

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC SENATE

*Minutes of the Meeting
December 6, 1988*

ATTENDANCE

1.1. *Members Present.* Anderson, Bandstra, Bethel, Breault, Carey, Cook, Coon, Devlin, Doneth, Frank, Gillette, Groner, Hanson, Hardman, Henry, Janzen, Johnson, Johnston, Linta, Lovsted, Maas, Matrosic, McNabb, Murray, Nerbonne, Oldfield, Payton, Pearson, Peterson, Pomnichowski, Ravell, Russell, Shansky, Sichelsteel, Stich, Valas.

1.2. *Members Absent.* Chaffin (excused), Ferdowski (excused), Spagnuolo.

1.3. *Guests.* K. Denyes, B. Golder, M. Heidemann, K. Manley, K. Miller, M. Ryan, L. Tidwell.

CALL TO ORDER

2.1. President Oldfield called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. in the President's Room, Rankin Center.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1. The minutes of the November 1 meeting were approved as presented.

FACULTY FORUM

4.1. Keith Miller, President of the Adjunct Faculty Association spoke in support of the motion proposing a Senate Charter revision permitting the adjunct faculty representatives to vote in the Senate. Senator Bethel also endorsed the proposal.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Senate President Oldfield

5.1. The Committee for Faculty Evaluation for Development will hold an open meeting tonight, December 6, in VFS 325 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss its report.

5.2. The Student Academic Affairs Council has not yet met, but Chair Matt Klein has indicated that it will meet before the Christmas break.

5.3. Oldfield, as representative to the Conference Center Advisory Committee, invited comments and suggestions from any interested parties.

5.4. Jeff Cross of GILL is writing a document intended to clarify GILL's role and mission for the faculty.

5.5. The costing manual used in the academic program review process has been called into question by several faculty members and departments. The particular concern is that the figures generated may not accurately or fairly represent program costs. The matter has not yet been resolved and the Executive Committee is continuing to discuss the issue with President Tiede.

5.6. The Executive Committee has discussed with President Tiede and Vice President Nash the problems resulting from insufficient offerings of lower division courses for the number of students trying to enroll in them. The problem was particularly acute during the recent registration period and no immediate solution is apparent. However, Nash has announced his commitment to reducing enrollment for the 1989-90 academic year.

Senate Secretary Russell

6.1. Russell and his wife, Patti Russell (Student Development Services), represented the faculty at the MAGB Trustees' Workshop in Lansing on October 30-31. State Senator Sederburg was among the speakers, and numerous topics in higher education--from computer technology in the classroom to state funding to the status of women on faculties--were discussed. The workshop's purpose was to heighten the awareness of collegiate governing boards, enabling them to better serve their respective institutions.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

University Curriculum Committee

7.1. Pomnichowski reported that the following were deemed minor curriculum changes and forwarded to the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs:

- a. BIO 475, Biotechnology I (changed from 2-12 [6 credits] to 3-12 [7 credits])
- b. BIO 476, Biotechnology II (changed from 2-12 [6 credits] to 3-12 [7 credits])
- c. BIO 477, Biotechnology III (changed from 2-12 [6 credits] to 3-12 [7 credits])
- d. BIO 376, Experimental Genetics (changed from 1-5 [3 credits] to 3-5 [5 credits])

7.2. Pomnichowski announced that the following items were returned to the proposers for clarification and/or additional information:

- a. HST 277, American Business History, 3 credits, new course
- b. HST 280, History of Medicine and Health Care, 3 credits, new course
- c. HST 375, Latin American History, 3 credits, new course

Senate Appointments Committee

8.1. Chair Matrosic reported that all committees are meeting and appear to be functioning well. Matrosic will provide periodic reports to the Senate about the specific workings of the individual committees.

Academic Disciplinary Review Committee

9.1. Hanson reported that progress is being made and the committee is planning to meet with legal counsel to discuss pertinent concerns. Hanson noted that, as of now, there are no established procedures for the handling of classroom disciplinary problems. A final report is expected sometime during the Spring Quarter.

Competency Assessment Committee

10.1. Oldfield is the Senate representative to this committee and he invited suggestions and comments from the faculty regarding the concept of proficiency exams for courses, as well as on any other matter related to competency assessment.

OLD BUSINESS

Long-range Senate Goals

11.1. Vice President Manley reported that the Office of Academic Affairs is providing, through the Timme Center, stipends to interested faculty wishing to study some of the topics identified at the Senate's October meeting (i.e., class size, "normal" teaching loads, overloads, and numbers of class preparations per faculty member). The information gathered will then be available to the Senate for consideration in establishing its long-range goals. In view of this development, **Russell withdrew his original motion and Carey withdrew his support.**

Proposed Charter Revision

12.1. Frank moved to approve the proposed Senate Charter revision to Article III, Section 1D, and to submit it to the faculty electorate for approval. Ravell supported.

If revised, the Section will read:

Part-time Instructional Faculty--shall consist of all non-Board appointed instructional personnel, excluding those individuals whose primary responsibility is administrative or supervisory. The members of this unit shall organize and elect, utilizing procedures adopted by their organization, two Senators to represent them on the Senate.

12.2. Among the issues, both pro and con, raised in the ensuing discussion were

- a. the extent to which granting Senate voting privileges to part-time faculty might imply Senate sanction of the administration's policy of relying heavily on part-time faculty in lieu of creating needed full-time positions,
- b. the problems created by the transiency of the constituency and the failure of the Charter to establish electoral regulations for the adjunct faculty consistent with those of the full-time faculty,
- c. the possible discrepancy in allowing part-time faculty to vote in Senate meetings but not in School or Department meetings,
- d. the difficulty of maintaining morale in adjunct faculty Senate representatives denied the privilege of voting, and
- e. the obligation (felt by many Senators) to present the issue to the entire faculty to let them decide.

12.3. By a show of hands, motion carried, 17 for, 12 against.

12.4. The proposed revision to the Senate Charter will be referred to the faculty for approval at the regular Spring elections of the Senate.

NEW BUSINESS

Proposed Bachelor of Science in Public Relations

13.1. Linta moved to extend first-reading acceptance to the proposed Bachelor of Science in Public Relations as recommended by the University Curriculum Committee. Bethel supported. Motion carried.

Proposed Visual Communication A.A.S./B.S. Degree Entrance Requirements

14.1. Hanson moved to extend first-reading acceptance to the proposed entrance requirements for the A.A.S./B.S. program in Visual Communications. Bethel supported. Motion carried.

FACULTY FORUM

15.1. Henry raised a query about a proposal from the Mathematics Department establishing a C-minimum grade requirement for prerequisite mathematics courses. It was pointed out that, although the University bulletin includes a statement of this policy, the Mathematics Department has not yet implemented it and the matter must be approved by the UCC and come before the Senate.

15.2. Maas suggested that on-line terminals in all department heads' offices might help to more effectively control course enrollments, allowing departments to keep current with drops and adds during registration.

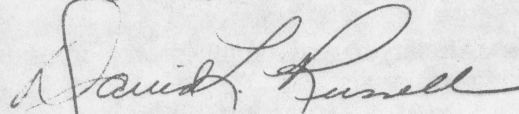
NEXT MEETING

16.1. By voice vote of the Senate, it was decided that the next meeting of the Academic Senate will be at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 10, 1989, in a place as yet to be announced.

ADJOURNMENT

17.1. President Oldfield declared the meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



David L. Russell
Secretary

Approved:

