

FACULTY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of February 28, 1992

Present: L. Anker, J. Fernandez, K. Hall, J. Harris, S. Kirkpatrick, P. McKeegan, R. Mukherji, P. O'Sullivan, G. Seidman

I APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of January 24, 1992 were approved.

II CHAIR'S REPORT

Stephen Kirkpatrick reported that it appears as if the ByLaws amendments are going to pass. This includes both the change to a Faculty Senate and allowing the use of either program or department to designate an academic unit.

III CAMPUS CARING CAMPAIGN

Claire Meirowitz and Don Kelly attended the meeting to discuss a campus caring campaign. Copies of a memo sent to Dr. Hall from Claire was distributed. "Building a Caring Community at SUNY Old Westbury" will involve all constituencies in the hope of building pride in the College and a sense of community. Earth Day, Wednesday, April 22, has been selected to begin the campaign. On that day they hope to encourage students, faculty, staff and administrators to participate in a campus clean-up - picking up litter, collecting recyclables, washing off graffiti, etc. The Earth Day event will include burying a time capsule, to be opened in 25 years, and celebrating Old Westbury's first 25 years with memorabilia that can be enclosed in the time capsule.

Students have been asked to think of projects that might help with this effort. Faculty are being asked to come up with ideas, and to encourage and support this effort, and to possibly release classes for one period during Earth Day. They are looking for projects that will continue over the summer and in the future. The Student Government Association will be encouraging clubs and organizations to each take a section of the campus to adopt as their particular area. Stephen asked that faculty receive a list of what is available to do and where they should report. Faculty Council raised a few issues that need to be dealt with including noise pollution around campus. Dr. Hall suggested that orientation include what is expected of students in an academic setting and the whole question of social development of our students. A discussion of what faculty can do to build more of a sense of community will be put on a future faculty meeting agenda. Issues need to be addressed that will raise the faculty's consciousness in relating to students their social

responsibility and respect for the rights of others. Patrick O'Sullivan will bring this up at a Conveners' Council meeting.

Faculty Council will send a memo to Claire suggesting that on April 22 faculty talk with the students in their classes about a caring community.

IV DISCUSSION OF THE MISSION IN LIGHT OF BUDGET REDUCTIONS

The issue of reaffirming the College's mission during the current budget crisis was discussed. Council reaffirmed commitment to the four-year liberal arts nature of the College. Some of the problems that the Chancellor noted about Old Westbury, which were included in a letter giving directions to the College were:

1. Too few first-time-to-college students.
2. The ethnic make-up of first-time-to-college students should be changed to better reflect the actual ethnic background of Long Island.

Old Westbury should reinvigorate the Admissions Committee. We should try to obtain more first-time-to-college students while maintaining the mix that we want.

Dr. Hall said that one of the issues that has not been addressed is that there appears to be neither collective faculty responsibility (programs/departments) nor individual responsibility (conveners/chairs) to address the following concerns:

What are our priorities?
 Where should resources go?
 What are our responsibilities as departments/programs?
 What do we do in order to make priorities real?
 How do we preserve the integrity of a liberal arts institution?

V AGENDA FOR MARCH FACULTY MEETING

The agenda for the March 6th Faculty Meeting was set.

VI NEW BUSINESS

- A. The issue was raised as to whether CAP should be charged with the review of Continuing Education (a number of faculty have expressed concern to Stephen). It was agreed that since Continuing Education is just evolving, Conveners' Council will have a meeting to discuss this issue and will ask Lynn Walsh to give a report.

- B. The Advisory Committee on Computing is concerned about how the SCAP (Student Computing Access Program) money was handled. After thinking that they had \$76,000, they were told that they only had \$10,000. The \$10,000 that was then supposed to be available was spent without consultation with the Advisory Committee.

Dr. Hall responded that the first reduction from \$76,000 to \$10,000 was due to the cuts that came in November. The remaining \$10,000 was spent over the summer to meet urgent needs (three labs). These funds are designated from student payments - they are not to be used by the campus. Faculty Council asked for a response to this issue at their next meeting.

- C. There have been rumors going around the campus regarding a potential rehabilitation of the BOCES Dog Grooming Facilities and that this refurbishing would cost approximately \$80,000. Stephen will write a letter to President Pettigrew and will ask for her reassurance that there is no rehabilitation planned.