

REGULAR MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE

September 12, 1983

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the University Faculty Senate was called to order on Monday, September 12, 1983 at 4:00 p.m. with President Smith presiding. Senators not in attendance were:

David Ermann
Selcuk Guceri
John Kraft

John Morgan
Richard Murray
Lucia Palmer

Susan Pfeiffer
Neal Phillips

Senators excused were: Robert Dalrymple, Alexander Doberenz, John Gallagher, Helen Gouldner, Irwin Greenfield, Louise Little, Arthur Metzner, Jerrold Schneider, Stuart Sharkey, Donald Sparks, Robert Wilson.

I. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Senate President Smith reported two changes in the Agenda: 1) p.2, VI.A., Prof. Tom Scott had withdrawn as a candidate for chair of the Committee on Committees; 2) p.1, III, President Trabant would be arriving about 4:30, and would address the Senate at that time. In the absence of objections, the Agenda was adopted with these changes.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The Minutes of the regular meeting of May 2 and the Special Session of May 9, 1983, were approved as written.

III. REMARKS BY PROVOST CAMPBELL

Provost Campbell announced that there would be an open hearing to hear the pros and cons of the proposals for academic computing on October 10 at 4:00, in 118 Purnell. Senator Angell asked whether any proposals would be available in advance, and Provost Campbell responded that no proposals had as yet been presented to the vendors.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. President Smith called attention to the Senate meeting schedule on the blackboard, and reviewed the attendance-keeping procedures. He also announced the appointment of Prof. Dan Slater, Communications, as Senate Parliamentarian.

2. President Smith introduced Prof. John Burmeister, faculty representative to and chair of the Athletic Governing Board, who had been invited to address the Senate on University policies for student participation in athletics.

Referring to the general perception that a school or college cannot have excellence in both academics and athletics, Prof. Burmeister said that he did not believe this to be the case at the University of Delaware. In support of this he reviewed the NCAA rules, present and proposed, and the resolution proposed by the UCLA faculty which had prompted his presentation, and compared them with the already more stringent University of Delaware requirements for student athletes.

He also reviewed the University's President's Achievement Scholarship program, noting that these merit scholarships are awarded for achievements in such extra-curricular activities as music, art, and dance, and in the minor sports, with the philosophy that students with such accomplishments enrich the University environment. He presented a summary of academic achievements of recent Delaware athletes, and concluded that, in the light of the known athletic records of University teams, "Athademics"--excellence in both athletics and academics--was a fact at Delaware.

Prof. Burmeister concluded his presentation with the following points:

1) the Athletic Governing Board, which includes student athletes who are selected on the basis of their GPA, and faculty, is not just advisory but also has real authority in important areas of policy-making; 2) Within the Athletic Department there is real follow-up on the grade reports of the athletes, and academic help and tutors are provided where needed; 3) The members of the University's Athletic Department do not fit the usual stereotypes of coaches--they are articulate, with broad-based interests, and they are fiscally conservative and run very economical programs.

Professor Werner commented that he was troubled by schedules where team travel conflicts with class participation. Prof. Burmeister acknowledged that this had created problems, particularly for students on the baseball team. He said a committee of the Board was looking into this, but he was not sure that in cases where class participation could not be "made up" by the student the committee would be able to improve the situation, and in those cases it might come down to an athlete's having to make the difficult decision as to whether or not to participate in the sport.

REMARKS BY PRESIDENT TRABANT

President Trabant reported that the new freshman class was of the same high quality of those of the last few years. He expressed his disappointment that the goal for entering minority, black, students had not been met; he said the goal was taken seriously, and they still hoped to meet it by the start of the Spring semester and he urged everyone to help in any way they could.

President Trabant also reviewed the activities planned for the 150th anniversary celebration on September 29 and 30, and encouraged the faculty to participate and, if they wished to do so, to march in the formal procession.

3. Report of the poll results from the Committee on Budget Review.

President Smith reported that the request made at the May meeting by the Committee on Budget Review for Senate input as to items on which the committee should concentrate had resulted in the following rankings (possible votes: 44):

1. Procedures for making explicit the costs of Senate resolutions (22)
2. Expenditure shifts (17)
3. Early retirement) (tied, 10 votes each)
Salary and benefit comparisons)

4. Announcement for challenge

In the absence of challenge, President Smith declared the revision of the Master's Degree in Business Administration, as presented in Attachment 1 of the Agenda, approved.

V. OLD BUSINESS - none.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Item A, election of a chair for the Committee on Committees, was conducted by ballot; Prof. Margaret Andersen was elected for a one-year term beginning October 1, 1983.

Item B, a request for confirmation of appointments to Senate committees, was presented by Prof. Scott, chair of the Committee on Committees. The following resolution was unanimously approved.

RESOLVED, that the appointments to Senate committees and the appointments of Senate committee chairpersons, as presented in Attachment 2 of the Agenda, are hereby confirmed.

Item C, a recommendation to change procedures for scheduling and administering final exams, was presented for the Committee on Educational Innovation and Planning by the past chair, Prof. Kallal. A motion by Senator Brown for separate discussions and votes on the 2 resolution statements was seconded and approved unanimously by a hand vote.

Discussion was opened on the first proposal--to direct the Records Office to publish the final examination schedule in the course registration book--with an inquiry from Dean Gaither as to whether the Senate could legitimately "direct" the Records Office. President Smith responded that the Executive Committee had reasoned that since the proposed policy was clearly within the purview of the charge to the faculty in the Trustee Bylaws it was appropriate for the Faculty Senate to direct the Records Office to implement it.

