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## Faculty Senate Monthly Packet February 1979

Portland State University Faculty Senate

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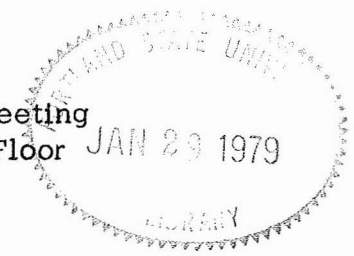
portland state university

# MEMORANDUM

TO Senators and Ex-Officio Members of the Senate      DATE January 22, 1979  
FROM Earl L. Rees, Secretary to the Faculty

The Senate will hold its regular meeting of the Faculty Senate on Monday, February 5, 1979, 3:00 p.m., 150 Cramer Hall.

- A. Roll
- \*B. Approval of Minutes of the January 8, 1979 meeting
- C. Announcements and Communications from the Floor
- D. Question Period
  - 1. Questions for Administrators
  - 2. Questions from the Floor for the Chair
- E. Reports from Officers of the Administration and Committees
- F. Unfinished Business - none
- G. New Business
  - \*1. Transfer Credits from Special Programs at Accredited Institutions other than Community Colleges - ARC, Kirrie
  - \*2. Proposal for Updating University Policies - Senate Steering Committee
- H. Adjournment



\*The following documents are included with this mailing:

- Regarding agenda items:
- B<sub>1</sub> - Minutes of the January 8, 1979 meeting
  - G<sub>1</sub> - Transfer Credits Proposal\*\*
  - G<sub>2</sub> - Proposal for Updating University Policies\*\*

\*\*Included for Senators and Ex-Officio Members only

PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY

Minutes: Faculty Senate Meeting, January 8, 1979  
Presiding Officer: Elaine Limbaugh  
Secretary: Earl Rees

Members Present: Adams, Anderson, Barmack, Becker, Bentley, Bierman, Blankenship, Brenner, Brooke, Brown, Carl, Cease, Cumpston, Daily, Diman, Edgington, Erzurumlu, Fiasca, Friesen, Gard, Halley, Hardt, Hashimoto, Hoogstraat, Johnson, Kimball, Kimbrell, LeGuin, Limbaugh, Manning, Markgraf, Merrick, Morris, Moor, Moseley, Newberry, Newhall, Olson, Rad, N. Rose, Scheans, Seiser, Streeter, Sugarman, Tinnin, Underwood, Walker, Waller, Wurm, Wyers.

Alternates Present: C. Smith for Jones, Farr for Shotola.

Ex-Officio Members: Corn, Dittmer, Forbes, Harris, Heath, Howard, Rauch, Rees, Richelle, Todd, Trudeau, Van't Slot.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On page 1, under highlights of discussion of the annual report of the Curriculum Committee, "intend" in line 7 should read "intent." The minutes of the December 4, 1978 Senate meeting were approved as corrected.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

1. Peter Van't Slot, the new Assistant to the President for University Relations, was introduced.
2. Kathy Calhoun is the new secretary to Mr. Van't Slot and the Secretary to the Faculty.
3. Waller reported on efforts to initiate the office of a Faculty Lobbyist for the State System. Pledges now exceed \$20,000 and initial applicants will be interviewed following the IFS meeting at PSU on January 3, 1979. Waller urged more support from PSU faculty either through payroll deduction or outright pledges. Governor Atiyeh will be the evening speaker at the January 12, 1979 meeting of IFS.

QUESTION PERIOD

1. Questions for Administrators - none submitted
2. Questions from the Floor for the Chair - none

REPORTS FROM OFFICERS OF THE ADMINISTRATION AND COMMITTEES - none

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS

1. Graduate Council Proposals, James Bentley. Bentley, commenting on points 1 - 7 of item G-1 as included in the Senate mailing, said a proposal similar to the doctoral degree time limitations was passed in June. The change makes the procedure for taking another comprehensive exam more flexible. The Senate has previously looked at part 6, Plagiarism, but not in the exact form being presented at this time. The other items are, in a sense, new. Bentley moved that each item be approved separately. (seconded)

A. Bentley moved that the Senate approve part 1, the Doctoral Degree-Time Limitation proposal, of item G-1 as included in the Senate mailing. (seconded)

Highlights of Discussion: In response to a question, Dean Rauch said the academic head of a program and program directors were one in the same. Responding to questions concerning the wording of the proposal, Bentley said he assumed some editorial changes would be made prior to publication of the proposal.

