

FACULTY SENATE

Minutes of Meeting of April 23, 1993

Senators M. Bishop (alternate), L. Camnitzer, M. Casaccio, L. Collantes,
Present: J. Collett, A. Derby, M. Dolan, C. Etheridge, M. Feder-Marcus, W.
Goldstein (alternate), K. Hall, S. Hickey, R. Hoyte, J. Llana, S.
Mahmoud, P. McKeegan, R. Mukherji, M. Mulhare, L. Newbree, S.
von Winbush, L. Zhao (alternate)

Visitors L. Anker, O. Estes-Hicks, E. Ewen, A. Galatianos, G. Galatianos,
Present: P. Impollonia, G. Kountz, F. Mark, L. Mund, G. Wachman, R.
Welton, V. Wolfe,

I

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the April 2, 1993 Faculty Senate meeting were discussed. Some members of the English Language Studies (ELS) Program stated that they felt that the minutes contained a lot of inaccuracies, particularly with regard to the motion referring to the ELS proposal. Samuel von Winbush, the sponsor of the motion, responded that the motion was recorded accurately. The members of the ELS Program wanted to know the implications of the resolution that was contained in the minutes; they want to make sure that the ELS proposal is heard. Runi Mukherji stated that the resolution was, in fact, in violation of the Faculty Bylaws and hence must be eliminated.

Liz Ewen reported that the Bylaws state that the CAP Committee bring to the Faculty Senate proposals that it approves. However, if a committee does something that a number of people don't agree with, the issue should be brought to the faculty for discussion. It was clear that there is a need for an appeals process to be incorporated into the Bylaws in the event of deadlock. The Bylaws group will look into this issue.

The following addition was made to the minutes: "Patrick O'Sullivan and Maureen Dolan reported that the ELS proposal was first brought to individual programs in the 1989-90 academic year. At that time, support was indicated by Business and Management, Mathematics, Computer Science, as well as other programs."

The minutes, as amended, were passed unanimously.

II

FACULTY SENATE CHAIR'S REPORT

- A. Runi announced that James Chen will replace James Dawson on the SUNY Senate Visitation Team.
- B. Runi commented on the memo of April 16, 1993 circulated by Dr. Pettigrew regarding the schedule for the SUNY Senate Visitation

Team. Runi stated that at the last Faculty Senate meeting there was a discussion about the lunch meetings and faculty felt that these meetings should be open. Runi conveyed this to Dr. James Chen. He agreed, and in the interest of equity, the President was given the opportunity to invite faculty for an evening meeting since the Team had no formal arrangements for Friday evening. Dr. Chen told Runi that he had presented this to President Pettigrew and that she agreed.

- C. Dr. Hall sent materials to the Faculty Personnel Matters Committee regarding the CASE Professor Award. Runi suggested that we use the guidelines developed by the Senate Subcommittee on Distinguished Professorships and Awards, which will be presented later on in this meeting, for the CASE Professor Award. Bob Hoyte has agreed to served as a liaison from the subcommittee to the Faculty Personnel Matters Committee.
- D. Carolyn Etheridge will address the memo from Dr. Pettigrew regarding the Proposed Faculty Budget Committee later on in her report.
- E. Runi suggested that a subcommittee of the Senate be constituted to work out a compromise in the dispute over the Language and Literature proposal. She suggested that the subcommittee be comprised of the following senators: Jonathan Collett (representative for Comparative Humanities), Charshee McIntyre (representative for ELS), Rosalyn Baxandall (representative for American Studies), and Jesse Fernandez (representative for Modern Languages). The committee would be chaired by Gloria Young Sing (designee of CAP).

Samuel von Winbush offered a resolution supporting the formation of the subcommittee.

But, after it was reported that Rosalyn Baxandall and, probably, Charshee McIntyre would refuse to serve on such a committee, the following substitute resolution was offered with wording by Warren Goldstein and Selby Hickey:

Rationale

Whereas, there are major conflicts that need resolving,
Whereas, there is a desire to resolve these conflicts, and
Whereas, given the unusual circumstances obtaining in the case of a degree in Language and Literature,

Resolution

Therefore be it resolved that the Senate asks CAP to consider forwarding the ELS proposal for a degree in Language and Literature to the floor of the Senate for debate and a vote on May 14th.