Senator Bonner noted that the University presently uses a complex, computerized exam scheduling system, and he did not feel confident that the proposed simplified schedule would protect students from having 3 or 4 exams on the same day; he said he would like more information on the potential impact of the proposal. Mr. J. DiMartile, Director of Records, responded that the University presently subscribes to an "outside" service which uses data supplied by his office to build as conflict-free a schedule as possible, based on actual student schedules each term. He cautioned the Senate to be careful that, in adopting a simpler schedule which could be published earlier, they did not thereby lose this conflict-free scheduling and the present flexibility in room scheduling which allows for alternate seating for exams. He suggested that one alternative might be to schedule single-section courses early and publish those in the registration booklet, but to continue to use the service to eliminate conflicts in scheduling common exams for multi-section courses and announce those later. Prof. Kallal noted that the committee had identified some advantages to faculty and students in early publication, particularly in being able to make long-range plans where there were programs involving student participation during finals week. Provost Campbell said he thought the proposal would throw out a system that is working for the majority in order to accommodate a handful of problems. Senator Culley responded that many other schools publish their exam schedules early in the semester and he thought we bent over backwards to develop a very awkward system, and that there are faculty who decide not to give an in-class exam after they find out when it is scheduled. Provost Campbell reminded the Senate of the faculty policy requiring an announcement by the professor on the first day of a class as to whether or not there will be a final exam.

Senator Schweizer, speaking in support of the present system, said everyone knew well in advance which week exams would be given, and that it was rare in his experience for a student to have 3 exams in one day, so he thought the system worked very well. In response to a suggestion that the schedule be generated earlier, Mr. DiMartile said that it was published as early as the 5th week of the semester and was normally published in the Review before Thanksgiving. Prof. Burmeister also spoke in favor of the present system, noting that its flexibility permitted him to schedule 4-hour finals.

Senator Levin objected that, although an alternative scheduling system was being proposed, the Senate did not have enough information about either system or about the difficulties of switching to make such sweeping changes. A motion was made and seconded to send the matter, with the information from the Senate's discussion, back to committee; there was no further discussion, and the motion was approved by a hand vote.

Senate President Smith opened the second part of the discussion by reading the remaining portion of the resolution: Whereas at present approximately one-third of grade rosters are turned in late, additional time may be warranted for evaluating course grades; be it further resolved that the grade roster now due in 48 hours will be due in 72 hours. Senator Brown spoke in support of the resolution, noting that in trying to accommodate a small number of students for whom the early grade reports were needed, everyone was forced into more rapid grading procedures; he said he would like more time--especially for essay exams for large classes. He added that, although the

present system allows for exemptions, he thought it silly that they have to occur for so many courses.

In response to a question from Dean Ames about the purpose of the 48-hour deadline, Mr. DiMartile said the Records Office tried to get the grades in the mail 48 hours after the last exam, so students could decide about enrollments for the next session, and that it was also important that there be a gradual flow of grade reports so his office could handle it. Provost Campbell reminded the Senate that the present policy had not been generated by the Records Office, but had been established by the faculty over 30 years ago.

Senator Levin asked if extending the deadline would create a problem for graduation lists. Associate Dean Rees responded that the colleges are required (by the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Records and Certification) to have a final graduation list 2 days after receiving the grades, and since the final check-outs had to be done largely by hand he didn't think they could be done in only 24 hours. Mr. Graziano, Director of Institutional Research, added that the majority of the faculty met the 48-hour deadline, and that 40% actually had 96 hours because of the intervening weekend. He said the Records Office cooperated in providing more time when it was needed, and he thought there were many ways to solve the problems if people were sensible and had good time targets. There was no further discussion; President Smith called for a hand vote, and the resolution was defeated.

Item D, a resolution for approval of an informal grievance procedure for sexual harassment, to be included in the Student Guide to Policies, was introduced by Prof. Marler for the Committee on Student Life. He explained that the procedure: 1) specifies how a student might handle an instance of sexual harassment; 2) states the nature of the informal procedures; and 3) gives the time at which an accused party must be informed by his or her supervisor. There was no discussion, and the resolution, as follows, was approved by a hand vote.

RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate approves, and recommends for inclusion in the section "Sexual Harassment" of the Student Guide to Policies, the following:

INFORMAL GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

- 1. Contact either the Office of Women's Affairs (219 McDowell Hall) or the Dean of Students (218 Hullahen Hall), where the student may discuss, with total confidentiality, the incident(s) of sexual harassment. The individuals in these offices will assist the student in clarifying the nature of the problem, will outline options that can be considered to resolve the situation, and will provide support and advice throughout the process.*
- 2. If the student decides to pursue resolution of the problem, he or she will be asked to write a statement detailing the sequence and nature of events.*
- 3. The head of the Office of Women's Affairs or the Dean of Students will*

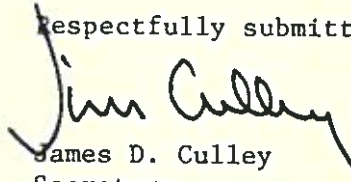
then confer with the department chair or the appropriate supervisor. If the individual whose alleged actions are the subject of the conference is identified to the chair/supervisor that individual will be informed of the charge by the chair/supervisor.

Seeking information from these offices in no way obligates the student to any further action. The student may terminate the process or move to the formal grievance procedure at any time.

Item E, the call for new business, was made by President Smith; no new business was introduced.

Following a motion from the floor for adjournment, President Smith declared the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



James D. Culley
Secretary
University Faculty Senate