

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC SENATE

*Minutes of the Meeting
April 4, 1989*

ATTENDANCE

1.1. *Members Present.* Anderson, Bandstra, Bethel, Breault, Carey, Chaffin, Cook, Devlin, Doneth, Ferdowski, Frank, Groner, Hanson, Hardman, Henry, Johnson, Johnston, Linta, Lovsted, Maas, Matrosic, Murray, Oldfield, Pearson, Peterson, Pomnichowski, Ravell, Russell, Spagnuolo, Stich, Valas.

1.2. *Members Absent.* Coon (excused), Gillette (excused), Janzen, McNabb (excused), Nerbonne (excused), Payton, Shansky, Sickelsteel (excused).

1.3. *Guests.* Tom Allen (ASG), Professor Ray Dickinson, Vice President Nash, Interim President Tiede.

CALL TO ORDER

2.1. President Oldfield called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. in the President's Room, Rankin Center.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1. The minutes of the March 7 meeting were approved as presented.

FACULTY FORUM

4.1. Peterson distributed a letter from the Office of Legal Affairs regarding a law suit filed against him as advisor to the Inter-Fraternity Council. The letter raises some serious questions about the willingness of the University to support its employees in such legal actions. Linta expressed concerns over the apparent establishing of policy by the Office of Legal Affairs. President Tiede responded that he felt the policy was, in fact, the Board's policy and that the Legal Affairs Office was only interpreting that policy. Tiede then recommended that University Counsel, Teddy Baird, be invited to address the Senate on this issue.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vice President Nash

5.1. Nash reported that he has sent the Deans a letter clarifying the current University position on the issue of Summer Quarter scheduling, which essentially states that summer offerings may be in the form of ten-week courses; multiple-paced (either double or triple) sequential courses; or multiple-paced (double or triple) courses that have been deliberately packaged to constitute a full ten-week offering. Nash suggested that the Senate re-examine the entire issue of the Ferris Summer Quarter (excluding those matters covered by the bargaining agreement).

Interim President Tiede

- 5.2. Interim President Tiede encouraged the Senate to go on record endorsing a proposal now before the Board of Control to indemnify all University employees.
- 5.3. Tiede reported that members of the Board of Control have visited the work sites of at least two of the three Presidential finalists. A decision is expected at the April 15 Board meeting.
- 5.4. Tiede informed the Senate of the recent meeting between Governor Blanchard and the state university presidents at which the presidents pointed out to the Governor that without more state financial support forthcoming tuition rates would be forced up above 10% in the coming year. No decision on Ferris tuition will be made until the legislature approves the appropriation, probably in June.
- 5.5. The administration will recommend to the Board of Control that the library be renamed in honor of Abigail S. Timme, with the revenues from her estate, the largest single bequest in the University's history, to be designated specifically for the library.

Senate President Oldfield

- 5.6. Oldfield reported that the Senate Resolution of March 7 was sent to the Board of Control.
- 5.7. A Study-Abroad Development Committee has been formed to establish guidelines for Study-Abroad Programs.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

University Curriculum Committee

- 6.1. Pomnichowski reported that the following curricular item was deemed a minor change and forwarded to the office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs:

School of Business: Management 390, Management Decision-Making Laboratory
(Change in course number to 405 and prerequisite change to Senior Standing).

- 6.2. Pomnichowski distributed suggestions from the Graduate Council for the establishment of a Graduate School. Senators are to submit their comments and suggestions to Beverly Warden, School of Allied Health.

Academic Program Review Council

- 7.1. Ray Dickinson of the Academic Program Review Council reported that ten programs have been identified for review and that the process is moving forward.

Senate Appointments Committee

- 8.1. Matrosic reported that letters soliciting volunteers for University-wide committees are being sent out.

Substance Abuse Task Force

- 9.1. Pearson announced that the final report from the Substance Abuse Task Force will be forthcoming before the end of the academic year.

Academic Disciplinary Review Committee

10.1. Hanson reported that a document from the Academic Disciplinary Review Committee is expected by the end of the academic year.

Faculty Evaluation for Development Committee

11.1. Oldfield reported that Ingrid Dudek, Chair of the Faculty Evaluation for Development Committee, informed him that the committee will present a report before the end of the academic year.

OLD BUSINESS

Off-Campus Credit Programs

12.1. Oldfield noted that the Board of Control's proposed pilot for an off-campus credit program has been put on hold and that it would be premature for the Senate to discuss the item before a definite proposal has been sent to the UCC. Valas pointed out that the review of off-campus programs is still an issue and that these programs should be reviewed through the current academic review process.

Institutional Focus Subcommittee's Summary Report

13.1. Oldfield noted that no comments from the faculty on the Institutional Focus Subcommittee's Summary Report were received. Valas pointed out that there are some serious concerns about the content of that report, and he urged faculty to submit their comments to either Adnan Dakkuri or Robert Ferguson.

Proposed Changes in Senate Officers' Elections

13.1. Carey moved that the Senate Elections Committee be empowered to prepare a slate of candidates for the Senate Executive Committee to be submitted at the time of the election of officers. Peterson supported.

13.2. Matrosic moved to amend the motion to require the Senate Elections Committee to publish its slate of candidates prior to the meeting at which the elections would take place.

13.3. Following a brief discussion focusing on the questionable appropriateness of the Senate Elections Committee preparing an officers' slate as well as the complicated logistics of the process, Carey moved to withdraw the motion and Peterson withdrew his support.

13.4. Carey moved that a list of all 1989-90 Academic Senate members be distributed to those members immediately after the April 19 election and that any Senator who wishes to nominate another individual for Senate office or be nominated him/herself be invited to submit the nominees' names to the Academic Senate Office for subsequent distribution to the members prior to the regular May meeting. Peterson supported. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Proposed Guidelines for Graduate Studies

14.1. Pomnichowski moved that the Senate extend first-reading acceptance to the proposed Guidelines for the Development of Masters Degree Programs. Linta supported. Motion carried.

Proposed Summer School Study Committee

15.1. Peterson moved that the Senate extend first-reading acceptance to a proposal to form an ad hoc committee charged with studying and making recommendations on the present summer school policies. Cook supported. Motion carried.

Senate Resolution on Board of Control Indemnification of Employees

16.1. Pomnichowski moved to extend first-reading acceptance to the following resolution:

Be it resolved that the Academic Senate request that the Board of Control provide full indemnification for all faculty and staff--full and part-time--against any legal action that might be brought against them as a result of the performance of their assigned duties and responsibilities.

Linta supported. Motion carried.

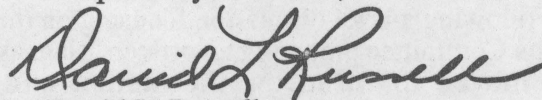
NEXT MEETING

14.1. The next meeting of the Academic Senate will be at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 25, 1989, in a place to be announced.

ADJOURNMENT

15.1. President Oldfield declared the meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



David L. Russell
Secretary

Approved:

