

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

SENATE ASSEMBLY

Minutes of Regular Meeting of 19 March 1984

ATTENDANCE

Present: Bailey, Barald, Beutler, Blass, Briggs, Brooks, Brown, Boyd, Bulkley, Burdi, Caldwell, Cooper, Dahl, Easley, Eaton, Fellin, Green, Hilbert, Hildebrandt, Loup, Hopwood, Janecke, Kahn, Barnard, Kaplan, Kelsey, Knudsvig, Kusnerz, Lehmann, Humesky, Margolis, McClamroch, Mermier, Meyer, Moerman, Morash, Mosher, Nagy, Powell, Radine, Rae, Ringler, Scholler, Rucknagel, Stebbins, Whitehouse, Zweifler

Absent: Lindner, Burt, Caffesse, Carter, Catford, Courant, Danielson, Eschman, Evans, Farley, Grosse, Herbert, Howe, Keren, Lawrence, Lockwood, Dunlop, Ludema, Payne, Regezi, Scheele, Sears, Smith, Solomon, Taylor, Warschausky, Wieland, Young

CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Professor Hildebrandt, Chair, at 3:24 p.m., and the minutes of the meeting of 13 February 1984 were approved.

REMARKS BY CHAIR

1. Immediately after today's Senate Assembly meeting, the University Senate will meet. Regents Sarah Power and Thomas Roach will address the Senate.

2. The Academic Affairs Committee has produced a rough draft of a statement on the review process. When the statement is in final form it and the AAUP chapter's statement on faculty governance during retrenchment will be brought to the Senate Assembly.

3. The proposed Student Code of Non-Academic Conduct and University Judicial System are not yet in final form. Preliminary versions were

discussed by the Senate Assembly in December and by the Civil Liberties Board, the Student Relations Committee, the Executive Officers, and the Regents; two public hearings have also been held. Regental Bylaws require that the final version of the proposal be approved by the Assembly before it can take effect. Comments from Assembly members can be sent to Virginia Nordby or Vice President Johnson.

4. The report of the University Library System's Collection Analysis Project, referred to in Dr. Dougherty's report to the Assembly last month, is available at the SACUA office.

SACUA ELECTION

Ballots for the election of new SACUA members were distributed. The election results, announced later in the meeting, were three-year terms for Professors Dale Briggs, Engineering; William C. Stebbins, from LSA; and Jean Loup from Libraries and for a one-year term Daniel E. Moerman, UM-Dearborn (replacing Professor David Hollinger).

CONFERENCE ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND MORAL RESPONSIBILITY

Professor Hildebrandt reported on the steps SACUA had taken in regard to the proposal for a conference on academic freedom and moral responsibility. After preliminary discussions with some of the executive officers, SACUA asked the Collegiate Institute for Values and Science (CIVS) to determine whether there was a need for such a conference and, if so, what its scope should be and who should be invited. After two meetings, that included both proponents and opponents of the conference, CIVS produced a draft document and distributed it rather widely for reaction. The final version was sent to SACUA, which, on 27 February, agreed in principle to proceed with a conference. A two-page summary of the CIVS document was sent to Assembly members with today's agenda. Professor Hildebrandt, CIVS Director Nicholas Steneck, and Assistant Vice President Alan Price met to discuss logistical and financial aspects of the conference as well as the direction it should take. President Shapiro and Provost Frye have agreed to provide financial support for the conference. A small group will be formed to begin planning for the conference; Professor Hildebrandt invited nominations for this planning group.

At Professor Hildebrandt's invitation, Professor David Bassett, who had first proposed the conference, spoke to the Assembly. He thanked CIVS for its work and supported the approach outlined in the summary of its report to SACUA. He said that the University is in a good position to contribute significantly to the study of an issue of nationwide or even wider importance.

ALUMNI REPRESENTATION ON FACULTY COMMITTEES

Professor Nagy moved, for SACUA, the resolution distributed with the agenda:

That one alumnus or alumna be added to the Standing Assembly Committees of State Relations and CESF, and that the University Relations Committee may formally ask several alumni to act as consultants to that committee. The procedures for faculty approval will follow the normal method of appointment as stated in the Rules of the Senate, the Senate Assembly, and SACUA.

The motion was seconded.

