

Ferris State University
Academic Senate
Minutes of the Meeting
January 7, 1992

ATTENDANCE

1.1 Members Present. R. Anderson, T. Anderson, Bacon, A. Bandstra, J. Bandstra, Beetley, Breault, Burtch, Caskey, A. Cook, Etienne, Haneline, Heidemann, Holihan, Horn, Key, Matrosic, Muccio, Oldfield, Ovans, Pearson, Peterson, Pommichowski, Ravell, Rumpf, D. Russell, Spaulding, Thapa, Totten, Uniacke, Valas, von der Osten.

1.2 Members Absent. M.J. Cook (excused), Ferdowski (excused), Henry (excused), King (excused), Lewis (excused), Powell (excused), P. Russell (excused), Travis (excused).

1.3 Guests. C. Boogaard, K. Cripe, V. Fowler, D. Frank, R. Gifford, L. Lusted, M. McCorriston, R. Palmer, M. Ryan, J. Thorp, P. Watson.

CALL TO ORDER

2.1 President Russell 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 December 3, 1991, meeting were approved.

OPEN FORUM

4.1 John Thorp, Social Sciences Department Head, noted that an open hearing on the Business Administration program was held on December 20, 1991. This program, according to Thorp, did not conform to guidelines for either general education requirements or semester conversion. Rather than continuing the current internecine warfare, Thorp urged the Senate to bring to open hearing only those programs which conform to guidelines for general education requirements and semester conversion.

4.2 Keith Cripe, Technology faculty member, requested that the Senate examine how programs have been chosen for program review this year. Cripe questioned the legitimacy of having programs chosen by administration without faculty input.

4.3 Gary Ovans, Technology faculty member, questioned whether the priority of the university is academics or athletics. He observed that the hockey team had been sent to Alaska to play in a holiday tournament and the wrestling team spent two days in Las Vegas. In a time when the academic budget is being reduced and teaching supplies are limited, Ovans suggested that our priorities should be congruent with our role and mission. He recommended that Senators read the NCHEMS report of December 1991 for further enlightenment on this topic.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Popovich/Vice President Nash

5.1 There were no announcements from President Popovich or Vice President Nash.

President Russell

6.1 President Russell reminded Senators that President Popovich will hold an open forum for faculty and professional staff from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 8, 1992. Russell urged Senators to be there to express concerns loudly and clearly.

6.2 Russell noted that the Senate has approved a program review process for this year, in which the administration targets programs for closure.

6.3 Russell announced that Vice President Nash, in consultation with Dean Barnes, will set a deadline for her to address concerns about the proposed B.S. degree in Dental Hygiene, which has been approved by the Senate and is waiting action by the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Also, the College of Technology must address concerns about the proposed B.S. in Heavy Equipment Technology by February 15, 1992.

6.4 Russell recommended that the UCC establish timelines for vice-presidential action on curricular proposals.

6.5 Russell reported that the Ombudsman Study Committee will bring a report to the February Senate meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

University Curriculum Committee

7.1 Chairwoman Etienne reported that the first hearing for a program in semester conversion was held on December 20, 1991. This program, the Business Administration Program, College of Business, is challenging General Education requirements, and other programs are waiting to see the outcome of this challenge before presenting themselves for open hearing.

7.2 Etienne announced that approximately 85 courses, including 45 physical education courses, have not been approved by the UCC for semester conversion. These will be finished within three weeks. Major roadblocks are changes in course numbering and number of credits.

Senate Appointments Committee

8.1 Chairwoman Breault reported that all but one of the twelve functioning committees have met and are operating well. The Summer Quarter Study Committee has not met.

NEW BUSINESS

Library/Instructional Services Committee Report

9.1 Chairman Phillip Watson presented a report of the committee's deliberations. Topics considered included proposed cuts in hours and staffing, budget cuts, charges for interlibrary loans, fees for non-FSU users, voucher card system, and the Official Patent Depository.

President Russell

9.2 President Russell requested a written report from the committee with recommendations on its decisions by the February Senate meeting.

OPEN FORUM

10.1 Mike Ryan observed that an expedited program review committee on which he serves has received no input from the administration about why the program is being reviewed. Therefore the committee is working in isolation. This is a flaw in the execution of the program review process.

NEXT MEETING

11.1 The next regular meeting of the Senate will be on Tuesday, February 7, 1992, at 10:05 a.m. in the President's Room, Rankin Center.

ADJOURNMENT

12.1 President Russell declared the meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Bandstra

Approved:
