

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

SENATE ASSEMBLY

Minutes of Regular Meeting of 19 June 1989

ATTENDANCE

Present: S. Smith, Blane, Bond, Borders, Brooks, Cameron, Chudacoff, Brown, Debler, Diana, Didier, Dobbins, Drabenstott, Dressman, Duell, Eggertsen, Floyd, Goeppinger, Greenwood, Grosse, Hollingsworth, Kelsey, Ketefian, Kimeldorf, Lenaghan, R. Lomax, Marcelo, McDonald, McLaughlin, Miller, Morley, Morris, Mosher, Ness, Potter, Radine, Rosenthal, Russell, L. Tentler, T. Tentler, Turner, Warner, Whitehouse, Winn, Woods, Wrobleski, Wulff; Kilham, Savory, Schessler

Absent: Adorno, Birdsall, Bornstein, Burdi, Chesler, Connelly, Davies, Dirks, Foss, Friedman, Gilgenbach, Gull, Hinton, Jenkins, Jensen, Jones, M. Lomax, Levy, McLeod, Meyerhoff, Mignolo, Owens, Papalambros, Ross, Seligman, Senkevitch, D. Smith, G. Smith, P. Smith, To, Verhoff, Yano

MINUTES

The minutes of May 15 were approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The Regents responded favorably to the Senate Assembly's resolution and extended Bylaw 7.02 to Dec. 31, 1989.

2. The Harassment Policy is stuck in union negotiations, but a close eye is being kept by the ad hoc Senate Assembly committee on the policy. Assembly questions have led to new administrative efforts to gain closure.

3. Senate Assembly needs a Parliamentarian. Anyone willing to serve is encouraged to contact Gayl Ness or the SACUA Office.

4. SACUA has been discussing the Sederberg questionnaire and has drafted a letter to him with comments on the provisional results. A copy of the letter and the preliminary tabulations are available from the SACUA Office upon request.

5. Vice President Womack will establish an Environmental Protection Task Force, whose purpose is to increase the environmental responsibility of the University. SACUA has forwarded to him nominations for members of the task force.

TASK FORCE ON UNIVERSITY EVENTS

Paul Boylan, Chair of the Task Force on University Events, handed around and discussed a memorandum on Spring Commencement. He outlined the four options:

Model I: a decentralized commencement, with each school and college conducting their own ceremonies. A more formal ceremony to confer Honorary Degrees and Doctoral Degrees would take place in Hill Auditorium. It would include the commencement address and would be broadcast on radio and local television.

Model II: Hold two ceremonies, split alphabetically or by graduate/undergraduate.

Model III: A combination of Models I and II.

Model IV: Retain present format.

A spirited discussion followed with the following issues:

- Is the rowdy behavior caused by excessive drinking?
- Would the basketball arena be better?
- The situation for LS&A needs more student input
- Perhaps students could be organized by departments with faculty included.
- Is the relative cost of each option a consideration? (apparently not; a decentralized system might be cheaper).
- Maybe the parents should sit with the students.
- What would be the effect of including MA's with the Ph.D.s in Model I?

Professor Whitehouse moved that Model I be endorsed as the superior option (seconded). The motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Ness distributed the list of nominees for Senate Committees for approval. He added the following names to the list:

Michigan League Board of Governors: Frank Stafford, Economics (Replacing Phyllis Ocker), 3 year term.

Tenure: Gary Davidoff, Medicine, and J. David Singer, LSA/Political Science.

Academic Affairs Committee: Daniel Fader, LSA/English and Duane Kirking, Pharmacy.

Committee on the Economic Status of the Faculty: Cecil Nesbitt, Annuitant Member.

There was a motion from the floor to accept the nominations (seconded). The motion carried unanimously.

PROPOSAL FOR MEDICAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Professor Dobbins presented the SACUA proposal for a Medical School Advisory Committee, which would be advisory to Vice Provost Zuidema.

Questions raised from the floor were:

- How enthusiastic was VP Zuidema? (Initially skeptical, but turned to support for the concept).
- Why limit the committee to 12? (A bigger committee seemed unworkable).

Professor Rosenthal supported the proposal in principal, but made a motion that a health policy student be added to the committee (seconded). After a lengthy discussion, the question was called. The motion was defeated. yes: 13; no:27.

Further discussion concerned the perceived need for broader membership on the committee and that the review of the role of the committee after two years should especially consider the composition of the committee.

Professor Whitehouse said that the review of the role of the committee after two years should especially consider the composition of the committee.

A motion to accept the proposal was made and seconded. It passed unanimously (1 abstention).

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS ANNUAL REPORT AND PROPOSED PUBLIC SERVICE INITIATIVE

Professor Seth Hirshorn summarized the work of the Government Relations Committee. They are especially concerned for the public image of the University. They are proposing a one year study project with the mandate to make Public Service an important partner to teaching and research.

Professor Diana moved to accept the proposed Public Service Initiative (seconded). It was approved unanimously.

BUDGET PRIORITIES COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

Jean Loup, Chair of BPC, presented the annual report to Senate Assembly. She first thanked all of the members of the committee for their hard work.