Action: Passed by voice vote.

B. Bentley moved acceptance of part 2, the Final Oral Examination proposal, of item G-1. (seconded)

Discussion: none

Action: Passed by voice vote.

C. Bentley moved for approval of part 3, Limit on Omnibus Course Credits, of item G-1. (seconded)

Highlights of Discussion: Erzurumlu asked if the 410 designation was considered an omnibus number. Bentley said the Graduate Council was most concerned with the 405 and 407 courses. The main concern, Bentley added, was to limit, in a Master's degree program, the number of courses which have never been scrutinized by the Senate. Therefore, the intent was to include the 410 designation. Rauch noted that 80% of some programs are made up of omnibus numbers. Brown asked if the thesis research number was considered an omnibus number. Rauch said it was not. Markgraf said he thought the use of 407"g" was prohibited. Rauch

said this type of listing is still coming through. Bierman asked why the 407 class is offered if a corresponding 500-level class exists. Richelle answered that the 407 is already scheduled for more than one student and the graduate student is put in the class taking it as a 407g. Tinnin asked about the effective date of the proposal. Rauch said it would be in the new catalog.

Action: Passed by voice vote.

- D. Bentley moved for approval of part 4, 500-Level Courses for the Master's Degree, of item G-1. (seconded)

Discussion: none

Action: Passed by voice vote.

- E. Bentley moved the approval of part 5, Summary of Procedures for Doctoral Degrees (Pre-Candidacy for Degree and Candidacy for degree statements), of item G-1 as included in the Senate mailing. (seconded)

Highlights of Discussion: Gard asked if the dissertation and advisory committees were one and the same. Rauch said that while change is not mandatory, the membership could be changed to fit the needs of the student. In response to concern about student input in part 8 of the Pre-Candidacy for Degree statement, Rauch said the members of the dissertation committee are recommended by the department for his approval and students are able to participate in this process. Streeter said point 3 of the Pre-Candidacy statement implies student input throughout the whole process. Rauch said the twenty-two points of the summary of procedures for doctoral degrees are especially important in that there are two new Ed. D. degrees without definite established procedures. Bolton, referring to points 7 and 8 of the Pre-Candidacy statements, said in actual practice the student works out the research problem with the dissertation committee. Bentley pointed out that part 9 addresses this problem. Richelle noted that part 7 refers to a "research problem," a broad, relatively undefined area of research, which is then pinned down to a "written dissertation proposal" in part 9. Moseley moved that part 7 of the Pre-Candidacy for Degree statement be eliminated. (seconded)

Action on Moseley Amendment: Passed by voice vote.

Discussion on Original Motion as Amended: Manning asked about the intent of "may be required to take a preliminary exam" in part 4 of the Pre-

Candidacy statement. Rauch said taking a preliminary exam is not a regulation. The exam depends on student performance. Waller moved that the part "All incompletes must be removed . . .," in point 9 of the Pre-Candidacy for Degree statement, be amended to read "All incompletes in courses applied to the degree must be removed no later than two weeks before Commencement." (seconded)

Discussion: none

Action on Waller Amendment: Passed by voice vote.

Action on Main Motion as Amended: Passed by voice vote.

- F. Bentley moved approval of part 6, Plagiarism (includes attachment), of item G-1. (seconded)

Discussion: none

Action: Passed by voice vote.

- G. Bentley moved acceptance of part 7, the Master's Thesis (includes attachment) of item G-1. (seconded)

Highlights of Discussion: Fiasca, referring to the second paragraph of the part entitled, Subject, asked what was meant by the vague statement "appropriate methodology." Bentley said the main concern was to have in print a statement of the minimum requirements for a Master's degree. Brooke noted that the proper methodology would be determined by the student's committee. Rauch said the concern was the lack of approved methodology in a number of theses submitted to his office. It was moved that the second paragraph under the heading Subject be deleted and that the words "and appropriate methodology" be added at the end of the first paragraph under Subject. (seconded)

Action on Amendment: Passed by voice vote.

