

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY  
ACADEMIC SENATE

*Minutes of the Meeting  
November 7, 1989*

*ATTENDANCE*

1.1. *Members Present.* Anderson, Bailey (ASG), Bandstra, Beetley, Bethel, Breault, Burtch, Carey, Cook, Devlin, Doneth, Etienne, Ferdowski, Frank, Gillette, Groner, Hardman, Henry, Janzen, Johnson, Linta, Lovsted, Matrosic, Mullet, Nerbonne, Oldfield, Pearson, Peterson, Pomnichowski, Ravell, Russell, Sickelsteel, Thapa, Uniacke, Valas, Vasicek.

1.2. *Members Absent.* Chaffin (excused), Johnston (excused), Lewis (excused).

1.3. *Guests.* D. Allen, R. Cartwright, T. Cook, D. Cox, D. Dempsey, R. Duffett, F. Eichenlaub, M. Fischer, R. Harrington, B. Jacobs, C. Kerr, S. Kushion, L. Lunsted, L. Marcetti, C. Morris, G. Parker, President Popovich, E. Reisdorf, P. Schnepf, S. Seroczynski, M. Smith, R. Tiede, J. Winter, A. Young.

*CALL TO ORDER*

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

*APPROVAL OF MINUTES*

3.1. The minutes of the October 17 meeting were approved as presented.

*OPEN FORUM*

4.1. ASG President Deb Bailey read a resolution from the ASG in opposition to the proposal from the Student Academic Affairs Council to shorten the period of withdrawal from classes with a grade of "W" from the end of the seventh week to the end of the fifth week.

4.2. Professor Emeritus Lunsted spoke in opposition to the same proposal.

4.3. Senator Janzen read a statement intended asking the Senate to endorse the principle of evaluating tenured faculty and making available satisfactory means by which faculty may improve professional shortcomings as identified in such an evaluation, and to convey this view to the Committee on Faculty Evaluation for Development.

*ANNOUNCEMENTS*

*University President Popovich*

5.1. President Popovich reminded the Senate of the various cultural and educational activities occurring throughout this inauguration week.

*Senate President Oldfield*

6.1. Oldfield reported that the final focus document from the Long-Range Strategic Planning Committee is expected in December.

6.2. Oldfield noted that the Executive Committee is preparing a specific charge, as recommended by the Senate, for the Semester Feasibility Task Force.

*SPECIAL REPORT: CONFERENCE CENTER*

7.1. Vice President Tiede made a brief presentation on the status of the Conference Center and then introduced Jim Winter who addressed the Senate on the proposed Conference Center policies and procedures.

7.2. Senators raised a number of issues relating to the charges to be assessed Ferris affiliated groups using the Conference Center and to the newly-proposed charges from the Gerholz Institute for conference planning and coordination. Concerns were expressed that in both cases, the charges might be more than Ferris groups, especially academic departments and programs, could reasonably afford. Winter noted that there would be a degree of flexibility in those charges, but that overhead costs must be met.

*COMMITTEE REPORTS*

*University Curriculum Committee*

8.1. Pomnichowski reported that there were three matters currently being considered by the Undergraduate Council: The "Designing Your Future" Document, a proposed B.S. in Actuarial Science, and a proposed B.S. in Child Care Guidance.

*Association of Michigan Collegiate Faculties*

9.1. Bethel reported on the recent activities of the Association of Michigan Collegiate Faculties, including an informational meeting in Lansing in October concerning the deficiencies in the current state of funding for higher education and the long-range social consequences of those deficiencies.

*OLD BUSINESS*

*Report of the Academic Disciplinary Review Committee*

**10.1. Gillette moved that the Senate accept the report of the Academic Disciplinary Review Committee. Burch supported.**

10.2. Senator Peterson, a member of the Committee, delivered a dissenting report, arguing for the separation of the issue of academic integrity from the issue of disruptive classroom behavior.

10.3. Discussion focused on the matter of whether or not a single University-wide policy on academic integrity and classroom behavior is desirable.

**10.4. Breault moved to call for the question. Devlin supported. Motion carried.**

**10.5. Main motion failed.**

10.6. With the concurrence of the Senate, President Oldfield agreed to charge the Student Academic Affairs Council with developing a University-wide policy on academic integrity, classroom discipline, and to devise a satisfactory means of communicating that policy to students, faculty, and staff.

*NEW BUSINESS*

*"W" Grade Policy Recommendation*

11.1. Doneth moved to extend first-reading acceptance to the proposal from the Student Academic Affairs Council recommending moving the date for a student's withdrawal from a class with a "W" grade from the end of the seventh week to the end of the fifth week, with exceptions made for extenuating circumstances. Bethel supported.

11.2. Following discussion over the advantages and disadvantages of such a move, during which it was pointed out that students had had no input into this decision, Breault moved to postpone further action until the Student Academic Affairs Council has had time to review the proposal along with the ASG Resolution and make a recommendation. Peterson supported.

11.3. Groner moved to call for the question. Breault supported. Motion carried.

11.4. Motion to postpone carried.

*Distinguished Teacher Selection Criteria Changes*

12.1 Thapa moved that the Senate change the criteria for nomination and selection of the Distinguished Teachers to include the following explicit items: A. Teaching excellence, B. Interest in students outside classroom/laboratory, C. Participation in professional development activities, D. Gifts, grants, and other support received, E. Membership in professional organizations, F. Program area responsibilities, G. Institutional service. Burch supported.

12.2. It was pointed out that the Distinguished Teacher Selection Committee did not endorse these criteria. It was further noted that the original criteria were written with a certain latitude in mind that they might be more flexible and adaptable.

12.3. Motion failed.

*OPEN FORUM*

13.1. Russell expressed a general concern over the appearance that many University operations--the Conference Center, GILL, the telephone service, Rankin Center catering, to name a few--are being, in part, subsidized by budgets in Academic Affairs. Because of current policies, funds are effectively coming out of already underfunded departmental and program budgets in Academic Affairs and being funneled into Business Affairs by way of what appear to be excessive and unreasonable charges for these services. Peterson and Linta pointed out that often student fees subsidize these services as well, even when those services do not directly impact on the students.

*Academic Senate --November 7, 1989*

**MEETINGS**

15.1. The next regular meeting of the Academic Senate will be on Tuesday, December 5, 1989, at 10:00 a.m., in the President's Room, Rankin Center.

**ADJOURNMENT**

16.1. President Oldfield declared the meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Respectfully submitted,



David L. Russell  
Secretary

Approved:

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