The Committee had a fall retreat to discuss and prioritize issues. The fall semester was made difficult because there was

no Provost. In the Winter semester, the new Provost outlined the major issues and the BPC established three areas:

- Cost of Higher Education
- Graduate Student Financial Aid
- Subcommittees: -Library
- Formula Funding
- Faculty Productivity

The committee then made its recommendations to the Provost on allocating the limited funds available. Two particular areas were emphasized: an overall view of financial aid on campus, and the needs of the library system. The BPC recommends that there be a complete discussion of the complex library issues in the fall.

Professor Diana expressed grave concern about the immediate needs of the library. The library is of high importance to the faculty, but seems to lack importance in the budget process. There seems to have been a continual erosion of money and effort. The faculty does not have a clear view of what we can do about it, but we cannot function effectively without it. We need more emphasis on all aspects of the library functions.

Loup responded that the BPC will be considering these problems in detail in the fall and that the subcommittee has discussed many of these problems already.

Professor Chudacoff said that would be very well for next year, but what about this year?

Professor Diana made a motion that Senate Assembly send a resolution to Provost Vest: The library is an important resource that needs a higher level of priority by the administration in the budget for 1989-1990. (seconded).

Comments included: the need to do something now before extensive firings of personnel; expressions of alarm at already reduced services; and noting that we are caught between the needs for high tech versus the printed word. Wulff explained that the reduction in allocation is approximately 7% against the personnel budget, which elicited a comment that as we are already in a serious situation, the news of a reduction of only 7% is very alarming.

The motion for the Resolution carried unanimously.

PROPOSAL FROM THE TENURE COMMITTEE FOR STOPPING THE TENURE CLOCK FOR DEPENDENT CARE RESPONSIBILITIES.

Professor T. Moore, Chair of the Tenure Committee presented the proposal. He also thanked Assistant Vice President Colleen Dolan-Greene for her able assistance.

The committee considered five aspects to be most important:

- It is reasonable to have a time limit.
- It ought to be an option for the faculty member.
- There is no intended link to leave or appointment type.
- The policy ought to be uniform and equitable.
- The committee tried to make it brief, broad and enabling, with the details to be worked out by individual units.

Questions and discussion arose from the Assembly. The choice of 6-month periods was questioned. It does not fit with the current cycle of units which consider tenure requests once per year; it might cause problems in course scheduling; and it is probably inadequate for individuals with serious dependent care responsibilities. The Tenure Committee had discussed this issue and considered 6 months a substantial period of time.

McDonald proposed an amendment to the proposal. In the third paragraph: "We recommend the option of three 6-month periods of stopping the tenure clock, for a total maximum of one and one-half years for any faculty member, ... [change subsequent 'both' to 'all']. The first year would be granted routinely, but the third 6-month period should be the subject of additional administrative review... (seconded) The amendment carried Yes=29, No=10.

A question was raised regarding other needs for stopping the tenure clock. The committee felt that dependent care was one concern that seemed to need to be addressed as a University-wide proposal; other concerns can be met on a case-by-case basis, as they are now. Ness commented that the proposal empowers and entitles faculty to stopping the tenure clock for dependent care, and other reasons can be individually requested.

In response to a question regarding retrospective cases, Moore replied that the committee did not deal with this; they were trying to establish a policy to enhance career planning.

Inquiries were made regarding policies at our peer institutions. Moore replied that several have 3 months, Dolan-Greene said that the California system has 1 year, and Goeppinger said that Princeton has 6 months.

Diana asked where the proposal went from here. Ness responded that it has been discussed by the Deans and Directors and it will go to the Provost and then to the Regents.

The amended motion to accept the proposal carried unanimously.

FACULTY RESPONSE TO CENTRAL CAMPUS PARKING STUDY

Ness said that Vice President Womack had declined to attend the Senate Assembly to discuss this issue, but is interested in faculty input. Summarized comments received from faculty so far were distributed, and Ness said that additional input is always welcome.

Potter: When are any decisions going to be made about these issues?

Miller: The faculty, via the Assembly, must be involved.

Ness: A number of expert faculty have agreed to work on a task force about this issue.

PRELIMINARY ASSEMBLY RESPONSES TO THE MICHIGAN MANDATE

Ness invited anyone to give their preliminary views on the issues that need discussion.

A suggestion was made that this document would be strengthened if the link between diversity and excellence was more explicitly articulated.

Another viewpoint expressed a preference for a more detailed document and that it is an important statement of principles.

It was suggested that the problem is one of stereotyped thinking and that the Senate Assembly should break new ground by using the expertise of the faculty to better inform the university community about definitional problems.

One Assembly member was "moved" by the document and thought it was admirable, given the scope of the audience and feels that Duderstadt needs support and recognition that this is a valuable statement.

Ness added that the the Chairs of all Senate Committees will be addressing the connection of the Mandate to the work of faculty governance. This document lays out a radical message: if we are to be excellent, it will require diversity.

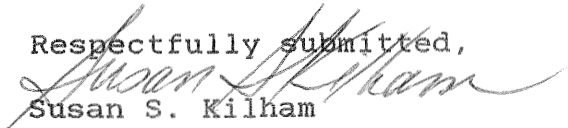
SENATE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONNAIRE

Ness made a brief summary of the responses to the questionnaire distributed in May about prioritizing issues. Basically, everyone wants to do something about everything. A more detailed analysis will take a little more time.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Susan S. Kilham
Senate Secretary