

MINUTES OF THE SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
142 Gerberding Hall
2:30 p.m., Monday, 5 May 2003

Present: Senate Chair Silberstein and Vice Chair Wadden; Interim President Huntsman; Group Representatives, Pace (II), Rorabaugh (IV), Nolen (V), Janssen (VI), Johnson (VII), Scheuer (VII), Lovell (VIII); Secretary of the Faculty Vaughn; Faculty Legislative Representative Sjøvik; Deputy Legislative Representative Stygall; Faculty Council Chairs Plumb (FCAS), Carline (FCIQ), Gillis-Bridges (FCET), O'Neill (FCFA), Kiyak (FCR), Schwartz (FCSA), Meszaros (FCTCP), Schaufelberger (FCUFS), Emerick (FCUR); UW Bothell Representative Kubota, UW Tacoma Representative Kalton; Special Committee Chairs Krieger-Brockett (SCFW), Colonnese (SPMFA) Interim Provost Thorud, Assistant to the President Niccolls.

Absent: Group Representatives, Cummings (I)*, Heath (III)*; UW Faculty Council Chairs Buck (FCEO)*, Fearn-Banks (FCSA), Seifer (FCUR), Geoff Sauer (FCUL), Whittaker (FCRIB)*, ASUW Representative Narvaez, GPSS Representative Nixon, Government Relations Representative Taricani

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:42 p.m.

Approval of the Agenda

The following changes to the agenda were **approved**:

Item 7: Nominations and Appointments were amended to include the nominees for the various RCEP groups.

Item 9: Reports from Councils was amended to add a third item from the Faculty Council on Educational Technology.

Approval of the Minutes

The minutes for the 7 April 2003 Senate Executive Committee meeting and the 24 April 2003 Faculty Senate meeting were **approved**.

Opening Remarks of the Chair – Sandra Silberstein

Silberstein used this opportunity to bring the body up-to-date on two items, the first item being the progress of the three on-going Reorganization, Consolidation and Elimination of Program (RCEP) proceedings. The College of Education Program Identification Committee has asked for an extension so that they can gather all information that is necessary to make a decision. This request was granted because they had selected a completion date, and no students or programs are affected by the delay. In the case of the Biology RCEP, a Class C bulletin has gone out to all faculty. The RCEP in the College of Forest Resources is progressing.

Second, Silberstein and David Thorud, Acting Provost, have asked a group of people to consider the effects of financial hardship on maintaining quality at this institution. The task

of this group will be to assess what quality is, and to identify characteristics that contribute to the quality of the University of Washington.

Report of the President – Lee Huntsman, Interim President

Huntsman began by giving a quick synopsis of his view of events in Olympia. At this time, we have two very different budgets that are being debated. Additionally, with the high volume of proposed legislation, we often find ourselves in the position of playing defense. On the other hand, there are a number of policy bills where Huntsman believes that we have fared well. For example, we have been granted limited tuition setting authority for six years. Another favorable bill is the "Compact Bill," which establishes a working group to develop guidelines, and perhaps a paradigm, for a compact between the University and the state as to the fiscal and policy management of the University. A third bill addresses contracting authority, while a fourth bill addresses funding for trauma centers such as Harborview Hospital. Finally, the Legislature did pass a bill that would grant tuition status to undocumented aliens. Huntsman described our successes in this area as due to a real team effort, and thanked everyone involved, including the Faculty Legislative Representatives.

During the comment period, Clark Pace (Group II) expressed the opinion that we need to have more study of the students who enroll for additional credits, and that designing any policy is premature until that type of study is completed. Huntsman responded that he believes the population may include upwards of 800 students, and that it is very visible externally. Inevitably, he stated, this will need to be addressed and adjusted. Wadden also pointed out that part of this problem arises from a decision whether to enforce academic regulations that are already on the books, and to what extent students may want to work around these rules. Tom Colonesse (Chair, SCMFA) pointed out that we have been working on aspects of this problem for years although we have not really gotten information about how these policies might affect student diversity, and that this is a dimension that we should investigate. Wadden noted that given these different dimensions, we need to make sure that there are not a series of separate discussions but rather one group working together on this issue.

On another topic, Donald Janssen (Group VI) asked about the eleven student limit on small classes. David Thorud, Acting Provost, stated that eleven is the limit at this time. Gail Stygall, Deputy Legislative Representative, noted that the College of Arts and Sciences has just posted a study to its website that had collected data on this issue.

Report from the Senate Committee on Planning and Budgeting (SCPB) – Douglas Wadden, Chair

Wadden reported that there are very few changes from the last meeting, and that SCPB is in a "holding" pattern while waiting to hear more about the budget. Today, the Committee was given a great deal of budget information for review. He noted that we are coming down to the end of the school year, and it may be that we are not able to complete our discussions before the Legislature issues a budget.

Turning to the on-going RCEP procedures, Wadden pointed out that we continue to learn a great deal. For example, the timelines may be too short, and the legislation does not explain in sufficient detail how the process should work. That having been said, the process is going well and people are proceeding in good faith. It is likely that the Senate leadership

will spend some time this summer drafting proposed amendments to Chapter 26 which addresses the RCEP process.

