

AGENDA

Faculty Senate Meeting

April 16, 1996
Ferguson Forum
3:30 p.m.

Call to Order

- Call of the roll of Senators
- Approval/Correction of March, 1996 Minutes
- Two typos -- approved.

Election of new officers

President

- Amy Ward - elected by acclamation
-

VP - Margaret Garner

- elected

Secretary - MB

Outgoing President's Report

Thanks to some who are not here: Matt Winston, Barney Cargile, Ginny Raymond

Thanks to some retiring members of the Senate: CHuck Hobby, Claudia Johnson,

Gene Dobson

Lobbist, all state employees, all K-12 will get raises.

If there is a letter writing campaign from many colleges, college folks may get a raise, too.

Andrew Sorenson - Indicated that he wd like to come Steering Comm meetings,

Interested in meeting w/ small groups of faculty, etc. perhaps during the summer.

Hopes that we will continue to watch HMO issue, mentoring program,

Graduate Council - policy for re-accreditation of Grad School faculty.

Some faculty are very concerned. Many faculty are concerned.

Many faculty didn't know about it. 6 years may not be the right length of time.

Norm noted that Becky Ladewig, our representative to 'slash & burn' is retiring. We need to elect a replacement.

Extended the privilege of the floor to Chuck Hobby, who recounted a short history of the Senate. We must grow out of the unopposed elections.

The steering committee's power has grown beyond what the Constitution.

... listen to tape for Chuck's comments.

[ask Chuck to write up a history of the Senate]

Reports from Senate Committees

Academic Affairs

Gene Dobson reported on AA's examination of the closing of Mineral Engineering. met w/ Charlie Haynes, helped.

Financial Affairs - NR

Planning & Operations - NR

Research & Service - Last meeting distributed the draft report on Faculty Workload, invited responses/suggestions. They are coming in, final report will be mailed to senators soon.

Student Affairs - NR

Senate Operations - NR

Legislative Agenda - Scott Bridges reported on meeting w/ Sen Steele & Sen Poole - Perhaps we shd consider a 'higher education PAC' as a way of influencing legislature. Legislature is not impressed w/ lottery. Noted Gov. James "We don't need more \$\$ for higher ed!" Bridges is planning to meet w/ Sen Melton. Encouraged those present to write to their legislators about raises.... end of session, last chance. There's no reason college faculty shouldn't share in the raises that are going to rest of state employees.

Reports from Senators on University Committees

Old Business

In response to Chuck's statement, Ray White asked if some committee of the senate could address. Norm addressed it at some length. Steve Tomlinson asked if perhaps we could change to a 3-year term. Wythe pointed out that this question should go to Senate Operations. Wythe noted that it is very difficult to change the Constitution. Ray White reminded senators of the WWW pages.

Rona Donahoe - been on the Senate for most of the last 10 years, noted that in the past, we used to do this.

Norm asked that we Elect for the vacancy left by Becky Ladewig.

Lynda Harrison serves as chair of the S&B committee.

Nick Stinnett nominated Barney Cargile. - C&BA

Rona Donahoe: Clark Midkiff -

Wythe spoke in favor of someone from Engineering.

Norm suggested that many colleges will be affected.

Clark Midkiff was elected representative.

If Clark decides to decline, the Senate decided to ask Barney to serve in his place.

New Business

Approval of the proposed FS Committee Rosters

Harvey Kline moved to R&S.

Approved.

Resolutions from the Academic Affairs Committee:

Resolution 1.

Whereas the Faculty Senate has received notification that the College of Engineering plans to dissolve the Department of Mineral Engineering, and

Whereas in consultation with the department head, it has become clear that the Principles & Procedures for the Merger or Discontinuance of Academic Units document was followed more closely than indicated in the Dean's report, in particular:

1. The report did not indicate how the proposal to dissolve was initiated (i.e. that in fact it was originated by the department faculty),
2. Faculty deliberations followed the steps outlined in the Principles & Procedures for the Merger or Discontinuance of Academic Units document,
3. Every member of the department had read & reviewed the Principles & Procedures for the Merger or Discontinuance of Academic Units document, and
4. All the members of the departmental faculty are pleased with the outcomes of reassignment and the process of deliberation, and

Whereas the Principles & Procedures for the Merger or Discontinuance of Academic Units assumes that departmental dissolution will normally be initiated by the dean's office, and

Whereas the Senate is deeply concerned that the Principles & Procedures for the Merger or Discontinuance of Academic Units should be followed very precisely by those making such decisions,

[Norm Whereas the Senate believes that it is critical to the Senate's review function that compliance w/ all aspects of the procedures be fully and completely documented,

Therefore Be it resolved that the Senate enjoins those who will be involved in similar decisions to document carefully their compliance with University policy.

Resolution 2.

Whereas one department is now in the process of being placed on inactive status, and

Whereas some anticipate many more mergers and discontinuances, and
Whereas it seems that there are some possible deficiencies with the current procedure, including

1. Probationary faculty seem to be extremely vulnerable, and
2. The document and the procedures could be made more efficient and user-friendly, and
3. The language of the Dean's document in the pending case seems to indicate that the decision has been made rather

than being a recommendation towards a decision, thus suggesting that it is too late to propose alternatives, and

4. The Senate desires consultation at certain milestones of the procedures, specifically earlier in the process,

Therefore, Be it resolved that the Senate and the Administration review the Principles & Procedures for the Merger or Discontinuance of Academic Units for possible improvements, and

Be it further resolved that the Senate will pay careful attention to further department mergers and closures.

Norm spoke against it: We probably won't get much changes...

Feels that we shouldn't try to change it now.

Ray White said that there was a clear distinction between tenured & probationary faculty.

Gene Dobson spoke in favor, saying that we are concerned about the process being documented, and the Senate wants earlier input.

Norm feels that

Wythe seconds Margaret's motion to recommit, with the suggestion that the President of the Senate write a letter expressing our concerns, particularly w/RT to the Dean's failure to follow the procedures.

Wythe introduced 2 resolutions, asked

Unanimous consent to consider a resolution which had not been distributed with the agenda and earlier minutes.

The first addressing Claudia Johnson & Chuck Hobby.. passed.

Second.-- Secretary will amend to include names of all senators & former Senators.

So moved.

As the President discussed adjourning to committees, it was the opinion of several senators that the permanent chairs and co-chairs should not be elected until the committee had a chance to work together and get to know one another. It was decided that if a particular committee did not wish to elect a chair or co-chair immediately, it could elect a convener who would call the necessary meetings of the committee. Bob Sigler pointed out that some committees needed to select someone to serve as a chair immediately because the chair was often required to meet with a standing university committee. As an example, Sigler pointed out that the chair of the Student Affairs Committee needed to meet with the Student Affairs Executive Committee on Wednesday morning.

Adjourned to Committees: 5:04 PM.

After the committees had met, the following elections were reported to the secretary:

Academic Affairs deferred the choice of a chair, but named Marcus Brown as convener.

Financial Affairs elected Marion Paris as convener, and nominated Lee Pike for chair.

Student Affairs elected Bob Sigler and Bob Brooks as co-chairs.

Planning and Operations named Don DeSmet as convener.

Research and Service named Nick Stinnett as convener.

Senate Operations named all three members as co-chairs until the end of the summer: Tom Wolfe, Tom Hebert, Wythe Holt.