

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

SENATE ASSEMBLY

Minutes of the Special Assembly Meeting, June 1, 1970

ATTENDANCE

Present: Abrams, Alston, Asgar, Barnes, Bassett, Bertolaet, Bett, Bowditch, Bowman, Brown, Castor, Crawford, DeKornfeld, Dowson, Eggertsen, Frye, Gilbert, Goodman, Graebel, Handler, Havenstein, Hinerman, Huntington, Iglehart, Jensen, Krachenberg, Lind, Lloyd, Longone, Magee, Wood, Michelsen, Stolz, Morgan, Nelson, Norman, Overseth, Pollack, Bishop, (Robert), Richards, Rigan, Rucknagel, Ryder, Sandalow, Schulze, Sears, Shappirio, Sinnott, Votaw, Wilkes, Yagle, Portman, Yablonky, Knauss.

Absent: Birch, Bishop, (Ronald), Bole, Carter, Coon, Cornish, Galler, Hooper, Kahn, Kish, Meyer, Porter, Scherer, Schuman, Sonntag, Weinberg.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Knauss called the special meeting to order at 3:25 p.m. in the Rackham Amphitheatre.

PURPOSE OF
CALL

Chairman Knauss explained that the purpose of the meeting was to consider the proposed strike policy. He noted that the meeting was being recorded by University radio station WUOM.

COMMITTEE
APPOINTMENT

Before taking up the strike policy, Chairman Knauss noted that a replacement was needed on the University Council for Ray Pearson who had been elected but who would not be available next year. The two others elected were Professors St. Antoine and Livermore. He said SACUA proposes that the next highest on the list in the balloting, Professor Ray Kahn, be elected. SACUA's proposal was seconded and approved and Professor Kahn was declared elected to the University Council.

STRIKE
POLICY

Chairman Knauss suggested that the Assembly move to the Committee of the Whole and focus attention on five proposals, as follows:

Proposal #1 -- The proposal drafted by a committee headed by Dean Francis Allen of the Law School, published

in the Special Issue of the University Record, May 22, 1970, copies of which were distributed to the Assembly.

Proposal #2 -- The alternative proposed by the Regents suggested in the Statement of the Board of Regents in a press release dated May 15, 1970, copies of which were distributed to the Assembly.

Proposal #3 -- A motion by Professor Ryder tabled at the May 18, 1970, Assembly meeting, which reads: "It is the Assembly's judgment and resolution that the provisions of the regulations as they apply to the faculty are ill-advised."

Proposal #4 -- A proposal by Professors Crawford and Weinberg of SACUA, which reads: "The faculty members of the University accept with their appointment the professional obligation to participate in the educational role of the institution. These obligations include their teaching, research, and service responsibilities. The performance of individual faculty members is currently evaluated by their academic peers and deans and executive committees. We believe that this procedure is appropriate to the nature of a faculty member's relationship to the University and it can be applied to new problems that arise in that relationship."

Proposal #5 -- A proposal submitted by Professors Mann, Warner, and Young, which reads: "The contract between the university and its students is for an education in return for tuition. The subjects offered and the modes by which the university's teachers teach are the product of the interactions among current professional standards, the individual goals of students and professors, and the prevailing conditions of the society in which the student, teacher, and university exist. There is no right in this contract to a particular teacher, lecture, laboratory, or assignment. Rather the contract is for a semester's education, and the success or failure of that education is now, and should remain, under constant scrutiny by the academic departments.

In this period of turbulence in American universities, the strike or moratorium on classes has proved to be a major vehicle for the urgent expression of feeling and opinion and a viable method for resolving difficult

policy questions internal to the university. Any effort to stifle in advance or single out for punitive measures the strike tactic needlessly increases the prospects for internal breakdown. This is hardly the time for denying ourselves the full range of conflict-resolving devices that have historically shown their value."

Professor Sinnott moved -- and his action was supported -- to convene as a Committee of the Whole. Chairman Knauss suggested we stay as a Committee of the Whole for not more than 45 minutes, allowing time for faculty members who are not members of the Assembly who have asked to speak.

Copies of the minutes of the May meeting were distributed so that members might refresh their memories on the earlier discussion of the proposed strike policy.

During the discussions, two other proposals were introduced as follows:

Proposal #6 -- A proposal by Professor Bertolaet which reads: "Senate Assembly finds the proposed policy on withholding of services as presented to the Assembly on May 18, 1970 not acceptable and recommends that SACUA meet with the President to develop a satisfactory policy."

Proposal #7 -- A proposal by Professor Gilbert which combined the Crawford-Weinberg Proposal with sections of the Allen Proposal (Proposal #1).

