

## FACULTY COUNCIL

### Minutes of Meeting of May 17, 1991

Present: J. Fernandez, S. Kirkpatrick, P. O'Sullivan, G. Stefano, S. von Winbush, L. Whitten, G. Young Sing

1. Minutes of May 3, 1991 were approved.
2. President's request for faculty representation on an ad hoc committee on bias-related incidents.

The following points were made in discussion:

- a. Despite our efforts and accomplishments there still is too much "separateness" among the various ethnic groups on campus. We need to promote living and working together through course design and campus activities. This is not accomplished by legislation or administrative fiat.
- b. A President's ad hoc committee has no right, under the Policies of the Board of Trustees, to deal with course content.
- c. We do need procedures for dealing with student complaints about bias in faculty. This should be done by normal faculty governance, and it would be similar to grade and harassment complaints.
- d. The emphasis should be on eliminating bias in the daily classroom experience, rather than on negative judicial procedures or on transitory and "soft" add-on courses. In order to accomplish this faculty governance should promote the multicultural awareness of the faculty. This value should be stressed in new faculty orientation.
- e. We should review rights and responsibilities documents.
- f. We need more campus wide activities. Perhaps in the fall we could have a festival that brings everyone together, with food, costume, music, etc. of all our people. We should try to get UUP financial support.
- g. Council unanimously agreed that faculty should not serve on an ad hoc committee on bias-related incidents such as was proposed.

### 3. New Business

- a. Issue of three versus four credits in Middle States report
  - i. Where did this issue arise?
  - ii. It is not the same as two days versus three days of teaching.
  - iii. Focus should be on pedagogic issues.
  - iv. There may be fewer writing assignments in three credit courses.
  - v. Can't there be a mix of four and three credit courses and a mix of two and three day courses based on pedagogic grounds?
  - vi. What are the principles for course frequency, duration and credit - this is the issue.
- b. It was observed that commencement runs well in general but that the processional is a bottleneck. Perhaps it should flare.