

Ferris State University
1994-1995 Academic Senate
Minutes of the Meeting
April 25, 1995

Attendance:

Members Present: Anderson, Breault, Conati, Dakkuri, Griffin, Hagstrom, Hastings-Bishop, Huff, Jablonski, Kebler, Kelson, Key, Keys, Lewis, Maas, Nagel, Oldfield, Palmer, Patten, Pomnichowski, Rumpf, Rupe, Shepler, Slywka, Smith, Stolarek, Systma, Thapa, Totten, Uniacke, von der Osten, Williams, Winchell, Winger.

Members Excused: Bradt, Wheeler.

Members Absent: Carey, Saladin, Valas.

Guests Present: Teshome Abebe, Bob Krueger, Fred Wyman.

Call to Order

1.1 President Uniacke called the meeting to order at 10:05 in the Mecosta Room at Rankin Center. The minutes from April 4 and April 18 were approved.

Open Forum

2.1 Bob Krueger, Chair of the Arts and Letters Committee, gave a report and a review of the programs for next year. He stated the committee was hoping to appoint a Cultural Events Manager.

2.2 Fred Wyman thanked the members of the Senate for their work this year. He stated that his program had 6 faculty and 5 staff, but had been reduced to 2 faculty and 2 staff, and that the 2 staff members were being eliminated. He asked that the new executive committee look at the CT situation.

Announcements

3.1 Teshome Abebe announced that a staff has been assembled to look at reallocations of CT's, with their target date to finish being June 30. He stated FSU needs to reduce staff by 12. He thanked the Academic Senate for a very productive year, and said he now understands that higher education is a complex system. He thanked Al Uniacke for his work as Senate president.

3.2 Abebe stated that there is much severe pressure for FSU to establish charter schools. The Office of Academic Affairs is looking at this situation cautiously and is exploring 3 possibilities:

- 1) Macomb County is submitting a proposal for a school chartered by a business, much like an apprenticeship system.
- 2) Ionia would like to charter a career school clearly related to what FSU does. FSU is looking into an articulation plan.
- 3) FSU is looking at a plan to use consultants to help form an academy for 11th and 12th graders across the state. This plan seems the least likely.

On May 5 Academic Affairs will ask the Board for a resolution to allow establishing of charter schools.

3.3 Uniacke thanked the 1994-1995 Senate for having attended 2 1/2 years worth of meetings this year. He thanked the Executive Committee and committee chairs for their work and dedication.

3.4 Uniacke stated that Jimmy Cornet is trying to establish an Image Organization which is designed to promote learning, understanding and demonstration of appropriate behavior. The first meeting is scheduled for April 26, at 7:15 in the Centennial Dining Room.

Committee Reports

4.1 UCC--Palmer stated the committee met last Friday. He thanked the committee members for having dealt with over 150 program proposals this year.

4.2 Elections--Slywka thanked all committee members and stated that the election went well.

4.3 von der Osten stated that the results of the Senate assessment are not all in. Preliminary results suggest that assessment should be done annually. This year's Senate succeeded in establishing a fiscal restructuring plan, establishing a Strategic Plan, and restructuring committees, but did not review the Senate Charter. Academic Review needs to be more proactive. There has been no action in outcomes assessment and the professional development plan did not get support. The Executive Committee worked with the Recruitment and Retention committees. A committee is being established to initiate a faculty journal.

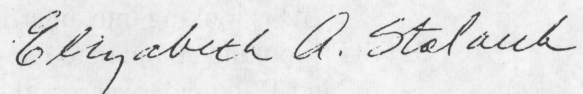
4.4 Results from the Senate-wide survey suggest that the faculty feels the Senate deals with matters of importance and responds to their needs. They feel the Senate made a positive contribution to the restructuring debate. They were concerned about communication, with fewer than 40% of faculty feeling their representatives represented them and only 45% feeling that the senators represent their views. Most did not feel the existing Curriculum Committee handled their proposals effectively and they felt that program review was not effective.

4.5 Assessment--Oldfield stated the committee is developing a working model of an assessment plan, and that an initial draft will be ready by fall. The NCA final report is being sent out this week.

New Business

5.1 Uniacke passed out certificates to senators whose terms have expired. He adjourned the meeting at 11:00.

Respectfully submitted,



Elizabeth A. Stolarek

Approved: