

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC SENATE

*Minutes of the Meeting
January 19, 1988*

ATTENDANCE

1.1. Members Present. A. Bandstra, J. Bandstra, Beetley, Bethel, Breault, Carey, Cook, Cooper, Dudek, Frank, Gillette, Hankes, Hanson, Helsing, Henry, Hynes, Lackey, Lovsted, Maas, Matrosik, Murray, Oldfield, Payton, Pomnichowski, Ravell, Russell, Slywka, Totten, Travis, Valas, Voorhees, Wilson.

1.2. Members Absent. Coon (excused), Moffett (excused), Shansky (excused), Stich, Strohkirch, Westendorp (excused).

1.3. Guests. Dean Isabel Barnes, Daniel Bandstra.

CALL TO ORDER

2.1. President Gillette called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in 325 V.F.S. Allied Health.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1. The minutes of the January 5 meeting were approved with the correction of the meeting date.

FACULTY FORUM

4.1. There were no concerns presented by the faculty.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

5.1. President Gillette reminded the Senate that individual faculty concerns are kept confidential by the Executive Committee, but that results are reported to the Senate if appropriate.

5.2. Gillette reported that the Executive Committee has discussed with President Wenrich the deterioration of faculty morale during the arbitration process.

5.3. Gillette announced that President Wenrich has reaffirmed the principle that the use of the Academic Computing Services is to be restricted to faculty.

5.4. Gillette announced that the most recent Town-Gown Council meeting heard a report on the university's policy concerning AIDS.

5.5. The Tuition Committee has been examining alternative ways of assessing tuition fees.

5.6. Bethel reported on the plans for Founder's Day, February 11, which include a speech by Washington Press Corps representative Helen Thomas and the presentation of Founder's Day awards to Dee LaBatt and Merrill Murray.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

College Curriculum Committee

- 6.1. Pomnichowski reported that curriculum procedures have been received from all the Schools as requested by the Senate.
- 6.2. The Undergraduate Council is currently examining the policy regarding the number of hours required for minor programs.
- 6.3. Pomnichowski announced that minor curriculum changes from the Schools of Education and Technology will be reported to the Senate in the near future.
- 6.4. A proposed minor in insurance from the School of Business will be forthcoming.

Election Committee

- 7.1. Wilson announced that information concerning the Senate Election in the Spring will be distributed within the week.
- 7.2. Chuck Matrosik was elected by the School of Technology to fill the seat vacated by the resignation of Cripe.

Admissions/Open Door Policy Study Committee

- 8.1. Murray reported that the committee was just beginning to meet and to examine information.

Senate Appointments Committee

- 9.1. OLDFIELD MOVED THAT THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE ACADEMIC HONORS CONVOCATION COMMITTEE BE RAISED FROM 8 TO 10 MEMBERS, AND THAT THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE ARTS AND LECTURES COMMITTEE BE RAISED FROM 10 TO 11 WITH THE ADDITION OF A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE MUSIC FACULTY. WILSON SUPPORTED. MOTION CARRIED.

Academic Calendar Committee

- 10.1. Oldfield distributed results of recent faculty surveys regarding the academic calendar. These results will be discussed at the next meeting of the Senate.

Semester Feasibility Committee

- 11.1. Beetley noted that responses from the faculty survey on semester feasibility are still filtering in. He also reported that academic administrators will be surveyed. Respondents' comments on the surveys are available in the Senate Office.
- 11.2. Discussion followed in which it was pointed out that the results of the survey may, in fact, indicate a general misunderstanding of the issue on the part of many faculty members.

11.3. Beetley stressed the fact that the Committee is simply collecting data and remains at this time completely neutral on the issue of semesters vs. quarters.

NEW BUSINESS

Senate Attendance Policy

12.1. WILSON MOVED THAT SENATOR WESTENDORP BE EXCUSED FOR RECENT ABSENCES FOR HEALTH REASONS, AND THAT THE SENATE REQUEST SENATOR STROHKIRCH TO REPORT AT THE SENATE'S NEXT MEETING ON THE REASONS FOR HIS RECENT ABSENCES. HANSON SUPPORTED.

12.2. TRAVIS MOVED TO AMEND THE MOTION TO EXCUSE BOTH SENATORS. BANDSTRA SUPPORTED.

12.3. Following discussion on the question of the Senate's consistency in handling the absences of senators, TRAVIS MOVED TO TABLE BOTH THE MOTION AND THE AMENDMENT. FRANK SUPPORTED. MOTION TO TABLE CARRIED.

Proposed Charter Amendments

13.1. At the request of President Gillette, Russell presented four proposed amendments to the Academic Senate Charter for discussion.

13.2. An amendment to Article IV, Section 11, would empower the Executive Board to appoint senators to fill vacancies until the next regular election.

13.3. An amendment to Article VII, Section 1, would eliminate the attendance requirement for senators.

13.4. An amendment to Article IV, Section 1, would establish a specific day for newly-elected senators to assume office.

13.5. An amendment to Article VIII, Section 1, would provide for a special meeting for the election of officers and establish a specific day for newly-elected officers to assume office.

13.6. Discussion followed on the advisability of eliminating the attendance requirement--some feeling it to be a reasonable stipulation and others feeling it to be an unnecessary requirement for such an organization. Further discussion suggested that the designated day for the assumption of all offices be the day following Spring graduation. Hynes suggested that the Senate might wish to consider a recall amendment.

13.7. POMNICHOWSKI MOVED TO PLACE THE AFOREMENTIONED AMENDMENTS ON THE AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION AT THE NEXT MEETING AND THAT ALL REFERENCES TO "COLLEGE" IN THE CHARTER BE CHANGED TO "UNIVERSITY." COOK SUPPORTED. MOTION CARRIED.

NEXT MEETING

14.1. The next meeting of the Academic Senate will be at 10:00 a.m. on February 2, 1988, in the President's Room, Rankin Center.

ADJOURNMENT

16.1. President Gillette declared the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



David L. Russell
Secretary

Approved:

