

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

SENATE ASSEMBLY

Minutes of Regular Meeting, June 18, 1979

ATTENDANCE Present: Barnett, Berg, Bishop, D.R. Brown, M. Brown, Burdi, Cooper, Corpron, Dixon, Flener, Friedman, Frost, Gay, George, Gordon, Taylor, Hinerman, Hungerman, Juvinall, Koran, Lindberg, Lynch, Millard, Naylor, Parkinson, Portman, L. Powers, Romani, Rush, Schulze, Burckhalter, Verhey, Wynne.

 Absent: Abdel-Massih, Ackley, Baumgarten, D.B. Brown, Browne, Carpenter, Cohen, Dabich, DeKornfeld, Dingle, Eckert, Fearn, Fowler, Gabrielson, Gray, Gull, Hilbert, Holland, Kirkpatrick, Lynch-Sauer, McClendon, Morley, Nagy, Nisbett, Porter, W. Powers, Poznanski, Rowe, Saxonhouse, Searse, Senior, Tonsor, Trojan, Vinter, J. White, N. White.

MINUTES The minutes of the Senate Assembly meeting of May 21 were accepted as written. Professor Ronald Bishop, who had been listed as absent, was present at the meeting and it will be so noted.

ANNOUNCE- 1. Chairman Corpron reported that the Regents have
MENTS requested statements from Vice President Shapiro and Dean Ragone on the case of Jonathan Marwil, an assistant professor in the Department of Humanities (Engineering), who has formally grieved the failure to receive a tenure review. The statements have been requested for next month's meeting.

 2. Chairman Corpron reported that a detail concerning special procedures for branch campuses for program discontinuance had been omitted from the Assembly's previous action on program discontinuance. He recommended that the change be made now. The change was moved and seconded and passed unanimously by the Assembly.

 The additional footnote on page 5 of the document reads as follows:

1. In the case of an undergraduate program at a branch campus, the Chancellor fills the role herein described for the Vice President for

Academic Affairs. In the case of a graduate program at a branch campus, the Chancellor and the Vice President cooperate to jointly fill the role.

The entire document on program discontinuance was approved by the Assembly on May 21, 1979.

FACULTY
COMMITTEE
ON THE
PRESI-
DENCY

Committee Chairman Harold Johnson was introduced. He said that the Committee had completed the third phase of its activity, the refining of a long list of candidates into a short list. There has been extensive consultation with the Regents throughout this process. The fourth phase of the Committee's activity will be the interviewing of a small group of candidates chosen by the Regents. He said he hoped that the work would be finished within a month.

Professor Gordon asked if the list of candidates was made up of candidates considered by all three selection committees: faculty, students and alumni. Professor Johnson said that he had been speaking only for the faculty committee. He thought the Regents had synthesized the lists of all three committees.

Professor Friedman asked if the procedures of the interviewing had been worked out, and if Professor Johnson had any comment. Professor Johnson had no comment but said that the final list will be made up by the Regents.

Professor Portman asked if Professor Johnson's hope was based on an expectation or a wish that the process would be completed within a month. Professor Johnson replied that his hope contained both elements.

THE ANNU-
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ASSOCIA-
TION

Chairman Corpron introduced three speakers who were to make a presentation on behalf of the Association: Professor Wilfred Kaplan, President of the U-M Chapter of AAUP, Professor Emeritus Raymond Mosher, President of the Annuitants' Association, and Professor Emeritus Norman Nelson.

Professor Kaplan spoke first and outlined the interest AAUP is taking at both the national and local levels in the problems of retirement for members of the profession. He said that the Annuitants' Association was composed of retired faculty members and administrators. Recently, the Annuitants' Association formed a Committee on Retirement Problems, which included non-retired

members and is chaired by Professor Ralph Loomis.

Professor Kaplan then referred to a memorandum that had been distributed to the Assembly. It calls attention to six items of possible action. He then commented briefly on the items. The first, calling for representation in the Assembly, would provide continuing dialogue and a source of information. The request for office space for the Association reflects the need for a center of information and aid for retired people. Negotiations with the University are already taking place and a decision will be made soon. Making membership in the Association analogous to membership in the Alumni Association will ease the job of keeping retirees informed. The requests concerning the Staff Benefits Office reflect the importance of that office to the interests of retired faculty and administrators.

Finally the call for a review of the University's retirement program reflects the serious economic conditions that inflation and the relatively poor performance of CREF have created for retirees. He recalled that a few years ago the University recognized the plight of those who retired before participation in Social Security, and he noted that the State Legislature had recently increased benefits for those in state-funded (not TIAA-CREF) retirement programs at Western Michigan University and other places. Professor Kaplan concluded by emphasizing that all members of the faculty are potential members of the Annuitants' Association.

Professor D. R. Brown noted that state-funded retirement programs are not funded in the individual, like TIAA-CREF. He doubted that the Legislature would contribute to the retirement of people not in the state program.

Professor Friedman asked what percentage of the Association is comprised by faculty. Dr. Mosher said that 60-67% of the Association consisted of retired faculty. Professor Friedman noted that the statistic might be important for the possible apportioning of members to Assembly.

Professor D. R. Brown asked what was the size of the Association. Dr. Mosher said he did not know the exact size. He said that there were about 1,100 retirees, and the active roll of the Association was between 400 and 600.

Professor Rush asked if there should be a faculty committee on retirement issues. It was explained that CESF has taken those issues as within its province. There is a retired faculty member as an ex officio on

CESF. Professor Rush wondered if we needed a more concentrated device. Professor Kaplan acknowledged that the problems have become serious.

Professor Hinerman then reported that as a member of CESF he could testify to that committee's serious involvement in retirement issues. He said he would move that proposed membership in the Assembly by a representative from the retirees be referred to the Rules Committee. He thought the other proposals should be referred to CESF.

Professor Corpron then introduced Dr. Mosher again, who thanked SACUA for its attention to the problems of retirees over the last few years. He turned to Professor Nelson for remarks on some of those problems.

Professor Nelson then spoke to a number of issues raised in the memorandum and set them in the perspective of faculty members who are not yet retired but aspiring to that status. He gave some points of advice: don't retire until you have to; know that one's professional earning life is growing shorter; know that if one is ill-advised enough to live until 90, he will have to fund fully twenty-five years of life without the power to earn income.

In the light of these admonitions he stated four needs of the Association that he hoped increased activity and membership would provide: 1) the need for people who know statistics and can interpret the information provided by governments, University offices and other bureaus; 2) the need for people to keep track of laws and guidelines; 3) the need for people with medical knowledge to give advice on the best use retirees can make of the medical profession; and 4) the need for experts in housing. He himself thought a return to dormitory life an attractive idea.

Professor Corpron thanked the speakers for their presentation. He said that SACUA will come to the Assembly in the Fall with recommendations.

THE ASSEMBLY AND ITS COMMITTEES

Professor Corpron then made a presentation of his own explaining the nature, function, and organization of the Assembly Committees. He reminded Assembly members of SACUA's intention to appoint Assembly members to these committees.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF SENATE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES The Assembly received a complete list of Committees and members, and elected SACUA's recommendations to fill vacancies.

REPORT OF AD HOC COMMITTEE TO REVIEW THE FREEDOM OF SPEECH GUIDELINES The report, having been distributed to the Assembly last month, was now brought forward for comment. The Report had not recommended fundamental changes, but, instead, suggested improvements in existing procedures. There was no discussion.

ADJOURNMENT The Assembly adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Earl J. Schulze
Senate Secretary