Professor Hildebrandt pointed out a number of areas in which alumni already work with faculty: faculty serve as visiting scholars at alumni camps and as contributors to the Michigan Alumnus, and alumni act as recruiters for students and as informal consultants. The Alumni Association is considering adding a faculty member to its Board of Directors. The Budget Priorities Committee has already added an alumni representative, and SACUA recommends that the University Relations Committee, the State Relations Committee, and CESF do the same. The appointment procedure would be analogous to that for faculty members of Assembly committees. The three committees involved all agree to this recommendation.

Professor Cooper moved to amend the appointment guidelines for CESF and the State Relations Committee by adding to Section 5 (about renewal of appointment) "for a maximum of three terms." He also suggested that the guidelines be applied to the University Relations Committee also. Professor Nagy seconded the amendment (at a time when only CESF had been mentioned). At Professor Barnard's suggestion, Professor Cooper revised his amendment to read "for a maximum of three consecutive terms"; Professor Hildebrandt explained that such language is usually interpreted as requiring a person to stay off the committee for one term after being on for three terms. Professor Blass reported that the University Relations Committee had rejected the guidelines as inappropriate for its situation; it intended to bring in alumni consultants for discussion of specific issues rather than to be on the committee for a specific term. Professors Cooper and Nagy agreed that the amendment was to apply only to CESF and the State Relations Committee.

The amendment was carried unanimously; the proposal as amended was put to a vote and also carried unanimously.

At Professor Hildebrandt's invitation, Alumni Association Director Robert

Forman addressed the Assembly. He thanked the Assembly for its vote recognizing that alumni are not just a source of money but highly motivated people who are proud of the University, who want to help and support it, and who can bring valuable expertise to it. He said that alumni appreciate the faculty's record of voluntary support for their activities. He also reported that the April board meeting of the Alumni Association will amend the bylaws to put a Senate Assembly member on the Board of Directors.

ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN COLLEGIATE FACULTIES

Professor Ben Stolz, the University's representative to the Association of Michigan Collegiate Faculties (AMCF), began his report by declining, as a linguist, to say "Mr. Chair". He reported that AMCF serves as a clearinghouse for information and concerns from faculty at Michigan's state-supported colleges, as a liaison between faculty and legislators, and as a forum for study of issues in higher education. Its assembly meets four times per year.

The University of Michigan's problems pale in comparison with other state colleges such as Central Michigan University, Ferris, Wayne State University. The chief concerns at these other schools are several: union problems, especially contractual problems over salaries; tuition; enrollment levels; and the maintenance of the quality of the student body. While UM has concerns in these areas, the problems are magnified in the other Michigan institutions.

Another activity of the AMCF is the newsletter, written by Virginia Delano of the League of Women Voters. The reports included a discussion of a conference last June on the "Impact of Coordination of Higher Education." Illinois has a system of centralized planning, and from the report presented at the conference, it was shown to be not a very good idea. This year Michigan Senator Lana Pollock spoke enthusiastically about a state report on higher education financing. However, her remarks preceded the recent recall elections and consequently the changes in the legislature would have reduced the optimism presented in her report.

Currently, there is a Commission on the Status of Higher Education in Michigan that was created by Governor Blanchard. AMCF follows the public meetings held by this commission and the Association makes its voice heard by the Commission. The foremost concerns of the Commission are funding and forthcoming rollback issues.

DISCUSSION

Professor Barnard said the coordination [of state higher education] issue was tabled as a result of the conference on the "Impact of Coordination in Higher Education."

Professor Rucknagel asked whether that body [the Commission] has dealt with selective cutting back of colleges. Professor Stolz responded that that issue is a political hot potato as there are so many interests involved. He felt that the closing of state colleges would not happen as a result.

Professor Whitehouse complemented Professor Kaplan for his leadership in the AMCF and for the role he played in AMCF's important activities.

NEW BUSINESS

Chair Hildebrandt noted that this meeting was the last Senate Assembly meeting for one third of the body. He remarked that the Assembly expects past members to send SACUA feedback and hopes that the former members will continue their involvement in University governance by becoming members of faculty committees. On behalf of SACUA, Chair Hildebrandt thanked the outgoing members of the Senate Assembly for their service.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Andreas R. Blass
Senate Secretary
and;



Lawrence B. Radine
Interim Senate Secretary