

REGULAR MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE

February 2, 1981

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Faculty Senate was called to order on Monday, February 2 1981, at 4:00 p.m., with President Toensmeyer presiding. Senators not in attendance were:

Jeffrey Davidson
Frank Dilley
Hatem Khalil

Fred Masterson
Douglas Ridge
Norfleet Rives

Bruce Rogers
Tom Watkins .

Senators excused were: Edith Anderson, Donald Crossan, Mark Haskell, Jonathan Jeffery, Nancy King, Ann McCourt-Lewis, Joel Morse, John Zikakis.

I. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA. President Toensmeyer reported a request from the Coordinating Committee on Education to withdraw, until further notice, Item A of Old Business. In response to an objection from Senator Braun that the Senate had had two months to consider the item, Prof. O'Neill, chair of the Coordinating Committee on Education, explained that the absence of the Undergraduate Studies Committee chairperson from campus during Winter Session had prevented the committees from addressing some concerns which had been raised about the item. Senator Braun withdrew his objection. President Toensmeyer also reported a request from a student senator to read a statement under Item G of New Business. There was no further discussion, and the Agenda was adopted with these changes.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES. Senate Secretary Reynolds requested that the Minutes of the January 5, 1981 meeting be corrected to show Senator Stixrude as present, and he reminded the senators of the responsibility to sign the attendance sheet. There were no further changes and the Minutes were adopted with the correction.

III. REMARKS. None.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS. None.

V. OLD BUSINESS. None.

VI. NEW BUSINESS.

Item A, a recommendation for provisional approval of a master's degree in Anthropology, was introduced by Prof. Stetson, chair of the Committee on Graduate Studies; he reported that the program had also been approved by the Coordinating Committee on Education. Senator Cope asked about the role of a specific faculty member in the formulation and execution of the program; after a brief discussion President Toensmeyer reminded the Senate that its responsibility was with the program, and asked for any questions in terms of the program's content. Senator Mangone said he planned to vote for the program, but he wanted to express for the record his

concerns with: 1) the pressure the program would put on the scholarly resources available to the department; 2) the limited number of potential students for the program; and 3) the lack of a foreign language requirement in the program. In response to the concern about the department's resources, Prof. O'Neill, chair of the Coordinating Committee on Education, said his committee had been assured the MA program would complement the undergraduate program and would not detract from it.

In response to a question about the program's option for three essays instead of a thesis, it was noted that the purpose of the program was to train students who want to get a job with the MA degree, and to provide the skills associated with that, so the unusual fact was that there was a thesis option at all. Senator Richard Murray pointed out that students who elected not to write a thesis were required to take two additional courses, for a total of 30 credits, plus writing the research papers. He also noted that a foreign language would be required when it was appropriate for the research being carried out. There was no further discussion, and the following was approved by unanimous vote:

RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate approves the establishment of a Master of Arts Program in Anthropology leading to a Master of Arts (M.A.) degree in Anthropology, on a four-year provisional basis, effective September, 1981, with review in the 1984-85 academic year.

Item B, a recommendation from the Coordinating Committee on Education to extend the Pass/Fail grading option to Continuing Education students, was introduced by Prof. O'Neill, chair of the committee. It was explained that this had originally been prohibited because of a concern that students on dropped status would use the P/F option to accumulate credits without being accountable for grades, but there was now a large number of Continuing Education students who were not dropped status students and the change was an accomodation to this group to give them an option to take some courses they might not ordinarily take. It was noted that P/F courses could not be used to reduce quality point deficits, and that courses could not be taken P/F in a student's major or minor areas. There was no further discussion and the following was approved by unanimous voice vote:

RESOLVED, that for a three-year experimental period beginning June, 1981, continuing education students may elect to enroll in appropriate courses on a Pass/Fail basis provided they be advised that:

- a. Passing grades in pass/fail courses will not contribute under any circumstances to a reduction in quality point deficits for students in dropped status. Failing grades will add deficit points.*
- b. Undergraduate degree programs have a limit of 24 free elective pass/fail credits and some academic writs may have additional restrictions on the applicability of pass/fail credits.*

Item C, a recommendation for approval of a policy on Communication Condition clearance, was also introduced by Prof. O'Neill for the Coordinating Committee on Education. He explained that the intent was to "put some teeth" into the policy and to enforce it to a greater degree than in the past. It was noted that the only deadline for removing a Communication Condition was before graduation. Senator Warter objected that, except for the provision that the college or department could limit the number of credits taken, a student who had failed to remove a Communication Condition could still enroll without penalty. There was no further discussion, and the following was approved by voice vote:

RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate approves the following policy for expediting Communication Condition Clearance:

Students who receive a Communication Condition must report to the Writing Center in the first regular semester following receipt of notification, and they must clear the Communication Condition by the end of the second regular semester. Students who fail to report to the Writing Center by the end of the six-week drop period of the first semester following receipt of the Communication Condition will receive a warning letter by registered mail (return receipt requested) from their college dean. Student registrations may be limited to twelve credits at the discretion of the college dean until the Communication Condition is cleared.

The Writing Center will notify the dean's office of all students with CC's who have attended the Writing Center, cleared their CC's, or failed to report, so that appropriate actions may be taken. The student's faculty advisor will receive copies of all letters to the student and notices of actions taken. CC's may be cleared only by authorization of the Director of the Writing Center. Students may not be graduated until their CC's are cleared.

Item D, a recommendation to change the requirements for readmission to the University, was also introduced by Prof. O'Neill, chair of the Coordinating Committee on Education. Senator Cochrane questioned the effective date of September, 1981, and suggested this would be penalizing, after the fact, those students who already have a 12 point deficit. President Toensmeyer noted that such students would still have one semester and the summer to reduce their deficit. Prof. Rees, Associate Dean of Arts and Science, said 43 of the 247 students dropped from the College at the end of the Fall semester had been dropped once before, and he felt the resolution would reduce this "revolving door" problem.

