

REGULAR MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE

October 5, 1981

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Faculty Senate was called to order on Monday, October 5, 1981 at 4:00 p.m., with President Hoffecker presiding. Senators not in attendance were:

Gary Christopherson	Fred Masterson	Douglas Ridge
Barbara Larson	John O'Neill	Tom Watkins .

Senators excused were: Jeffrey Davidson, Anne Mooney, Norfleet Rives, Norman Schwartz, Tomas Wood.

I. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA. The Agenda was adopted as distributed.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES. The Minutes of the September meeting not yet having been distributed, their consideration was postponed until the November meeting.

III. REMARKS BY PRESIDENT TRABANT. President Trabant reported that the Fall, 1981 undergraduate enrollment was 13,374--almost exactly what had been desired. He also reported that the University had exceeded its goal for enrolling undergraduate minorities and had held its own at the graduate level with respect to blacks.

President Trabant also announced that on Monday, October 26, at 7:15 in Clayton Hall, one of the partners of the University's accounting firm would be available for comments and questions regarding ways in which the new federal tax program, the Economic Recovery Tax Act, will have impact on the University and its employees. He noted that there would be ample time for questions, and urged the faculty to attend.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS.

President Hoffecker reminded the Senators that Dr. Luna Mishoe, the President of Delaware State College, would address the General Faculty meeting on October 19 on the topic of "Cooperative Programs Between the University and Delaware State." She urged the faculty to take advantage of this opportunity to learn about the programs that have existed and about what is called for in the Title VI Compliance Plan.

President Hoffecker also announced that the ad hoc Committee to Evaluate the President had completed its report and had submitted it to the President for transmission to the Board of Trustees, and that the committee would continue in existence long enough to receive any reactions, comments or questions from the report's recipients.

President Hoffecker reported that the Committee on Committees, at the request of the Senate Computer Committee, is presently re-evaluating that committee's charge, in an attempt to increase cooperation between the faculty, the administration, and computer services. Noting that the computer has become an important tool in the University, President Hoffecker introduced Dr. Larry Travis, Associate Provost for

Computing, who had been invited to address the Senate on the topic "Computing at the University of Delaware: Where We Are and Where We Ought to Be."

Dr. Travis opened his remarks on "where we are" by commenting on what the University has done right in its computer services. He said that, in contrast to other universities, we have discovered the importance of interactive computing, although this was not equally true for all areas of the University; he also noted that in the commitment that has been made to involvement in the use of computing in instructional projects Delaware is unique among universities.

Dr. Travis then discussed three major, interrelated problems which he has identified in the University's computer services: 1) There is a general lack of awareness, excitement, and knowledge about computers on campus; he cited as evidence the slowness with which we are learning to make use of minicomputers. 2) We are too thinly staffed in our support of computing, and inadequate in documentation and consulting services; he noted that the University's "mixed bag" of computing systems makes it especially important to provide adequate support staff, because if it is too hard to do people just don't use computers at all. 3) There is inadequate computational capacity.

Commenting on "where we ought to be," Dr. Travis said we must first address the capacity problem; he noted the difficulty of balancing the need for immediate, short-term solutions with the need to make long-range plans, while avoiding a hopeless proliferation of computing systems. Dr. Travis expressed the hope that the long-term planning would be aided by input from the University community and by the involvement of the Senate Computer Committee. He also noted the present need to coordinate the already existing programs so they support each other, using common resources and planning.

Commenting on where we ought to be going in the long term, Dr. Travis identified a need for long-range planning for computing in all areas of the University. He noted that our system is presently constructed to support 200-300 users, actively on-line, at any given time, and that this should be increased to 2000 users at a time. He also noted the need to plan for a system of inter-connected computers--of many different sizes, and capable of interconnecting with systems and data bases elsewhere in the world. He said the long range problems would not be in the processing and storage capacity--since this is becoming an abundant resource--but in planning and developing the interconnections and the communications networking.

As examples of areas where we will move ahead, Dr. Travis listed high resolution graphics, the documentation field, faculty/faculty communications, and interactive computing, with support for use of libraries, for moving instructional materials off campus, for life-long learning, and in many areas of administrative use of computers.

In response to a question from President Trabant about the anticipated need for monetary support, Dr. Travis said that although there would be an increased need it would not necessarily be new money since it would mean not spending money on such things as typewriters, telephones, and blackboards. He also said that an increased support staff would replace what we spend in time now, so it could not be understood just in terms of an increased dollar cost. Senator Warter added that improved technology, especially the new computer chips which incorporate central processing, would make a manifold increase in computer capacity relatively inexpensive.

