

REGULAR MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE

March 6, 1978

MINUTES

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

Edith Anderson	Tom Griffith
Lee Anderson	David Reiner
Margaret Benner	Billy Ross
C. Harold Brown	Robert Warren
Donald Crossan	John Worthen

Senators excused were: Alexander Doberenz, Irwin Greenfield, Deborah Kliman, Joseph Noggle, Asa Pieratt, and Lloyd Spielman.

I. Adoption of the Agenda. President Pikulski requested that Item II be dropped from the Agenda, since the minutes of February 13 had not yet been distributed. There were no further changes and the Agenda was adopted as distributed.

III. Remarks by President Trabant. President Trabant noted the loss to the University and the community caused by the death of University Secretary, Mr. Daniel Wood, and announced the appointment of Mr. Arno Loessner as Acting University Secretary. He then read the official Spring enrollment figures: 17,447 total undergraduates, as compared to 17,728 a year ago. President Trabant also reported on a February 20 meeting with the Joint Finance Committee of the state legislature in which University representatives presented a request for funding above what the governor had requested in his budget: \$985,000 for Operations, and \$387,000 for Student Aid. President Trabant said he felt the newspaper coverage had been excellent and the response sympathetic.

Remarks by Provost Campbell. Provost Campbell reported that all candidates for promotion and/or tenure would receive letters by the end of the week (March 10).

IV. Announcements. Senate President Pikulski announced that the Nominating Committee and the Committee on Committees were beginning the process of seeking candidates for Senate elections and committee appointments, and asked the Senators to respond to their efforts. Referring to recent Senate action, he reported that President Trabant will forward to the Board of Trustees, with a positive recommendation, the Senate resolution to dissolve the degree in Engineering Administration, and that Vice President Worthen had given his support to the recommendations from the Committee on Student Life which the Senate approved in February.

President Pikulski announced that, as a result of its ongoing review of graduate studies policies and a recent open hearing, the Committee on Graduate Studies had reaffirmed the policies requiring 1) a 30 credit minimum for all master's degrees, 2) a minimum one-year full-time residency for all Ph.D. degrees, 3) a minimum 3.0 grade index for graduate students, and 4) maximum completion times of 5 years for a master's degree, 7 years for a Ph.D. and 5 years for a Ph.D. after the master's degree. The committee also recommended one change, that the requirement of a 3.0 cumulative index for holders of graduate fellowships and assistantships be based on two consecutive semesters rather than only one. President Pikulski indicated that, as a change in existing policy, this might require further action by the Senate.

V. Old Business - none.

VI. New Business.

Item A, a request from Provost Campbell for confirmation of a COPE appointment, was moved and seconded from the floor. There was no discussion and the following appointment was approved by unanimous voice vote:

*Mr. Richard M. Blakeman, Director of Purchasing
(to replace Dr. James Archer).*

Item B, a request from the Committee on Committees for confirmation of appointments to Senate committees, was introduced. There was no discussion and the following were approved by unanimous voice vote:

*James D. Culley, Chair, Library Committee
(to fill the unexpired term of M. Sasser)*

*Rowland Richards Jr., Member and Chair, Coordinating
Committee on Education (to fill the unexpired term
of W. Fletcher).*

Item C, a recommendation from the Committee on Academic Freedom for Senate approval of a Statement on Academic Freedom, was introduced by Senator Safer, chairperson of the committee. Senator Safer reviewed the status of the Statement on Academic Freedom which was passed by the Senate in 1976 and returned by the Committee on Education and Training of the Board of Trustees in November 1977; she also noted the criticisms of the existing Handbook Statement which had been made by Judge Schwartz in the Aumiller decision. She then reviewed the process by which her committee had arrived at their present recommendation that the Senate adopt the 1940 Statement on Academic Freedom and the 1970 Interpretive Comments of the American Association of University Professors, and add them to the existing final paragraph in the Handbook. In support of the recommendation Senator Safer noted that: 1) the AAUP Statement had been used in over 100 cases of litigation and had acquired a body of case law; 2) it had already been adopted by many other institutions; 3) it represented the position of the Academic guild and 4) it had the advantage of the clarification provided by the Interpretive Comments. She then discussed the Statement approved by the Senate in 1976 and noted that, although it might be better in some points, it would be seriously weakened by the phrases which the Board's committee had recommended be placed at the end of the document.

President Pikulski read a resolution from the Steering Committee of the Arts and Science Senate supporting the recommendation.

President Trabant opened discussion from the floor by saying that he felt that 1) the new recommendation was a rather heavy response to the honest expression of concern by members of the Board's Committee after full discussion with the faculty members present at the meeting; 2) reliance on a statement from the teaching profession was an inappropriate response; and 3) the University should develop its own statement rather than adopting the statement of an outside group.

Senator Finner, a member of the Committee on Academic Freedom, responded that the committee's action had attempted to take into account Judge Schwartz's criticism, and that the recommended Statement was prepared by both the AAUP and the Association of American Colleges, and had been adopted by the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, of which the University is a member.

Senator Sharnoff said he found the labyrinth of the Interpretive Comments confusing, and that he preferred the 1976 Statement as being unambiguous and forthright. He asked what had prompted the Board's response, and suggested that the Senate could respond without doing such violence to that document. Senator Boyer, a member of the committee, said he thought the Board's concern was that the 1976 Statement did not address itself enough to academic responsibility as distinguished from academic freedom. Senator Braun said that the statements found on page 2, paragraph C, and in Part 4 of the Interpretive Comments covered the reservations the Board had expressed and that if the Senate adopted the Statement, which had been proved in court and which captured the spirit of the 1976 statement, he thought the Board would look on it favorably.

In response to a question from Senator Leavens, Senator Safer quoted Judge Schwartz's criticism of a portion of the present statement as "unconstitutionally overbroad," and Senator Leavens said he thought the AAUP Statement was open to the same criticism. Senator Safer agreed, but felt that the AAUP Statement had more strength than an isolated decision because it had been tested and interpreted in the courts. After further discussion of these points a motion by Senator Marler to call the question was seconded and approved by voice vote. The resolution from the Committee on Academic Freedom was then approved by a vote of 29 for, 13 opposed, with 3 abstentions:

RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate adopts and recommends University adoption of the academic freedom components of the 1940 Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure, and the 1970 Interpretive Comments, of the American Association of University Professors and the Association of American Colleges. These shall replace all but the last paragraph of section III-B-1 of the Faculty Handbook.

(Note: The full texts of the 1940 Statement and the 1970 Interpretive Comments were distributed in the Agenda for the March 6 meeting.)

Item D, calling for items to be introduced for action at the next Senate meeting, was responded to by Senator Braun. He suggested that the Senate consider instructing the Committee on Promotions and Tenure to define as published work, when considering dossiers of candidates for promotion, all works that have appeared in print or have been accepted for publication. Provost Campbell said that that standard was already used by his office, and added that, in an attempt to gain clarity of standards, a statement had been drafted and was being circulated with the intent that it would come before the Senate where it was appropriate.

There was no further business and President Pikulski declared the meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Van Name

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Secretary

University Faculty Senate