Report on Legislative Affairs – Jan Sjøvik, Legislative Representative

Sjøvik noted that the legislature is also in a “holding pattern,” and will be called back into special session on 12 May 2003 to finish the budget process. Quickly, he reviewed the budget process from the time of the Governor’s initial budget announcement in December, 2002 to date. The Republicans want a budget that has no new taxes while the House Democrats would like to raise about \$350 million in new revenues, using this for small increases in salaries for state workers; the Republicans are adamantly opposed to this. Given this divide, it is “anyone’s guess” as to what will happen. He ended by congratulating Gail Stygall on her appointment as the 2003-2004 Faculty Legislative Representative.

Nominations and Appointments

a. Nominations for Faculty Councils and Committees

Approved.

b. Nominations for the RCEP in the Arts and Sciences, Biology Review Committee

The following people have been recommended for the Public Review Committee in the College of Arts and Sciences, Biology:

Jan Carline (Medical Education), Chair
Don Brownlee (Astronomy)
Nancy Kenney (Psychology)
William Reinhardt (Chemistry)
Bettina Shell-Duncan (Anthropology)

Before submitting these nominations to the body, Silberstein explained the second part of the RCEP process and the role of the Senate Executive Committee in this process. One representative from the ASUW and the GPSS will also be appointed. **Approved.**

c. Nominations for the RCEP in the College of Forestry Review Committee

The following people have been recommended for the Public Review Committee in the College of Forest Resources:

Gerry Phillipsen (Communication) Chair
John Schaufelberger (Construction Management)
K. Sivaramakrishnan (Anthropology)

Two other faculty are yet to be appointed, as well as the undergraduate and graduate representatives. **Approved.**

Faculty Council and Committees – Lea Vaughn, Secretary of the Faculty

Vaughn asked the chairs of the Councils to submit annual reports by 15 June 2003, and certainly no later than 1 July 2003. These reports are useful to both the incoming Faculty Senate Chair and the Councils in the fall.

Susan Nolen and Clark Pace volunteered to certify the recent Faculty Senate elections.

Reports from Faculty Councils and Committees**a. Faculty Council on Instructional Quality: Jan Carline, Chair**

Carline presented the proposal on the use of teaching evaluations and explained its procedural history. The proposal, in the opinion of the Council, is well-supported by the literature, and is before this body a second time. The major change made was to make it more readable.

During discussion, Clark Pace asked about how the numbers in paragraph four of the recommendations was determined. It was explained that this number had to do with a standard deviation and that it could be affected by the class size. Pace pointed out that this does not hold meaning if one is discussing a small class, and suggested that one not compare classes that are quite different in their class size. Carline pointed out that these guidelines are not intended to be legalistic statements for the use of these numbers, but rather are intended as guidelines. He also noted that the numbers used to be reported to the second decimal point but this has been changed to one decimal point, recognizing the false specificity such numbers provide.

Kurt Johnson (Group VII) complimented the group on their work in these revisions. He suggested, however, that the "0.2 differences" sentence be removed from recommendation four. Michael Kalton (Tacoma) was told that the 80 percent figure in recommendation five came from the literature. Bill Rorabaugh (Group IV) noted that he had some problems with the wording in recommendation two. Carline pointed out that if there are too many suggestions, the policy will not be completed this term. Additionally, he suggested that any further suggestions be sent to him via e-mail. Rorabaugh also asked about recommendation three's suggestion that only the first four items on the evaluations be used. These first four items are the only ones that appear across the entire campus and that after these four items, the evaluations tend to be individualized to the course or the department. Carline pointed out that the additional items do not have the same purpose as the first four items, and that this distinction is supported in the literature.

Finally, Pace pointed out that these evaluations measure how a student feels about the course rather than the educational outcomes. For example, it may well be that a class has been effective in transmitting information but the student may not have liked the course. These distinctions, and the use or misuse of these evaluations can profoundly affect one's career. Wadden pointed out that the anticipated grade can also affect the evaluation. It was agreed that some of the issues raised today will be examined next year. In the meantime, in response to comments, this policy will be available to all faculty, placed on the Office of Academic Personnel website, sent to all deans, chairs and directors, and placed on the agenda of the fall administrative workshop.

b. Report of the Working Group on Collective Bargaining – Robert Holzworth, Chair.

Holzworth described the work of the committee thus far in a slide presentation. Silberstein asked for suggested areas of additional inquiry, and that any comments should be sent to Holzworth, Wadden and her via e-mail this spring and summer. Holzworth stated that the final report will probably be submitted in the autumn. Johnson asked that some form of appendix be added listing the sources consulted.

Meeting Calendar for 2003-2004

Approved, with the agreement that the first Senate meeting will be held on 16 October or 23 October 2003.

Class A Legislation: Policy Provisions Relating to Voting and Elections, and the Publication of the University Handbook. Volume II, Part II, Multiple Chapters. Final Consideration.

Approved, with the substitution of the word “vote counts are verified” rather than “votes are counted” in Section 22-47 line 4 as suggested by the Code Advisory Committee.

Announcements

Silberstein reminded members about the Faculty Senate Open House which will be held on Thursday, 15 May 2003 after the Faculty Senate meeting.

Information

None.

New Business

The agenda for the 15 May 2003 Faculty Senate meeting was **approved**.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY: Lea B. Vaughn

APPROVED BY: Sandra Silberstein