In response to a question from Senator Smith, Dr. Travis said that plans were underway to promote faculty interest and expertise in computing. Senator Mosberg asked if the requirement that computing budgets be based on the previous year's

expenses wasn't a contradiction in planning for expansion; Dr. Travis agreed, and said he was looking at the possibilities for revising that.

V. OLD BUSINESS.

Item A, a resolution postponed from the September meeting regarding course numbering policies, was introduced by Prof. O'Neill, who had chaired the Coordinating Committee on Education when the resolution was approved. At his request the Senate considered parts a) and b) of the resolution as a unit, with part c) to be considered separately. Prof. O'Neill said the resolution was intended to correct confusion which the present system created both internally and outside the University.

Senator Mangone noted that in the proposed definition of 600 level courses the phrase "advanced undergraduate and graduate level courses" could be read to mean "advanced graduate level courses," and he suggested that it be replaced by "junior and senior and graduate level courses." Senator R. Murray, a member of the Graduate Studies Committee, responded that the intent had been to get away from the definition of the 600 level being a graduate level only and to return to the system that existed before the double listing, and he believed that to change ground in the proposed resolution would change the thrust of the proposal. He added that the phrase used in the resolution was also the one in wide use at many universities.

Prof. Toensmeyer asked what would happen if a course which was offered under the 600 number as defined in the resolution enrolled a majority of undergraduate students, and whether it would then still be a graduate course giving graduate credit. Senator Murray said to the best of his knowledge nothing would happen, but he didn't think the question had arisen in any of the committees that made the report.

Senator Beasley, noting that action on this resolution had been postponed in September to allow senators to consult with their departments, reported that there had been considerable opposition to the proposal in his English department. He said concern had centered on the linguistics program, which is jointly sponsored by the English department, because most of the courses in the program are dual listed in order to accommodate both undergraduate students and those M.A. candidates who need specific courses to fill in gaps in their preparation. He said they depended on non-majors in their upper division courses, and they worried about the effect of raising the number to 600, and whether there were educative and advisement problems that this would not solve.

A motion was made and seconded to call the question; after a brief discussion the motion was defeated by a hand vote.

Returning to the discussion of the main motion, Senator Geiger said that while the proposed resolution seemed to address administrative difficulties in the numbering system, he had not found any evidence that programmatic effects had been considered. He said that he did not know where the bulk of double listed courses were in the University, but the History department had a fair number and the proposed change would have a considerable impact on their programs. As an indication of the problems in that department he said: 1) it is in the nature of the discipline that history courses are not arranged in a proscribed, step-by-step sequence, and it is often hard to tell if a course should be a 1, 2, 3, 4, or 600 level course; 2) separating graduate and undergraduate students would require that the department set up 2 courses, where there had been one, necessitating double staffing; 3) it would be difficult in some cases to find sufficient students to make both courses go--for example, in the graduate European history program, which depends on a large undergraduate enrollment,

and in making graduate courses available for undergraduate majors to fulfill the department's requirement of one graduate level course, when neither group alone would produce sufficient enrollment. He concluded by saying that this is a classic situation in history graduate schools, and he saw no reason to eliminate the present system.

Senator Beasley made the following motion, which was seconded, to return the item to committee:

That resolutions A and B be returned to the Coordinating Committee on Education for further study, and that the Committee be asked to give particular attention to the following matters concerning Resolution A:

1. The impact on enrollments and curricula likely to be caused by passage of the resolution. Department chairs should be consulted directly.
2. The problem of establishing standards and requirements in courses enrolling undergraduates and graduates under a single 600 number, as called for in the resolution.
3. The frequency of abuses (if any) under the present numbering system, and the likely effectiveness of the proposed uniform 600-numbering system in preventing such abuses.
4. The frequency of dual numbering systems at other institutions, to determine whether the small sampling of 14 institutions (as reported in Attachment 4, p. 2, No. 6; Senate Agenda September 14) accurately reflects current practice; and to determine whether the University of Delaware dual numbering policy is itself the source of problems encountered in dealings with external review panels and records offices at other institutions.
5. The possibility of alternative approaches, besides that offered by Resolution A, to the very real problems described in Attachment 4, p. 2, No. 6, Senate Agenda September 14.

President Hoffecker ruled that the motion to return to committee took precedence over the main motion, and that it was debatable. Prof. Klinzing spoke in opposition to the motion, noting that 4 committees had worked on the resolution and they had found that programmatic problems could easily be worked out with department chairs, and that the double listing had been an experiment that had failed. She added that in the past undergraduate students at Delaware had been required to take 600 level professional courses, and this was also true at the 13 colleges the committee had surveyed.

