

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

SENATE ASSEMBLY

Minutes of Regular Meeting of 13 February 1984

ATTENDANCE

Present: Bailey, Beutler, Blass, Briggs, Brooks, Brown, Boyd, Bulkley, Carter, Catford, Cooper, Dahl, Easley, Eschman, Fellin, Deniston, Herbert, Hilbert, Hildebrandt, Loup, Janecke, Pooley, Kalisch, Kaplan, Kelsey, Keren, Kusnerz, Lawrence, Lehmann, Lockwood, Bassett, McClamroch, Mermier, Meyer, Moerman, Morash, Mosher, Nagy, Powell, Radine, Rae, Regezi, Scholler, Stebbins, Smith, Taylor, Warshausky, Whitehouse, Wieland, Zweifler

Absent: Lindner, Barald, Burdi, Burt, Caffesse, Caldwell, Courant, Danielson, Eaton, Evans, Farley, Green, Hopwood, Howe, Knudsvig, Dunlop, Ludema, Humesky, Payne, Ringler, Rucknagel, Scheele, Sears, Solomon, Young

CALL TO ORDER AND MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 3:21 p.m. by Professor Hildebrandt, chair. The minutes of the meeting of 19 December 1983 were corrected and then approved.

REMARKS BY CHAIR

1. SACUA has discussed the proposal for a conference on academic freedom and research with Vice Presidents Frye and Sussman, Assistant Vice President Price, and Professor Nicholas Steneck, director of the Collegiate Institute for Values and Science (CIVS). CIVS has considered the proposal and prepared a draft report to SACUA; its recommendations are expected to be in final form later this week, and SACUA will report them to the Assembly next month.

2. A Committee on Integrity of Scholarship was formed last fall to draft principles and guidelines for maintaining ethical standards in scholarship. Any suggestions for the guidelines and any information about unethical practices can be given to the committee's chair, Professor Steneck.

3. The Regents have approved the proposal to increase the Assembly's size from 65 to 72 members.

4. SACUA and others are looking into alumni representation on certain advisory committees; a proposal will come before the Assembly in March or April. The Budget Priorities Committee has already added an alumni representative.

5. Professor Hildebrandt introduced the Nominating Committee's candidates for SACUA. He announced that Professor Eschman has withdrawn, to accept the chairmanship of his department, and that Professor Janecke has accepted nomination. He then asked for nominations from the floor, and Professor Mermier nominated Professor Moerman, who accepted the nomination.

RULES OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE, SENATE ASSEMBLY, AND SACUA

Professor Hildebrandt called attention to the revision of the Rules that had been distributed with the agenda. He explained that the purpose of the revision was to remove language that some consider outmoded or sexist, and he indicated one correction to the revision: in Article I, Section 3, "If absent" should read "If the chair is absent". Professor Bailey moved adoption of the revision, as corrected, and his motion was seconded. Professor Lehmann, noting that "Mr. Chair" and "Madam Chair" are awkward, moved that the document be amended by replacing "chair" with "speaker"; the motion was seconded. Professor Briggs said that the document should then define "speaker"; Professor Blass said that it would, automatically, just as it defines "chair". Professor Easley said that the Nursing School uses "chairperson", and Professor Janecke pointed out that "speaker" has other meanings, as in "today's speaker is...". Professor Kaplan moved to amend the amendment by changing "speaker" to "chairperson"; his motion was seconded. Professor Bailey moved the previous question; this motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Professor Kaplan's amendment failed on a vote of 18 to 27. Professor Zweifler asked whether SACUA had discussed the revision and considered other terminology. Professor Hildebrandt replied that SACUA and the Rules Committee had discussed it and that "chairperson" had been considered. Professor Lehmann's amendment was put to a vote and failed, 17 to 25. Professor Bailey again moved the previous question, and both this motion and his original motion to adopt the revision passed unanimously.

Professor Nagy introduced, for SACUA, a motion to reduce the number of required Senate meetings per year from two to one. The motion, which had been distributed with the agenda, was seconded. Professor Kaplan said that, when the Senate Assembly was formed, it was intended that the Senate be able to

monitor and even overrule the Assembly. This proposal would delay any attempt to exercise this authority, but only one such attempt has ever been made. Professor Moerman suggested decreasing from 50 to 20 the number of Senate members needed to call a special meeting of the Senate. Professor Nagy said that 50 members constitute less than 5% of the Senate; if fewer than 5% want a special meeting it's not worthwhile to have one. The motion carried, on a voice vote, with one dissenting vote.

#### MONITORING OF GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

Professor Brown introduced, for SACUA, a motion that SACUA monitor the grievance procedures followed in the schools and colleges. The motion, which had been distributed with the agenda, also directs SACUA to ask each grievant for a statement on the process and to report annually to the Assembly on the subject. Professor Hildebrandt said that ten schools and colleges have adopted the new procedures. In response to Professor Kaplan's suggestion at the last Assembly meeting that an oversight committee was needed, SACUA decided that it could fulfill this function itself. Professor Kaplan said that he was concerned that there might be so many cases that the oversight job becomes a burden for SACUA. He and Professor Hildebrandt agreed that, if this occurs, an ad hoc oversight committee would be formed.