An important distinction was made between this resolution and the one from last meeting that violated the Bylaws: this one gives CAP the initiative of bringing the proposal forward.

It is important to note that this resolution does not create a precedent as to how conflicts will be dealt with in the future.

The motion (FS-27) was passed by a vote of 15-1-2.

III

BUDGET COMMITTEE

The next item on the agenda was to have been the vote on the Bylaws for the Faculty Budget Committee, presented by Carolyn Etheridge as Chair of the Faculty Senate Subcommittee on Budget Issues and distributed at the April 2nd Senate Meeting. However, Carolyn indicated that as a result of the President's memorandum of April 22nd, (circulated to all Senators on the 22nd with the President's memorandum of April 2nd and Carolyn's response of April 19th) the vote could not take place. Carolyn stated that she was mystified by the President's response, since the Bylaws submitted were those already changed to meet the question of administrative appointments to the Committee, raised by the President in Spring 1990. Carolyn pointed out that those Bylaws could not have been voted on in Spring 1990, without the President's consent at the time; the President certainly is entitled to change her position, but unless there had been a change, these Bylaws should have been unproblematic. The issue was referred to the Executive Committee to be forwarded to the working Bylaws group of Senate.

In addition, Carolyn referred back to her memorandum to Vice President Hall of March 16th and his response of March 18th (both read at the April 2nd meeting), in which he indicated that as Chair of the Budget/Planning Committee it was not his responsibility to give budget information, and had indicated the request should be sent to the Vice President for Budget and Finance. This had been done on April 8th, again requesting information on the amount and kind of discretionary funds of potentially several million dollars that do not show up in the regular budget materials: IFR accounts and indirect costs from grants, asking how much money there is and how it has been spent. To date there has been no response.

Carolyn pointed out that ultimately any budget is simply a matter of how much money there is, how it is spent, and why: what priorities and plans there have been and are for meeting the needs of the College with the money available. To date, faculty continue to have no effective information, or participation in, this process.

These problems will be part of those presented to the SUNY Senate team on April 30th.

IV

ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE

Since Tom DelGiudice, the Chair of the Academic Policy Committee, had to leave the meeting due to an emergency it was decided to defer voting on these issues until the May 7th Faculty Meeting.

V

REPORT FROM UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATOR

Samuel von Winbush reported on the University Senate Meeting held in Oswego from April 15th to April 17th. A full detailed report is on file in Janet Harran's office. This is Samuel's last report to the Senate after serving as University Faculty Senator for six years.

- The first resolution passed at the meeting was regarding Jim Dawson, who was originally scheduled to be part of the Visitation Team coming to Old Westbury. Jim had to be replaced on the Visitation Team after being elected to the New York State Board of Regents.
- President Weber, who was the host President for the meeting, relishes involvement of faculty in governance and UUP. He feels that the College is best served when you have a strong governance, strong UUP, and a working relationship with the administration.
- The University Senate overrode Chen on the issue of the Executive Committee filtering of resolutions. Resolutions that are timely and in proper order must come before the Senate.
- Provost Burke discussed "Performance Indicators" (see report in Faculty Senate office)

(See Samuel's report for question on "Quality vs. Quantity")

- During lunch Samuel took Chancellor Johnstone aside and asked him to look at the possibility of giving more resources to Old Westbury. Samuel also mentioned that Old Westbury's Faculty Senate wanted to amend its evaluation of President Pettigrew. He told the Chancellor that the faculty never declined to take part in the evaluation, they never received notification. The University Faculty Senate will be working on changing the process of notification of presidential reviews.
- Later, during the Senate meetings, the Chancellor was asked why he made the comment in his part of the evaluation that the high number of minorities in the freshmen class at Old Westbury was problematic. The Chancellor was perturbed by the fact that the news media tried to view the statement as racist. The Chancellor stated that there is a large number of minorities in the freshman class; however, a huge portion of the upper division, especially transfers, are non-minority students. He thinks that the College should be making more of an effort to bring in the majority in the freshman class. There was no racial connotation to his statement.