Senator Geiger objected that the impact on programs of the proposed change had not been discussed with his department and this was the first time that the issue had been discussed in the Senate, and no evidence or conclusions from discussions with departments had been offered.

Prof. Toensmeyer said that one justification for the double listing had been that 600 level graduate courses had been watered down for the undergraduate enrollment, and the double listing, with two standards, restored the integrity of the 600 level. Prof. Stetson, chair of the Graduate Studies Committee, responded that the major impetus for permitting double listing had been the adoption at that time of a dual fee schedule, and he did not think pedagogical considerations had been important. He also said he felt the number a course was given could and should represent the level of presentation of the material, and there was enough flexibility in the system

that departments could work out any problems.

Dean Murray, of the College of Education, said he thought going from the present system, where courses offered to teachers at the 600 level in Continuing Education were clearly graduate level courses, to the proposed system where 600 numbered courses were open to advanced undergraduates, would be more confusing and would make it more difficult to determine whether a student had taken a course for graduate or undergraduate credit. Mr. Graziano, Director of Institutional Research, said that such information was retrievable through the computer. He added that the National Association of Registrars recognizes that the purpose of a numbering system is for students to plan a course of study and to certify that some level of mastery has been consistently applied across our colleges. As an example of the problems in the present system he said a graduate student could now begin at the 800 level and later take a course with the same title at the 600 level, or have a prerequisite course with a higher number than the course for which it was required, creating a complex and confusing representation of the student's program on the transcript. He said having such a problem built into the numbering system made it difficult both to interpret the students' transcripts and to advise the students.

A call for the question was made and seconded; a hand vote was taken and Senator Beasley's motion to return the item to committee was defeated. President Hoffecker then moved to a hand vote on the main motion, parts a) and b) of Item A. The resolution, as below, was approved. President Hoffecker then moved to part c); there was no further discussion, and part c), also below, was approved by unanimous voice vote.

RESOLVED, that effective September 1, 1982:

- a. Courses will no longer be double listed at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. All courses currently double listed will carry only one number to be determined by the department.*
- b. The course number description for 600 level courses will be changed to read as follows:
600-699 Advanced undergraduate and graduate level courses. Credit may be applied either to an undergraduate degree or a graduate degree.*
- c. The course number description for 500 level courses will be changed to read as follows:
500-599 Graduate courses for the non-specialist. May not be counted for graduate credit in a student's major. With approval of a graduate student's major department, 500-level courses taken outside the student's major may be counted toward a graduate degree.*

Item B, a related resolution recommending a change in the fee structure, was introduced for the Coordinating Committee on Education by Prof. O'Neill. Responding to a request from President Trabant for his comments on the proposal, Treasurer Harrison said that the dollar value of the change would not be material, but the proposal would mean a change in "bias" from the present policy, which treats full-

time and part-time students the same, to one in which all matriculated students would be treated the same and non-matriculated students--most of whom are in Continuing Education--would be treated differently.

There was no further discussion and President Hoffecker called the question. The resolution, as follows, was approved by unanimous voice vote:

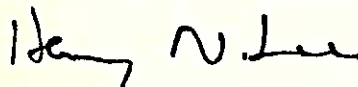
RESOLVED, that the University Faculty Senate recommends to the President of the University that the fee structure be changed so that matriculated part-time undergraduates uniformly pay at the undergraduate rate and matriculated part-time graduate students uniformly pay at the graduate rate, so that matriculated part-time students are treated on a par with matriculated full-time students.

Item C, a recommendation for a change in the title and charge to the Committee on Academic Freedom, was introduced by Prof. Kingsbury, past chair of the Committee on Committees. He noted that the change was being proposed at the request of the Committee on Academic Freedom and that the 2 changes suggested by the Senate when the item was first introduced, at the April meeting, had been incorporated in the resolution as it was presently before the Senate.

Senator Mosberg identified himself as having been a member of the Academic Freedom Committee at the time of the proposed change, and noted that it had not had unanimous support. He said he felt the addition of a charge as vague as "to study civil liberties" would dilute the work of a very important committee of the Senate and the faculty, and that it would create a conflict with the work of other Senate committees, such as Student Life, which considers due process in the Student Judicial System, and the Beverage Alcohol Committee, which considers various civil liberty issues under the Alcohol Policy. He said he was opposed to expanding the charge of the Committee on Academic Freedom, and he urged defeat of the resolution.

President Hoffecker, noting that there was a difference of opinion on the resolution and that it was 5:30, declared the meeting adjourned without action on the resolution, so that the discussion could be continued at the November Senate meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Henry N. Lee
Secretary
University Faculty Senate