Professor Lehmann asked two questions. First, is there any provision for mediation prior to a formal grievance? (This had been SARC's role in 90% of all cases.) Professor Hildebrandt answered negatively. Second, what happens if SACUA, by virtue of its grievance oversight role, is involved in a case that later develops into RB 5.09 hearings, whose fairness SACUA may be asked to rule on. Professor Hildebrandt said that Bylaw 5.09 is for demotion, dismissal, or terminal appointment, which are more drastic than the situations covered by the grievance procedures. Professor Lehmann pointed out that 5.09 hearings can result from program discontinuance.

Professor Cooper asked whether the administration accepted the idea of a central oversight committee. Judith Nowack reported that both Charles Allmand and Virginia Nordby knew of the proposal and there had been no objection. The motion was put to a vote and carried unanimously.

#### LIBRARIES

Professor Hildebrandt introduced Richard Dougherty, Director of the University Library, who reported on the library system.

After a brief description of the administrative structure of the Library system, Dr. Dougherty gave some figures concerning the size of the University's

collection: 5.1 million volumes (of which 4.7 are in the library system), up 150,000 from last year (107,000 in the library system). He listed three major issues facing the University Library and all other research libraries: Collection resources (including the problems of increasing costs and deterioration of paper), technology (e.g., bibliographic services), and professional education.

He described how the library's budget situation has changed over the past five years. There was a cut of nearly \$900,000, almost entirely from staff, while the general fund allocation for book purchases increased by about \$1.5 million. In addition, the library received external grants totaling \$1.9 million for certain special projects. Of this year's budget, 35.3% is being spent for books (up from 28.5% five years ago), 54.3% for salaries (down from 63.1%), 5.7% for computing (up from 3.1%), and 4.7% for current expenses (down from 4.9%). The decrease in salary funds has meant the loss of about 50 positions, if one ignores the positions given when the Medical Library opened. Of additional concern is the deficiency, now approximately 18 full-time equivalents, in the student assistant budget, which had to be made up with funds from the regular staff budget. Technology is all that saved us from dire straits. Dr. Dougherty presented a comparison of the University's expenditures for books and periodicals with those of nine other schools. He summarized the comparison by saying that the University is falling behind, but there is no disaster yet; the University should invest more in the materials budget.

He described three categories of services provided by librarians. First are the non-professional basic services (circulation, reserves, acquisitions, catalog maintenance, shelving, and collection maintenance), which people think of as librarians' work but which should actually be provided by support staff rather than professional librarians. Second are the standard professional services: book selection, cataloging, reference (including database services). Third are enhanced services: outreach programs, document delivery, research involvement, current awareness, and others. He listed several new activities that have been added to what is expected of professional library staff. These include managing collections, developing programs to anticipate needs, and participating in faculty research efforts, instructional programs, and a staff development program.

Noting that the numbers of journals and of journal articles have continued to increase, despite computers, Dr. Dougherty predicted that libraries will look much as they now do for the next generation. They will need to deal with new modes of publication in addition to, not instead of, the traditional paper mode.

The University Library is a member of the Research Libraries Group, a group of 27 libraries, whose goal is to have all important publications available even though each individual library can afford only a steadily shrinking percentage of what is being published. There are also bilateral agreements between the University Library and some libraries (MSU, Illinois) outside the group.

Summarizing his report, Dr. Dougherty made the following three points. First, on balance most of the recent changes have been healthy; many were needed to position the library for future development. Second, there is no flexibility left in the budget; the University should invest in both materials and staff. Third, there will be rapid changes in the way many scholars do their research.

#### DISCUSSION

Professor Radine asked how far off the day is when we will read journal articles on computer terminals. Dr. Dougherty replied that some electronic journals already exist (e.g., in chemistry and medicine) but he expects their number to increase slowly, for economic and behavioral reasons. The growth of electronic publishing will probably increase library costs.

Professor Warschausky asked whether the library had an understanding with the administration about money from the capital campaign. Dr. Dougherty replied that \$10 million from the capital campaign is to go to libraries (including those outside the library system), but this figure may be decreased unless there is pressure from the campus. Professor Warschausky inferred that the Assembly can help in this matter, and Dr. Dougherty agreed, noting that he is viewed by the administration as having a vested interest. Professor Kaplan said that President Shapiro, when he had been Vice President for Academic Affairs, had increased the book budget after SACUA had urged him to do so.

At Ms. Loup's suggestion, Dr. Dougherty described the Collection Analysis Project. Undertaken three years ago, in response to questions from the administration, the project, whose task force reports were submitted six months ago, is the basis for a plan to rationalize what the library does and relate it to instruction and scholarship.

Professor Nagy asked how the library copes with the explosion in the number of journals. Dr. Dougherty replied that no library, not even the Library of Congress, collects all journals. Three strategies for dealing with the problem are interlibrary cooperation (as in the Research Libraries Group), more money, and cancellation of subscriptions to rarely used journals. So

far, cancelled journals were usually foreign language journals on esoteric subjects; the library tries to minimize inconvenience to faculty and students. Dr. Dougherty added that journal prices continue to increase rapidly, despite the general drop in the inflation rates. The average price of a chemistry journal is \$167 per year; some monthly journals cost over \$1000 per year.

NEW BUSINESS

Professor Kaplan asked whether SACUA had considered the AAUP chapter's statement on faculty governance during retrenchment. Professor Hildebrandt replied that SACUA will consider it together with a related report now being completed by the Academic Affairs Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Andreas Blass  
Senate Secretary