

Unapproved Minutes of the Regular Meeting
of the Faculty Senate, February 4, 1993

Senators Present: Asanbe, Buchanan, Carpenter, Christian, Cochener, Dillon, Fung, Glass, Gotcher, Hagewood, Mabry, Magrans, Matthews, Nussbaumer, Pallen, Rayburn, Richards, Shaffer, Tatham, Ukpolo, Wallace, White, Yarbrow, Badgett

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Tatham. The following correction was offered for the minutes of the January meeting:

- The Faculty White Committee was charged with drafting a resolution regarding class size.

The corrected minutes were approved. The agenda was approved.

This additional correction was offered after the meeting:

- *The figure for the spring semester FTE for the main campus is in error. The correct figure should be 4186.*

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Dr. Page

I have asked the chancellor for permission to address the '91 merit raises, some staff raises, and equity raises. We have not yet received permission to implement these raises. The Board says that this issue is still being studied. The faculty will be kept informed of any new developments.

We have asked members of the legislature if there has been any provision in any of the budget proposals concerning a raise on July 1. They answered that there has been no such provision as yet in proposals which had come before them.

Two university needs which currently have high priority are

- equipment needs
- additional faculty to reduce the number of courses taught by adjunct faculty and as overloads.

I have been meeting with department chairs in the "hard science" areas to get an understanding of their equipment needs. Deans will be notified that there will probably be some year-end money available (over and above the 2% which we are required to carry forward). A specific breakdown of equipment needs and a priority list have been established by department chairs and deans. Over \$200,000 may be spent on equipment this year. We have fallen behind in equipment purchases. \$200,000 will not solve the problem but it will help.

Regarding positions, Dr. Butler has been given permission to go ahead and advertise some positions.

Question: Do computers on faculty desks count as equipment?

Answer: Yes, but they are not included in that \$200,000 figure. Approximately 100 computers have been purchased this year, but we know that there are still some needs in that area.

We are currently making budget plans for next year based on 2%, 4%, and 6% increases in enrollment. There are some who would like to see us freeze enrollment at the present levels. This action is not possible, largely because of the demographics of the area. We are trying to have controlled growth, in other words, we are trying to make money for equipment and personnel as top priorities. We have over a 6% increase in enrollment this spring over last spring, putting enrollment up to about 7,000 students. It is better to have the problem of too many students than to have the problem of not enough students.

Question: The newspaper reported that our 6-year retention rate is 32%. Do we count Fort Campbell students when computing our retention rate?

Answer: Fort Campbell students are not counted, but the proximity of Fort Campbell does affect our retention rate. Military dependents who come to school on the main campus constitute a very transient portion of our student body. We point this fact out to the Commission on Higher Education. We are, however, trying to improve our graduation rate. Three years ago the rate was 26%. We have made progress.

Dr. Butler

Last Thursday bids were opened for the Harned Hall project. The lowest bid came in more than \$300,000 under budget. I will visit with Dean Campbell and the department chairs who will be going into that building regarding change orders for other things which may be needed. This building will be a showcase for technology in education. \$900,000 has been budgeted for equipment for Harned Hall.

Regarding the self-study report for Fort Campbell, the concerns in that report are at this time being addressed. The military is contemplating a new educational building at Fort Campbell.

Comment (Dr. Page): I think that the military is seriously considering this project. They have asked me for input, particularly in the design of the lab areas. I asked them how long it would take to get this building. They said, "It depends on how hard you lobby." I will lobby for this on a trip to Washington in March.

Two weeks ago we had a Friday afternoon session on internationalizing the curriculum. We had excellent faculty participation. One thing that we are thinking about for the future is naming a Director of International Education. There will be an office in Harned Hall devoted to international education.

There are a number of goals that we are working on and have been working on for several years:

- Communicating across the curriculum
- Teaching for critical thinking
- Recognizing the contributions of women and minorities.

We have made a great deal of progress on all of these fronts. I appreciate this progress, and I want to encourage us to keep these important goals before us.

Dr. Page and I were guests last week at Ball State University in Indiana. We were looking at the ways in which that university has incorporated technology into their classrooms. Classrooms there are truly multimedia centers in the sense that software, video tapes, CD ROM, etc. are housed in a central media center and are available in the classroom at the push of a button. To arrange for this, the faculty member simply notifies the media bank in advance as to what media will be needed. 65% of their faculty are taking advantages of these capabilities in their teaching.

Question: Do they have a center where their faculty can go to learn about the effective use of these tools in the classroom?

Answer: Yes, for the use of their own faculty. They also conduct workshops for other campuses. The person who heads their media center will be on our campus next month.

Question: Do you foresee a teaching-learning center for faculty here?

Answer: Our 21st Century Classroom will have most of this type of equipment in it. A new faculty member has been hired who is an expert in technology and its use in education. He is being paid out of the Bell-South Foundation grant.

We have the goal of having fiber-optic cable all over campus within the next three years. Of course our progress depends on the legislature and funding.

Comment: McCord needs telephone lines now. We have reached the limit on phone lines coming into that building.

Dr. Gore (Faculty Subcouncil)

These topics were discussed at the last subcouncil meeting:

- Equity and merit raises. Dr. Bach said that he would let the institutions know as soon as a decision is made. The chancellor's mother has been ill, and this may have delayed the decision process.
- Faculty status for librarians.
- The design of faculty offices. The chancellor seems to favor partitions which do not go to the ceiling. Faculty are concerned that this arrangement does not allow enough privacy for consultation with students.
- The half-cent sales tax. The subcouncil took the position that faculty should try to promote the continuation of the half-cent sales tax by writing to their legislators and/or passing resolutions concerning the tax in faculty senates.
- Budget considerations involving state employees taking courses.
- Adjunct faculty. There was concern that adjunct faculty in some institutions are being moved into tenure-track positions without sufficient input from faculty in departments. *A handout was distributed (and is attached to these minutes) regarding the percentage courses taught by adjunct faculty in the various institutions.*
- Dr. Gore plans to speak with State Senator Peggy Knight concerning issues related to education.

Dr. Corinne Mabry (Academic Council – January 27 Meeting)

- The distributive major in environmental geography was approved.
- Some of the bachelor's degree requirements were clarified in accordance with a SACS regulation.

- 24 weeks of military linguistics instruction may now apply toward the humanities core.
 - The CLEP exam in Introductory Psychology was approved.
 - The Advance Placement exam for foreign language was approved. Credit will be given for introductory courses only.
 - The business minor in engineering technology was deleted.
 - The graduate concentration known as "General Psychology" has been renamed "Psychological Science."
 - The Industrial Organizational Psychology Major was approved.
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- Some changes in the M.A. program in education were approved.
 - Psychology 5320 will now be a requirement in the master's degree program in curriculum and instruction - special education.
 - Calendar changes (applying to 1992-93 only):
 Summer registration - June 1
 Summer classes begin - June 2

OLD BUSINESS

Dr. Mike Gotcher (Chair, Faculty White Committee)

The attached resolution, drafted by the Faculty White Committee was proposed.

A motion was made to amend the resolution as follows:

Replace "class size should be determined by faculty members in the individual departments" with "class size should be determined by the college deans after they have obtained recommendations from the individual departments."

The motion was duly seconded. After discussion, the amendment was brought to a vote. The amendment failed with 7 senators voting in favor and 14 opposed.

Another motion was made to amend the resolution as follows:

Delete the last phrase from the resolution: "therefore, class size should be determined by faculty members in the individual departments."

The motion was duly seconded. After discussion, the amendment was brought to a vote. The amendment failed.

The motion was made that the faculty senate adopt the resolution as presented by the Faculty White Committee. The motion was duly seconded. The resolution was brought to a vote, and it passed with 19 senators voting in favor of the resolution and no senators voting in opposition.

Dr. Ramon Magrans

A successful retreat was held by the International Education Committee. The Center in Mexico has agreed to support faculty with room and board if they want to bring a class to Mexico.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Tatham

A request has been received for the Faculty Senate to study the faculty parking situation. This matter was referred to the Academic White Committee.

The meeting was adjourned.