Further Discussion of Original Motion as Amended: Richelle, referring to the paragraph on Style of the Master's Thesis attachment, asked about the statement "acceptance by a refereed journal or scholarly publisher is not a criterion for a successful thesis." He asked if that means the student should seek publication, acceptance or rejection not being important, or whether it means that a thesis accepted for publication can be rejected. Bentley said publication in a refereed journal is not a requirement. Kimbrell moved that the following changes be made in the Master's Thesis

attachment: at the end of the first sentence of the first paragraph under Nature, "significant piece of scholarship" should read "significant piece of scholarship or a creative project." In the first sentence in the paragraph under Style, "the thesis must be written ..." should read "the thesis or creative project report must be written ..." (seconded)

Highlights of the Discussion: Richelle said that if the intent of the words "creative project" is to obtain Senate approval for the word "thesis" for the MFA, this is not the proper way to pursue the matter. Kimbrell said a thesis can be a creative project. Rauch pointed out that the MFA is not a thesis degree.

Action on Kimbrell Amendment: Defeated by voice vote.

Action on Original Motion as Amended: Passed by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT 4:18 p.m.

The Academic Requirements Committee submits the following motion for Faculty Senate action:

Moved that PSU discontinue specifying maximum numbers of credits transferable from special programs at accredited institutions other than community colleges; that, instead, the University evaluate credits earned in such programs on a course-for-course basis.

Argument:

In the motion, the phrase "accredited institutions other than community colleges" refers at this time primarily to medical and dental schools offering a range of two-year health science programs. The motion does not make specific reference to these programs, however, because of the growing number of other accredited specialized institutions. The wording of the motion provides the Admissions Office with a general procedure that removes the necessity for having to request a number of specific rulings in the future. The problem to be resolved by the motion is, then, two fold: first, the motion would remove inequities imposed by the policy currently governing the transfer of credit earned in health science programs; second, it would provide a fair and valid procedure for handling credits from other accredited specialized programs.

The policy currently governing transfer of credits earned in health science is block credit transfer. Block credit transfer restricts to 48 the number of credits a student can transfer to PSU; further, it disallows any transfer at all when a health science student has not completed two years of his program. Thus, block transfer often results in a student's losing credits that are otherwise regularly accepted by PSU or in his not being able to transfer any credits at all should he leave a health science program at the end of the first year.

An example of how the restrictions imposed by block transfer unfairly limit a student may be helpful. One student applying to PSU had accumulated 54 hours in his first year in a health science program. Because he had not completed his second year, none of his hours could transfer. If the proposed policy had been in effect, he would have been allowed 44 hours on a course-for-course evaluation. Under the present policy, had he gone back to his health science program and earned another 54 hours during his second year, his original 44 hours would have been eligible for transfer, but he could have transferred only 4 additional hours from his second year's work.

In considering this motion it is important to remember that courses regularly accepted for transfer are those which have already been determined to be parallel or equivalent to those offered by PSU or to be of collegiate nature. Whenever any course that has not been previously approved is offered for transfer, that course is sent to the appropriate department for evaluation. Only a department can determine the transferability of a course.

In view of the fact that all credits transferred from community colleges are accepted on a course-for-course basis, equity requires that the block transfer policy be dropped.



PROPOSAL FOR UPDATING UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Senate Steering Committee  
January 22, 1979

Every policy adopted by the Faculty Senate, and approved by the University administration if such approval is required for implementation, shall be reviewed by the Faculty Senate at least once every 5 years and shall be reaffirmed, modified, or withdrawn at that time.

It is the responsibility of each appropriate committee to initiate such review and to make its recommendations to the Faculty Senate. Those policies not related to any standing committee shall be reviewed by the Steering Committee which in turn shall submit recommendations to the Faculty Senate for action.

The purpose of this proposed policy is to provide an adequate review procedure so that outdated, inadequate or inappropriate policies will automatically be brought before the Senate for consideration.

Implementation: The Steering Committee, in consultation with university committees, shall determine the implementation of this proposal.