

CORRECTED MINUTES
FACULTY SENATE MEETING

September 20, 1994

Ferguson Forum

3:30 p.m.

Members absent and not represented by an alternate: Harold Selesky, Rona Donohoe, Trevor Bain, Lenny Zumpano, Pamela Parker, Thomas Novak.

The minutes for April 1994 were approved.

The [minutes for August 1994](#) were approved, with the note that Michael Conerly, Pamela Parker, Barbara Rountree, Jerry Hoffman and Ruby Morrison were absent without an alternate.

President's Report

Joe Benson reported that a representative from Woolpert & Associates would be on campus Sept. 29 to discuss the campus master plan.

Reports from Senate Committees

Academic Affairs has discussed several issues, including a proposal for a Student Honor Court, reviewing the results of the new forgiveness policy, the proposed revisions to the Core Curriculum, and the proposed policy on merging or closing academic units. It is believed that the new sexual harassment policy should be ready for the handbook by the end of this semester.

Financial Affairs will consider parking fee increases, year-end funds, the results of the early-retirement buyout, and the \$4.5 million withheld from last year's budget increase.

Planning & Operations will be looking at the Faculty Handbook with respect to the possibility of benefits for 'domestic partners.' A question was raised about the proposed expansion of Ferguson Center. The expansion will include a parking deck and a new building for Student Services. Several senators were not aware of the details, and it was suggested that the Senate invite someone to clarify the situation. Some suggested that any major building proposal should be presented to the Faculty Senate. One concern expressed was that it takes about half a million dollars each year to maintain a large building, so each new building adds to the overall budget.

Concern was expressed about increasing communication between faculty and the Faculty Senate.

Research & Service will consider the availability of research facilities during holidays. There is also concern about resources for basic research needs and about faculty credit for service activities.

Student Affairs will discuss new work study student policies. The federal government requires us to put 5% of

work study students into 'community service.' This may include some jobs on campus such as library aides, child development center helpers, etc. Someone had reported that current numbers might be near 25% or more, but preliminary figures should be available soon, and are expected to be near last year's numbers. Other issues to be discussed include questions about the proposed Student Honor court, and the number of foreign students enrolled.

Senate Operations will address two questions which are not clear in Constitution & Bylaws: What constitutes a quorum for a regular meeting of the Faculty Senate, and whether a faculty member who holds a joint appointment in two colleges can run or serve as a senator in both.

Reports from Senators on University Committees

The Interim Program Planning committee is ready for course proposals. Only three of the University standing committees have met so far this semester.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Resolution from the Steering Committee (see the agenda):

The resolution was discussed. Some senators reported hearing rumors that other academic units were being targeted for reorganization. While the proposed policy has evidently stalled, no specific problems have been reported. If there are problems, many felt that the Committee on University Plans should be given a chance to respond, since they drafted the original version of the proposal. Chuck Hobby suggested an amendment to change 'further reorganization' to 'merger or discontinuance.' The amendment passed.

Chuck Hobby reported on a recent conversation with the Provost, who said that the Council of Deans wanted a simpler document. Taafé reportedly said he would now give this issue highest priority.

The amended resolution reads:

Whereas there is a draft policy on "Principles and Procedures for Merger or Discontinuance of Academic Units" dated May 1993 which has been approved by the Committee on University Plans, and reviewed by the Faculty Senate as well as the Council of Deans, but has not been adopted; and

Whereas it is essential that the University should have such a policy; and it is a matter of highest priority that such a policy be instituted immediately, after appropriate consultation with the FS and the Council of Deans,

Therefore, Be it resolved that no merger or discontinuance of academic units take place until a policy is in effect that defines the rights and responsibilities of affected faculty.

There was no further discussion. The resolution passed without dissent, 1 abstention.

There being no further business, the Senate adjourned at 4:14 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marcus Brown, Secretary