

**FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC SENATE**

*Minutes of the Meeting
January 23, 1990*

ATTENDANCE

1.1. *Members Present.* Anderson, Bandstra, Bethel, Breault, Burtch, Carey, Chaffin, Etienne, Ferdowski, Frank, Gillette, Groner, Hardman, Janzen, Lewis, Lovsted, Matrosic, McNabb, Mullet, Nerbonne, Oldfield, Pearson, Peterson, Pomnichowski, Russell, Uniacke, Valas, Vasicek.

1.2. *Members Absent.* Beetley, Cartwright (ASG), Cook (excused), Devlin (excused), Doneth, (excused), Henry, Johnson, Johnston, Ravell (excused), Sichelsteel, Thapa (excused).

1.3. *Guests.* K. Cripe, B. Jacobs, D. Mullens, G. Nash, D. Sargent.

CALL TO ORDER

2.1. President Oldfield called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the President's Room.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1. The minutes of the January 9 meeting were approved as presented.

OPEN FORUM

4.1. Pearson noted that it had come to his attention that the University has apparently granted baccalaureate degrees to students from the University College of Belize, an unaccredited institution, and that these students had never taken a course at Ferris. Oldfield informed the Senate that the Executive Committee was aware of the situation and has scheduled a meeting with several administrative officers in an effort to clarify the issue.

4.2. Janzen reported that there has been some confusion over the state of the Summer Quarter offerings and program, and that the Office of Academic Affairs has not been adhering to the Summer Quarter Study Committee recommendations which had been approved by the Senate. Vice President Nash responded that the recommendations of that Committee had been essentially to make no changes in the current practices regarding the Summer Quarter.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Oldfield

5.1. President Oldfield announced that the Ferris Faculty Association and the Office of Academic Affairs will arrange for a faculty vote on the Report of the Faculty Evaluation for Development Committee. It is the opinion of the Vice President for Academic Affairs that the document should be incorporated into the tenure review policy rather than to have two separate evaluation procedures in existence.

5.2. Carey reminded the Senate of the upcoming deadline, January 26, for nomination for the Teaching Excellence Award.

SPECIAL REPORT

Enrollment Management

6.1. Dean of Enrollment Services, Duncan Sargent, briefed the Senate on current enrollment practices. Sargent noted that Ferris's enrollment system is complex compared to that of most institutions since Ferris has no single enrollment policy, but multiple enrollment practices, with numerous programs establishing their own quotas. The goal as established by the Enrollment Management Task Force is to achieve a target enrollment of 10,800 students.

6.2. Responding to several queries from Senators, Sargent noted that students are generally admitted on a first-come, first-serve basis, although some programs have instituted additional requirements that students must achieve before admission to those programs. Sargent further pointed out that test scores are used only for advising and placement, not for admission; however, he expressed the belief that placement in developmental courses is often made on the basis of availability of space rather than on actual student need.

OLD BUSINESS

Admissions Policy

7.1. Pomnichowski moved that the Senate endorse the revised Admissions Policy as proposed by the Long-Range Strategic Planning Committee. Gillette supported.

7.2. Discussion followed in which several faculty concerns were raised. Pomnichowski questioned why no mention was made of transfer credits; Sargent explained that transferring credits was a procedural matter and not policy, and that the current procedure as described in the University catalogue would remain in place.

7.3. Pomnichowski also expressed his belief that student whose education is briefly interrupted should be re-admitted with the option of completing the requirements in place at the time of their original admission.

7.4. Much discussion revolved around the statement that some students may be denied admission "in the judgment of the admissions staff." Sargent explained that students do apply who, for a variety of reasons, have virtually no chance of succeeding at the University and that some effort is made to aim these students in more appropriate directions.

7.5. Pomnichowski moved to amend the motion as follows: the Academic Senate shall recommend to the Long-Range Strategic Planning Committee that the Admissions Policy be revised to permit readmitted students, returning to the University after an interruption of enrollment, the option of meeting the curricular requirements in force at the time of their original admission to the program, so long as those requirements can still be fulfilled. Gillette supported. Amendment carried.

7.6. Main motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Appointment of Senator Linta's Replacement

8.1. Valas moved that the Senate appoint, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, Joan Totten, to assume the Senate seat vacated by the resignation of Ed Linta. Peterson supported. Motion carried.

"Designing Your Future" Document

9.1. Janzen moved that the Senate endorse the "Designing Your Future" document. Bethel supported.

9.2. Discussion focused on the reservations expressed by the Undergraduate Council, particularly that the stricter high school requirements called for by the document might have a detrimental effect on Ferris's two-year programs.

9.3. Discussion also explored the possible ramifications if the Senate refused to endorse the document, since it might be viewed as a repudiation of any adherence to academic standards.

9.4. Pearson moved to table the motion until Vice President Nash has conveyed the faculty's reservations to the Presidents' Council. Burtch supported.

9.5. Pearson withdrew his motion.

9.6. Janzen withdrew his motion.

9.7. Matrosic moved that the Senate inform the Presidents' Council that it cannot endorse the document until the faculty's concerns as expressed by the Undergraduate Council, the University Curriculum Committee and the Academic Senate have been addressed and satisfactory revisions have been made. Pearson supported. Motion failed.

9.8. Breault moved that the Senate delay action on the document until Vice President Nash has had opportunity to convey the faculty's concerns, as expressed by the Undergraduate Council, the University Curriculum Committee and the Academic Senate, to the Presidents' Council and a revised document has been received from that body. Vasicek supported. Motion carried.

OPEN FORUM

10.1. Matrosic expressed concern that the Senate has failed to take positive, determined action on some important issues, such as that just taken concerning the "Designing Your Future" document, but has vacillated or equivocated, which he feels will gain the institution little respect from its sister institutions.

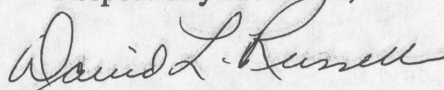
MEETING

11.1. The next regular meeting of the Academic Senate will be on Tuesday, February 6, 1990, at 10:00 a.m., in the President's Room, Rankin Center.

ADJOURNMENT

12.1. President Oldfield declared the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



David L. Russell
Secretary

Approved:

