

Unapproved Minutes of the December 2, 1982 Meeting of the Faculty Senate.

Members absent: Velarides, Dillard, McMahan, Smith, Beiswenger, Fott, Gharavi, Till, McCoy, Hamel.

1. President Billy Thompson called the meeting to order at 3:20 p.m.
2. Minutes of the October 21 meeting were approved.
3. Remarks from President Thompson:

a. Regarding the Senate's recommendation of longevity recognition for faculty, President Riggs has approved the recommendation.

b. Regarding the Senate's recommended key policy, President Riggs has written of his desire for a compromise assuring faculty access as well as security for people and property.

4. Minutes of the November 11 meeting were approved.

5. Release time for Faculty Senate (Richard Yarbrow for Faculty Red Committee): After noting that discussion of the Distinguished Professor Award had been tabled, Professor Yarbrow presented the following report:

The Committee strongly recommends that three hours released time be given each quarter of the academic year to the President of the Faculty Senate so that he may better perform the duties of his position.

The Committee raises the following points in support of its recommendation.

a. Effective conduct of university affairs requires an improvement in communication between faculty and administration. This improvement in communication requires release time for the Senate President, enabling him to develop the wisest possible faculty consensus and to communicate this consensus to the administration. Similarly, release time will enable the Senate President to fully understand administrative concerns and meaningfully communicate these concerns to the faculty.

b. Given the following facts, the committee feels entirely justified in seeking release time, and that failure of the administration to grant release time would indicate a deficient respect for the faculty voice. Failure to provide release time would, therefore, have a deleterious effect on faculty morale. Conversely, provision of release time would have a positive effect on faculty morale.

The facts are these:

(1) Release time has already been granted for another position of similar importance.

(2) The President's Council has recommended release time for faculty senate presidents.

(3) All other SBR universities provide release time for faculty senate presidents.

(4) The Faculty Senate is recognized as the official voice of the APSU faculty and as an official unit in the APSU governance structure. Recent Senate presidents agree that for the Senate to effectively fulfill its role, the Senate President must have release time.

6. Moved that the Faculty Red Report on Release Time for the Faculty Senate President be accepted. Seconded and passed.
7. Moved that the Faculty Red report be referred to the University Assembly. Seconded and failed.
8. Report on Retention of Adult Students (Anthony Golden for the Academic White Committee). Professor Golden presented a two page document delineating recommendation for retaining and recruiting students, especially non-traditional students.
9. Moved that the Academic White Report on Retention of Adult Students be accepted as a preliminary, working report. Seconded and passed.
10. Moved that the Academic White Committee be charged to continue its work on recruitment and retention of students. Seconded and passed.
11. Report on Consistency of Meal Policy for off-campus classes. (Ron Gupton for Academic White Committee). Professor Gupton reports that under current policy inconsistency among colleges is possible, that such inconsistencies exist, and that there is no appeal process.
12. Moved that Vice President Sawrey clarify the Off-Campus Meal Policy (especially as regards what constitutes required hours on campus), making said policy consistent and fair. Seconded and passed.
13. Report on Guidelines for Merit Pay (Professor Gupton for Academic White Committee). Professor Gupton circulated a TEA survey on merit pay (attached) and noted that the survey indicates a lack of confidence in administration of the system.
14. Moved that the Faculty Senate resubmit a 1981-82 proposal regarding merit pay. According to this proposal, faculty, in conference with department chairs, would, within a specified range, determine the relative weights of teaching, research and service in ranking candidates for merit pay. Seconded.
15. Motion to table the previous motion. Seconded and passed.
16. Patents and Copyrights. Moved that discussion of patents and copyrights be tabled. Seconded and passed.
17. University Retreat (Ellen Weed). The retreat generated a long list of problems and solutions which has been forwarded to President Riggs. A written report will be sent to Senate and Assembly members.
18. Meeting adjourned at 4:35.