

FACULTY SENATE

Minutes of Meeting of February 12, 1993

Present: L. Camnitzer, L. Collantes, T. DelGiudice, M. Derby, C. Etheridge, M. Feder-Marcus, A. Galatianos, K. Hall, N. Hegde, S. Hickey, R. Hoyte, D. Kelly, G. Leon, J. Llana, S. Mahmoud, M. McIntyre, M. Metlay, L. Newbree, G. Seidman, H. Teoh, S. von Winbush, D. Watson

I APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of December 4, 1992 were approved unanimously.

II REPORT FROM CHAIR

Runi attended the University Faculty Senate meeting in Syracuse two weeks ago. She was given a report of an analysis done at SUNY Buffalo about how retrenchment has been handled on the SUNY campuses. This report is available in the Faculty Office for anyone interested.

Runi read a letter from Professor Chen, Chair of the statewide Senate, about affirmative action awards.

III REPORT FROM CURRICULUM AND ACADEMIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Maureen Feder-Marcus presented three resolutions for new majors: Philosophy and Religion, World Cultures, and Biochemistry. She gave the history of Comparative Humanities' filing of Philosophy and Religion and World Cultures last spring when all concentrations had to be either registered or dropped completely. Biochemistry, on the other hand, is a new program.

Philosophy and Religion: Carolyn Etheridge pointed out that the projected number of majors is far more than could practically be expected and asked where the number had come from. Maureen said they were supplied by the administration. Gloria Young Sing expressed concern that Comparative Humanities might be held responsible if these numbers do, indeed, not materialize. It was agreed that approval of the resolution to initiate the major should include this concern about number of majors. The resolution (FS-14) approving the new major passed unanimously.

World Cultures: The issue here, Maureen said, is cooperation with Modern Languages when a student's focus is Hispanic culture. The requirement of such cooperation is spelled out in CAP's cover letter and made clear in Comparative Humanities' proposal. The resolution (FS-15) approving the new major passed unanimously.

Biochemistry: This pre-proposal has the support of both the Biology and Chemistry programs. No additional resources are needed. The resolution (FS-16) approving the new major passed unanimously.

IV

REPORT FROM ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE

Tom DelGiudice proposed a change in calculation of quality points to go with letter grades. This change would bring the quality points more in line with systems used by professional schools to compare applicants. Discussion centered around whether the new calculation would be applied, starting in 1994, to students who are already enrolled. A friendly amendment to the resolution sent out by the Academic Policy Committee reads: "This change will be implemented for new students entering in Fall, 1994." The resolution (FS-17) was approved unanimously.

V

BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT

Larry Newbree described the process for implementing Old Westbury's part of the SUNY 2000 report, agreed upon at the December meeting of the Budget Committee.

Gene Leon, faculty representative on the Committee from CAP, made three points after his attendance at the February meeting:

a. Next year's budget has a \$50 million increase for SUNY, with \$858,000 going to Old Westbury. But the bulk of this money is for mandated salary increases. Non-personnel services will experience a large reduction. The 6.5 lines marked for elimination last spring have not yet been eliminated and therefore add to the shortfall for 1992.

b. The first issue concerning SUNY 2000 is to set priorities. The Committee seems to be moving to improvement in retention and graduation rates as the highest priority.

c. Gene feels uncomfortable with his ability to represent faculty interests on this Committee. He needs more faculty input, a sense of faculty opinion before he takes a position on issues.

Selby Hickey noted that the Budget Committee will obviously play an important role now and wanted to know if various parts of the Committee's work could be farmed out to the appropriate governance committees. Could the curricular priority part of SUNY 2000, for example, be turned over to CAP? Gene responded that it is the intention of the Budget Committee to work within the normal governance structure of the College.

Marie Metlay (representative from Conveners on the Budget Committee) says the Budget Committee will route various pieces of the planning to the appropriate committees. Gene pointed out that the proper role of the Budget Committee is to bring together new planning initiatives with budget realities. That is its main purpose. Gloria Young Sing pointed out the need for faculty continuity on the Committee.

Ken Hall commented that campuses no longer initiate budget requests, but are instead given budget amounts from SUNY Central. There is some flexibility under "special initiatives," which this past year included freshmen, technology, and so on.

VI REPORT FROM REAPPOINTMENT, PROMOTION AND TENURE COMMITTEE

There were three reappointment cases before the Committee for December, 1992, decisions by the Administration. In one case the Program, RPT, and Administration were all in agreement for a two year reappointment. In another, the Program voted unanimously for non-reappointment. The RPT voted four to two in favor of reappointment, and the Administration did not reappoint. In the final case, the Program and RPT agreed on non-reappointment, but the Administration gave a seven month contract, then termination, then a subsequent reassignment.

Naomi raised the issue of whether the Committee's actions are being considered seriously by the administration. Carolyn Etheridge asked whether the Faculty Senate should investigate what happens when a faculty line becomes vacant in fall, 1993, by asking our representatives on the Budget Committee to find out. There was agreement to this request. Concern was expressed that a faculty line might convert to a non-faculty line. Dr. Hall said he was not aware of the line in question.

VII

FACULTY MEETING AGENDA

Runi described the background of the resolutions being proposed today for inclusion on the agenda of next week's Faculty meeting. Issues raised at the February 5th meeting of "concerned faculty" were drafted into resolutions by groups of faculty who tried to capture the sentiment of the meeting.

Question was raised as to whether the first resolution doesn't merely repeat the December resolution. Runi clarified the purpose of today's discussion: the Faculty Senate is simply to decide whether to set these resolutions on the Faculty agenda and is not to consider the substance of the motions or to make amendments to them.

It was agreed that any votes on the resolution would be by secret ballot and that no proxies would be accepted.

After discussion about forwarding only numbers 1 and 4 and tabling the others for later action, and not forwarding number 2 because of redundancy, the resolution (FS-18) was approved unanimously to forward all five resolutions for Faculty consideration.

VIII

NEW BUSINESS

Pat McKeegan proposed a resolution condemning intimidation, especially against the College President and the Chair of the Faculty Senate, and expressing support for the Senate Chair in these trying times. This resolution (FS-19) was approved unanimously (attached).