally in a better position to evaluate candidates with the independence and autonomy that is appropriate when considering promotions. While not discounting the scholarly potential of untenured assistant professors, there is also the likelihood that full professors will have established superior records for scholarship; accordingly, their assessment of a candidate's accomplishments and promise is more weighty than the judgment of those who have yet to establish their own professional reputations.

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While considering it desirable to involve full professors more thoroughly in the promotion process, the University Committee on Promotions and Tenure is aware of certain practical problems. There is, initially, the fact that many department committees have already begun to consider this year's promotions, and it would not be convenient to reconstitute those committees at this date. Another practical difficulty arises from the fact that there are twenty departments or colleges that currently list fewer than three full professors not holding administrative positions. Full professors could play a larger role in these units only if additional faculty were brought in from related disciplines. The members of the University Committee on Promotion and Tenure would welcome this sort of inter-departmental cooperation, but we do not believe such changes could be made in time to affect this year's promotions. Finally, there is the likelihood that any reconstitution of promotion committees would be unpopular since some faculty of all ranks would resent the implication that junior professors are not qualified to pass judgment on promotions to senior ranks.

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Given these practical considerations, the University Committee on Promotion and Tenure does not consider it advisable at the moment to present any proposal that requires Senate Action. We will consider it essential, however, to know the identity of the members of the various committees that speak in the name of their department or college. Moreover, since Provost Campbell last May asked academic deans, directors, and department chairmen to revise their promotion procedures so that full professors would play a larger role in the promotion process, the University Committee on Promotion and Tenure considers it appropriate to scrutinize recommendations that come from committees that do not include a broad representation of full professors. We will be more inclined to presume the validity and give the benefit of doubt to recommendations that are widely endorsed by appropriate full professors.

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. . . After reviewing the correspondence between Provost Campbell and Professor Dilley, as well as the relevant statements in the Faculty Handbook and the Chairperson's Supplement, the members of the University Committee on Promotion and Tenure are of the opinion that the university committee is authorized to recommend the promotion of individual professors who submit their credentials after receiving a negative vote from their departmental committee. We do not believe this requires action by the Faculty Senate, but we endorse Provost Campbell's statement in his June 14 memorandum to Professor Dilley:

" . . . it is clear that a faculty member does not require positive recommendation by the department to be considered for promotion by subsequent review committees and administrative officers. It seems unlikely that a candidate coming forward without a positive department recommendation would receive much support from other groups and finally be approved for promotion; but the document does not rule out this possibility. . . ."

(The following are the resolutions regarding the duties, membership and charge of the Committee on Graduate Studies as they were approved at the Senate meeting of December 5, 1977.)

A. RESOLVED, that the following be added to the Faculty Handbook, replacing paragraph 4 (I-17) in the charge to the current standing committee:

1. The faculty members of the Graduate Studies Committee shall be selected by the Senate Committee on Committees from among experienced scholars of the faculty, who shall possess established reputations in their fields, a strong commitment to the highest graduate standards, and experience with various types of graduate degree programs.
2. The chairperson of the Committee on Committees shall annually solicit nominations for service on the Committee on Graduate Studies from the University Officer of Graduate Studies, the Provost, and other sources.
3. The Committee shall consist of a Chairperson and six other faculty members serving for three-year terms to be arranged in sequence such that the terms of no more than two members shall expire in any academic year. In addition there shall be two ex officio members, the University Officer for Graduate Studies and the Director of the University Library. There shall be two graduate student members appointed. During the transition period, members as they retire from the Committee shall be replaced by members with the new period of tenure.
4. The Chairperson of the Graduate Studies Committee shall be selected by the Committee on Committees, and shall be confirmed by the Senate for a two-year term. Nominations for this position shall be taken from a register maintained by the University Officer for Graduate Studies of persons who have served at least one previous term of membership on the Graduate Studies Committee.

B. RESOLVED, that the following be incorporated into the Charge to the Committee on Graduate Studies:

The Faculty Senate Committee on Graduate Studies shall periodically receive from the University Officer for Graduate Studies a review of the status of each department's program of graduate studies and appropriate recommendations for any action that may be deemed necessary. In addition the affected unit or units shall be afforded an opportunity to review and comment on the University Officer's review. Such comments from the unit shall also be transmitted to the Graduate Studies Committee. The Graduate Studies Committee shall prepare its own recommendations pertaining to periodic reviews of individual graduate programs.