- A resolution was passed at the meeting for a creation of a Distinguished Librarian rank.

Samuel concludes that documentation should be shared with the Chancellor and the Visitation Team proving that faculty were not notified of the President's evaluation and that the Faculty Council minutes show no such notice. This documentation should be sent to the Chancellor with another copy of the resolution asking that the President's evaluation be amended. The University Senate is concerned about the whole process of the evaluation of the Chief Administrative Officer, as well as other officers, and is putting together some recommended procedures.

Samuel stressed that when faculty elect the next University Senator they should vote for someone who is not afraid to stand on the floor of the University Senate and talk about the College from faculty's standpoint. The University Senate needs to continue to be educated about the nature of this institution.

The actual resolutions and other documents along with the remainder of Samuel's report are in the Faculty Senate office.

VI

AGENDA FOR MAY 7TH FACULTY MEETING

The agenda for the May 7th Faculty Meeting will include:

1. Approval of minutes
2. Faculty Senate Chair's Report
3. Nominations and Elections Committee - Final Slate

VII

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Senators were urged to solicit additional nominees from their program members for the various committee vacancies. Faculty are to obtain permission from the nominees before putting their name forth. It was noted that the Bylaws state that temporary faculty are not allowed to serve on the following committees: Faculty Personnel Matters, Faculty Senate, Nominations and Elections, and RPT. It was also pointed out that since people vote on the Faculty Senator and the Alternate Faculty Senator as two separate positions and the voting is done simultaneously, a person cannot run for both.

VIII

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The President was unable to attend today's meeting due to a conference call with the Chancellor and other University Presidents.

IX

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Bob Hoyte, Convener of the Faculty Senate Subcommittee on Distinguished Professorships and Awards, presented the procedures developed by the subcommittee. Other members of the subcommittee were: Rosalyn Baxandall, Rita Buttermilch, Jong Lee and Al Rabil.

Bob reported that the subcommittee had two meetings. The subcommittee's objective was to develop a set of procedures that would engender respect for the nominating process both on campus and at the state level. The primary change is the formation of a nine-member core committee of full professors, with significant numbers of Distinguished Professors, which is then expanded to include other faculty in the selection of Excellence in Teaching Award nominees. Student members would be approved by the faculty. Confidentiality and conflict of interest issues are also dealt with in some detail.

Some of the major points that were raised in discussion were:

- With regard to membership of the core committee, it was pointed out that there is not an even distribution of full professors amongst programs. It was suggested that instead of membership being determined by rank it should be determined by years of service at the College (i.e. Associate Professors who have been at the College 12 years or longer) as a way of increasing diversity.
- The section dealing with Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality should be expanded to prohibit students from serving on the committee if they are currently taking a course with a faculty member who is being nominated for the award.
- This committee should be elected by the Senate.

A version of these procedures reflecting some of the changes suggested at today's meeting will be circulated to the Faculty Senate. Two resolutions from the subcommittee will also be submitted for discussion and vote at the May 14 Senate meeting: 1) to adopt these procedures and 2) to amend the Bylaws accordingly. It was agreed by consensus that Runi would ask the Committee on Faculty Personnel Matters to follow these guidelines in selecting a nominee for the CASE Professorship.

- B. Luis Camnitzer informed the Faculty Senate that the rumor regarding a letter received by an adjunct stating that he/she will not be reappointed next semester due to the sit-in in the Library was unfounded.

X

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Notices have been sent out regarding the PDQWL Awards. This year in areas dealing with faculty (academic) the awards will be made locally. Term and continuing faculty guidelines require that there be equal representation by the administration and UUP. The members of the Term and Continuing Faculty Committee are Hermine Lewis and Janette Mabe (selected by the administration) and Jonathan Collett and Virgiliya Remeza (selected by the UUP Chapter). Selby Hickey and Konrad Wu are alternates for this committee.
- B. Faculty are urged to attend the Alumni awards dinner on May 20th.
- C. Runi received a memo from Dr. Hall asking the Senate to name a representative to the Assessment Committee which will be meeting next week. It was agreed that since Jonathan Collett was already serving on this committee he would also serve as the Senate representative.

The meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.