Proposal #8 -- A proposal submitted by Professor Robert Bishop which reads: "In view of the serious legal, educational and professional objections raised to the various proposals dealing with a strike policy and in view of the fact that various state and university regulations deal with strikes and with broader forms of unprofessional conduct, the Senate Assembly feels that no new policy statement is necessary.

If such a policy is to be promulgated, it is strongly recommended that a committee representative of the entire university community be formed to study the issue."

At 5:15 p.m. Professor Brown moved that the Assembly rise from the Committee of the Whole. The motion was seconded and carried.

Professor Ryder and Professor Eggertsen, the seconder of the tabled motion (Proposal #3) withdrew their motion.

Professor Norman moved to incorporate the Crawford-Weinberg motion (Proposal #4) with Professor Bishop's motion (Proposal #8). Professor Norman said the widespread discussion as proposed by Professor Bishop would be helpful in clearing the air of problems that might arise in the Fall.

Professor Alston asked whether the Bishop statement would include the suggestion that no statement be adopted. Chairman Knauss said this was in the Bishop motion.

Professor Sinnott asked for clarification regarding the rest of the University community other than the faculty, the 9,000 other people employed. He asked, are we going to reopen the steamfitter's contract? He said he has sympathy with the teaching fellows but are we going to include them?

Professor Bishop said he did intend to include the teaching fellows, instructors, students, research associates along with the faculty but not the steamfitters.

Professor Sandalow said he did not understand the relationship between the first half and the second, that the Crawford-Weinberg resolution does not provide for teaching fellows and the Bishop proposal does.

Professor Norman said he saw the Crawford-Weinberg motion addressing itself to the faculty; the Bishop motion addresses itself to all other segments of the University community, that all these people, at least, should be consulted if there is to be a University-wide policy.

Professor Sinnott moved to divide the question. The motion was seconded.

Professor Crawford said he would like to see this resolution apply to the faculty but that we consult others.

In a vote on the motion to divide the question, the motion was carried.

Professor Sandalow said he was opposed to the Crawford-Weinberg motion, that it would be unwise to take a position just for the faculty, without considering the impact on others -- researchers, teaching fellows. He said he hoped, instead, that we pick up the Bishop proposal for further study of all other segments of the University community.

Professor Bett said he was confused now that the proposal had been divided. If we vote on the first, he said, he would not want this to preclude further SACUA action.

Professor Goodman said the first motion means business-as-usual; the Bishop proposal suggests that we get things going.

Professor Bowditch suggested we vote on the Bishop proposal first. He moved to reverse the order for voting purposes. His motion was seconded.

Professor Rucknagel said he wanted to point out what were inconsistencies. In discussing grievance procedures some time ago, he said, we were discussing only the Senate's jurisdiction, not teaching fellows. Now we want to look at these other segments.

Chairman Knauss said we did refer the teaching fellow issue to a study.

In a vote on the motion to reverse the order in considering the Crawford-Weinberg proposal and the Bishop proposal, the motion was carried.

Professor Alston moved to amend the Bishop proposal to erase the implication that striking is unprofessional behavior. His motion was not seconded.

Professor Eggertsen moved to substitute the Bertolaet proposal for the Bishop proposal. The motion was seconded.

In a vote on whether to substitute, the motion failed.

Professor Alston raised the question about the word "strike."

Professor Eggertsen noted that the word strike was not used in the Allen proposal. He asked: why should we refer to strike here?

Professor Crawford said we should vote on the question of whether the faculty has a right to strike.

Professor Rucknagel moved a substitute resolution which was seconded by Professor Eggertsen. The resolution reads: "It is clear that withholding of services by the university faculty is not in the same category as a traditional strike for economic benefit. In view of the legal, educational complications of the strike proposal, the Senate Assembly votes to refer the issue to SACUA for more thorough consideration of other university interests."

In a motion on whether to substitute, the motion was defeated.

Professor Alston moved to amend the Bishop motion to eliminate the words, "and other forms of unprofessional conduct." The motion was seconded.

Professor Crawford said it doesn't make any sense to say we're against some strikes and not others.

In a vote on Professor Alston's substitute motion, the motion was defeated.

In a vote on the Bishop motion, by a show of hands, the motion was carried 31 to 12.

In a vote on the Crawford-Weinberg motion, by a show of hands, the motion was carried 25 to 12.

Professor Bowditch said we're on a period of rapid change, that the faculty should play a more active role, that our leader in the Assembly should say something in terms of the replacement of the two deans who are resigning,

even for the appointment of interim deans. He said he would like a discussion at the next meeting on the matter of developing procedures.

Chairman Knauss noted that an agenda item for the regularly scheduled June meeting of the Assembly on June 15th called for a discussion on proposals for political involvement of students on the campus for the Fall election campaign.

ADJOURN-
MENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Ben Yablonky
Secretary