Senator Warter said that students, when they are readmitted, sometimes want to transfer to programs where enrollment is limited, and he asked if the programs would then be required to admit them. Provost Campbell said it would no longer be automatic under the proposed resolution. Prof. Rees suggested an amendment, which was subsequently moved and seconded, which would add the following sentence to the resolution: "Students qualifying for readmission will not be guaranteed admission to the program in which they were originally matriculated." A discussion followed on various kinds of restrictions on readmissions, and a suggestion by Senator Mangone to change the

amendment, to read as follows, was accepted: "Students qualifying for readmission will not be guaranteed admission to a program to which they had matriculated." President Toensmeyer called for the vote on the motion to amend, and the amendment was approved by a hand vote.

President Toensmeyer then called for the vote on the resolution as amended, and the following was approved by voice vote:

RESOLVED, that students who have been dropped for academic deficiency (12+ quality points deficit) may be readmitted "contingent upon satisfactory reduction of the quality point deficit to 6 or fewer," effective September, 1981. Students qualifying for readmission will not be guaranteed admission to a program to which they had matriculated.

Item E, a recommendation from the Coordinating Committee on Education regarding undergraduate Independent Study courses, was introduced by Prof. O'Neill. He explained that the intent was to provide University-wide equity by establishing guidelines for Independent Study courses. Senator Christensen said the English department would like to retain the option for Independent Studies at the 200 course level, especially for transfer students. Senate Secretary Reynolds asked why University-wide guidelines were necessary, and suggested that if there were abuses of the Independent Study option it might best be addressed at the college level. Senator Ritter, a member of the Undergraduate Studies committee, said he had conducted a survey of Independent Study courses for that committee and they had found a great variation in policies, including some departments with no policy. He said the committee had found that in some departments Independent Study policies contributed to grade inflation, and in some cases students were taking Independent Study courses in lieu of regular courses, and the committee felt the best way to address these problems was with University-wide guidelines. Senator Smith said this issue had also been discussed in the Arts and Science Educational Affairs Committee, and they had recognized the need for a way to give transfer students appropriate credit for work done elsewhere, but they felt the problem lay in Independent Study courses which were really 366 and 367 (experimental) courses, and that there was real confusion as to the purpose of Independent Study courses.

Senator Braun noted that Independent Study courses are used for the appropriate transfer of credits for students in study abroad programs, and he therefore opposed restricting such courses to the 300 and 400 level. Senator Warter added that the courses are also used for students in independent research, and particularly in the Honors Program where such research is encouraged early in a student's program. He made a motion, which was seconded, to return the item to committee so the various uses of Independent Study courses could be sorted out; the motion was approved by voice vote.

Item F, a recommendation regarding the SI metric system, was introduced by Prof. O'Neill for the Coordinating Committee on Education. Prof. O'Neill requested that the phrase "Be it resolved that" be replaced by "The Senate encourages that" in the recommendation as it was printed on the Agenda.

In the discussion that followed several senators from scientific disciplines spoke against the proposal, arguing that: it was an interference in academic freedom in the classroom; the timetable for implementation is unrealistic; requiring all measurements to be converted from the system in which they were carried out would create chaos; the Senate ought not to be dictating on this issue and it was a dangerous precedent; and the proposal was particularly inappropriate for courses where primary source material used other units of measurement.

Senator Chesson spoke for the proposal, arguing that although the language in the recommendation could be modified to make it softer, the University had a responsibility to prepare its students because they would be graduating into a world in which SI units were used internationally.

A motion by Senator Cochrane to call the question was seconded, and approved by voice vote. President Toensmeyer called for the vote on Item F, with the change introduced by Prof. O'Neill; the item was defeated.

Item G, a statement from Persons Interested in Student Sensitivities, was presented by Senator Cochrane, an undergraduate student senator, on behalf of that group. There was no discussion. (A copy of the statement is attached)

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded; in the absence of objections President Toensmeyer declared the meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



H.T. Reynolds
Secretary
University Faculty Senate

Statement from PERSONS INTERESTED IN STUDENT SENSITIVITIES

In light of the recent Faculty Senate resolution concerning arguably pornographic films, and the obvious precedent which that resolution sets, we, the members of Persons Interested in Student Sensitivities, request the Faculty Senate consider the following, which we have found offensive to the sensitivities of others:

Playboy and Penthouse magazines in the Bookstore	The University parking situation
Extended housing	Dining Hall food
Overcrowded classes	Smith Hall soda machines
Violent movies	The pinball controversy
The Student Health fee	Vido games
The Health Center	The turnstiles in the Scrounge
Some Anthropology films	Lack of left handed desks
Some Sex Education films	The Canterbury Tales
Professors smoking in class	Lack of computer terminals
Students smoking in class	Captain Ray of Light
Smoking	Sheet signs
Bookstore waiting lines	The housing lottery
Drop-Add Day	Standardized tests
Hidden graduation fees	Alligator shirts
Late fees	Theodora and the Swans
Commencement	Sexism
Late shuttle busses	Racism
Arrogant shuttle bus drivers	Favoritism
Josh	Segregation
The Pub	The term " <u>Arguably Pornographic</u> "
The Alcohol Policy	and
University parking tickets	The big metal Blue Hen in front of Colburn Lab!

Persons Interested in Student Sensitivities has found each of the above offensive to the sensitivities of others and we feel that given the obvious precedent set by the Faculty Senate in its special meeting of January 26, 1981, that the Senate should consider these issues.