

Ferris State University
1994-95 Academic Senate
Minutes of the Meeting
October 4, 1994

Attendance

Members Present: Anderson, Bradt, Breault, Carey, Conati, Dakkuri, Griffin, Hagstrom, Hastings-Bishop, Jablonski, Kebler, Key, Keys, Maas, Nagel, Oldfield, Palmer, Pomnichowski, Rupe, Shepler, Slywka, Smith, Stolarek, Systma, Thapa, Uniacke, Valas, von der Osten, Wheeler, Winchell.

Members Excused: Huff, Lewis, Patten, Totten

Members Absent: Kelson, Noren, Rumpf, Saladin, Wininger.

Guests Present: T. Abebe, I. Barnes, A. Lewis, D. Mullens, D. Burcham, L. Marfise, F. Swartz, B. Sederburg.

Call to Order

(1) President Uniacke called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. in the Presidents' Room at Rankin Center. Minutes of the previous meeting were distributed and accepted.

Open Forum

(2) Rupe introduced Larry J. Marfise, the new athletic director. Marfise stated that academic education was the most important goal of the athletics program, and added that FSU's athletes have higher return rates and GPA scores than the average.

(3) Dakkuri stated that the last Tuesday of the month is not being kept free for senate committee meetings.

Announcements

(4) T. Abebe announced the university will in the future have a 12-week summer session with variable start and stop times. He also announced that the third presidential budget session will involve issues on enrollment, and that he is concerned with settling academic integrity issues, such as the problem of colleges operating individually in such matters as incompletes and withdrawals.

(5) President Uniacke announced the Executive Committee was nominating Jim Carey (Education), Jim Maas (Business), and Khagendra Thapa (Technology) for the vacant senate positions. Dakkuri moved to support the nominees. Valas seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

(6) President Uniacke also announced

- *John Gardner will be coming to speak at Ferris on Thursday, Oct. 6
- *Faculty governance experts will speak at Ferris Oct. 14
- *Sytsma and Uniacke will co-chair a committee to study budget issues
- *J. Slywka will chair the Senate Election Committee

(7) President Uniacke then presented Keitha Breault with a plaque recognizing her service and achievements as senate president.

Committee Reports

University Curriculum

(8) H. Palmer discussed changing the format of some plastics classes.

Appointments

(9) G. Key announced that most committees are currently full. He would like to bring committee heads to meetings and to get committee minutes into the Forum.

Special Reports

(10) Fred Swartz passed out a packet and conducted a presentation on the decline in freshman admits and ACT prospects. Figures suggest FSU could face a possible 20% loss in enrollment for next year. He discussed changes in statewide markets by interest areas, and ways in which FSU is responding to this information.

(11) T. Oldfield stated the NCA site visit will occur Jan. 30, 31 and Feb. 1. The team is not entirely in place yet. The committee is currently working on an Executive Summary for the Self Study Report.

(12) Bob Bopp discussed scholarship information. There has been a dramatic increase in the amount of money in assistance, particularly in loans. Pell grant awards have decreased in amount while tuition has increased. FSU has been approved to participate in direct lending next year.

New Business

(13) President Uniacke discussed distribution of the revised Senate Restructuring Plan, and said all interested parties need to respond by Oct. 14. He suggested the upcoming Conference Committee be composed of three senators and three administrators, as stated in the Senate Charter, but that the Executive Committee also appoint ex officio members who have special knowledge and interests as advisors. Uniacke mentioned that President Sederburg would like to be part of the Committee. Pomnichowski mentioned that nothing in the Charter precludes his doing so. The Senate Restructuring Plan will be given to the Board of Control for their October meeting. The results of the Conference Committee will be presented to the Board at their November meeting.

(14) The next meeting will be on Nov. 1, although a special meeting may be called before that time to discuss the Conference Committee decisions. Kebler moved to adjourn. Nagel seconded. The motion carried.

(15) The meeting was adjourned at 10:50.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth A. Stolarek

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Approved:
