Faculty Senate Monthly Packet November 1998

Portland State University Faculty Senate

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TO: Senators and Ex-officio Members to the Senate
FR: Sarah E. Andrews-Collier, Secretary to the Faculty

The Faculty Senate will hold its regular meeting on November 2, 1998, at 3:00 p.m. in room 53 CH.

AGENDA

A. Roll

*B. Approval of the Minutes of the October 5, 1998, Meeting

C. Announcements and Communications from the Floor
   Provost's Report

D. Question Period
   *1. Question to Vice President for University Relations Gary Withers & Dir. of Marketing Jan Woodruff

E. Reports from the Officers of Administration and Committees
   1. Steering Committee Report on Recommendations for University Studies - Cease
   *2. Facilities Report - Dir. of Facilities Brian Chase

F. Unfinished Business
   *1. Proposal to Postpone B.A. Degree Requirement Action - Cease

G. New Business
   *1. ARC Proposal for Proration of University Studies Transfer Credits - Wetzel
   2. Proposal from IFS to Approve Process for Faculty Nomination to State Board - Cease

H. Adjournment

*The following documents are included with this mailing:
B Minutes of the October 5, 1998, Senate Meeting
D1 Question to Vice Pres. Gary Withers and Jan Woodruff
E2 Facilities Report
F1 Proposal to Postpone B.A. Degree Requirement Action
G1 Proposal for Proration of University Studies Transfer Credits

Secretary to the Faculty
341 Cramer Hall • 725-4416/Fax:725-4499 • andrewscolliers@pdx.edu
PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY

Minutes: Faculty Senate Meeting, October 5, 1998
Presiding Officer: Ronald C. Cease
Secretary: Sarah E. Andrews-Collier


Alternates Present: Hopp for Lieberman, Crowell for Powell.

Members Absent: Beasley, Corcoran, Elteto, Herrington, Hunter, L. Johnson, Koch, Mandaville, Manning, Morgan, Skinner, Watanabe.


A. ROLL

B. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 3:06 p.m. The Minutes of the June 1, 1998 meeting of the Faculty Senate were approved with the following corrections:

p. 7, Para. 6, after "...comprehensive." add "...impartial financial audit."

C. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

President Bernstine has approved the actions of the Senate passed at the June 1, 1998, meeting, pursuant to the Oregon State Department of Higher Education Internal Management Directives 1.125 (Authority over Faculties and Committees) and 1.126 (Internal Governance):
* Amendment to the PSU Faculty Constitution, Art. IV, Sec. 4, 4, m) University Planning Council.

*Three motions covering graduate program and course proposals/changes, including: M.S. option in Theater Arts, Ph.D. in Urban Studies, M. of Software Engineering, M.B.A. "Management of Innovation and Technology option (MIT)," and courses in Computer Science, Music, Architecture.

The 1997-98 Faculty Governance Guide will be distributed beginning October 6, 1998. The following are changes in Senate and committee appointments since publication:

Karen Noordhoff, ED, has resigned from Senate, and is replaced by Douglas Robertson, effective October 2, 1998.

Paul Adams, SSW Senator, has resigned. Joan Shireman replaces him.

Julie Reynolds, IOA (Inst. on Aging), has been appointed Chair of Student Conduct Committee. New members appointed to that committee are Paulette Watanabe, EAP, and Maria Wilson-Figueroa, SOC.

In addition, please note the following omission from the roster of Ex-officio Members of Faculty Senate: Gary Withers, Vice President for University Relations.

CEASE made several announcements regarding process, particularly noting that this year he will take up Agenda items out of order in some cases if their relative importance merits this action.

CEASE noted that IFS met last weekend and adopted a motion regarding the appointment of a faculty member to the State board. This motion asks each of the Senates of the system institutions to go on record supporting a nomination process whereby the individual Senate forwards a slate of nominees to the IFS, and IFS will select among these names to recommend a slate of approximately 3 faculty members to be considered for appointment to the board.

CEASE referenced the Senate motion of 1 June 1998, which charged the Steering Committee to direct UnSt Task Force recommendations to appropriate committees and/or bodies for monitoring and reporting. CEASE noted the two Steering Committees met in June to review this item and the 1998-99 Steering Committee will be continuing action on this charge in the weeks to come.
Provost's Report

REARDON noted enrollment is up, with a 3% increase in headcount and 2-plus % increase in credit hours. To date, we have total student credit hours equal to that at the end of the 4th week last year. This will also result in an increase in "carrying load" if that trend holds. In relation to cohorts of students, this year there is a major increase in first time college students, there is a very large increase in freshman transfer students, and there is an increase in sophomore transfer students. REARDON yielded to Vice Pres. Pernsteiner to present the remainder of the report.

PERNSTEINER noted that the state system has adopted the new budget model, proposed it to the Governor and discussed it with the state senate budget committee. If this model is adopted and funded during the legislative session, we will keep the tuition our students pay, we will be paid from the general fund per student based on level and discipline, and we will be paid for certain negotiated non-instructional services, e.g. CPRC, which were historically absorbed into the budget. The state system budget proposal for the next biennium adds $115. million over the current service-level rollups. If the proposal is fully funded, more than $35. million will accrue to PSU over the biennium, giving us the largest percentage funding increase of any state system school. How much of a total state system budget increase we will see will be based upon two factors, the economic climate of the state and how good a case we make for increases. Our job now is to convince the Governor and the legislature that we can serve students better, serve more students, and provide more advantages and value to the state using the new model that allocates rewards by institution.

PERNSTEINER continued, this new model will cause substantial internal changes and we must presume that the model will be approved, as implementation will take effect Summer Session 1999. The administration will be meeting with the Faculty Senate Budget Committee in coming months to review a variety of policy issues and receive recommendations. These include, will internal allocations follow the new budget model, how will the incentive structure work, what kinds of programs will be housed in extended studies versus regular departments and programs, what will tuition be, what will be fee remission policies be, what kinds of payments will be made to support areas such as Facilities, Information Services, Student Services, etc.

In response to a question from BRENNER, PERNSTEINER stated that his office has not applied the model on an internal basis to date. That is obviously in the offing. The hope is that the 4-5 pages of policy issues which Jay Kenton has so far identified will have been addressed by late February. Ways and Means hearings will take place March-April and we must be able to project for the legislature what the outcomes will be for PSU.
In response to a question by GOSLIN, PERNSTEINER noted that the model finally ended up with 12 "cells" based upon class level and discipline expense. This indicates a recognition for the first time that Master’s level programs are more expensive. CEASE asked what would be the outcome if the budget does not increase by $115 million. PERNSTEINER replied that some schools, PSU not included, would have a problem, but that all would be held harmless at the start. In response to a question regarding grants, diversity, etc., PERNSTEINER replied that each institution will retain the current level of tuition remission, and anything up or down from that will be an internal decision. In response to a question, PERNSTEINER reiterated that one of the major issues is the degree to which we mirror the new budget model internally, as there are reasons pro and con.

PERNSTEINER moved to a Facilities update. In addition to the Urban Center and the playing field, renovation of SMC, including the new child care facility, will commence around term break. The Benson House will be moved to the campus if PSU Foundation efforts combined with City of Portland funding will provide for the move and renovation. We will eventually complete acquisition of the 4th Ave. Building. The Peace Center will be housed on the first floor, and PPL will continued lease the second floor until bonds are bought out. The grade school building is on hold indefinitely, pending school district planning.

D. QUESTION PERIOD

None

E. REPORTS FROM THE OFFICERS OF ADMINISTRATION AND COMMITTEES

1. Faculty Development Committee Final Report

FULLER represented this supplemental report from last year’s committee and there were no questions. CEASE accepted the report for Senate.

2. Report of the Interinstitutional Faculty Senate Meeting of 2-3 October

WOLLNER reported to Senate (printed report attached), noting that Cooper and Cease also attended and were available for questions.

BROWN asked how we get across our position on the changes to PEBB. WOLLNER replied that faculty should fill out the survey, and call AAUP with their comments.
ZELICK asked what is PEBB's mandate. WOLLNER stated that the Governor mandated the merger, and they are charged with obtaining the best and least expensive coverage.

CEASE reminded Senators it is important to complete and submit the survey if we are to indicate our interest in preventing the further erosion of our benefits.

F. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Proposal for B.A. Degree Requirement

ROSENGRANT presented the proposal and WETZEL took questions. ROSENGRANT reviewed the history of the B.A. proposal, and directed Senators to materials from the 1 June 1998 Senate meeting which are attached to the minutes, as well as today's "FI" materials, which include the proposal, a draft definition of the baccalaureate degree and the motion. The assumption is that General Education is to provide broad exposure at the lower level. The two degree choices should provide an intermediate experience in sciences and arts, before proceeding to advanced work in one or the other. The most problematic issues with the current proposal are the lack of a universal science requirement, which many faculty favored in last year's discussions, and the reduction of the foreign language requirement. The latter determination, however, is partially based on the new foreign language entrance requirements.

In response to a question, ROSENGRANT noted the ESL requirement would remain the same.

KARANT-NUNN stated that the lack of the science requirement in this proposal is still a "sore spot." This is compounded by the continuing weakness in the science education component of the University Studies program, as opposed to social sciences and arts and letters.

COOPER stated this must be construed as a reduction in the foreign language requirement. ROSENGRANT stated it is theoretically, but two years of most high school-level foreign language does not equal two years of college foreign language. The choice to reduce the language requirement was based on the strong opposition to extensive requirement in place at present. A. JOHNSON noted that the language requirement was reduced in the proposal in order to return other portions of the distributions.
BRENNER stated there is a serious flaw in the University Studies curriculum and only if we assign one term to science/mathematics in the program will we regain the science/math background necessary to the degree.

WAMSER stated he supports the universal science requirement. The urgent change in the B.S. requirement was forwarded last year because "36 credits" was too loose a requirement with no distributions designated. General Education includes arts and letters, and we have lumped social sciences with either side.

BROWN stated the problems with the UnSt Program which Karant-Nunn references are action items at present. She urged consideration that the wrong language used in discussing and evaluating the program undermines progress.

PARSHALL questioned why the language requirement would be reduced when the current educational emphasis statewide and beyond is to enlarge foreign language exposure, not reduce it. One quarter at the 200-level is not enough. D. JOHNSON stated he seconded Parshall's remarks. WETZEL reminded the body that the new high school requirement is based on proficiency not seat time, which will not necessarily exempt students from further foreign language requirements.

KARANT-NUNN reiterated that most of the UnSt courses are no substitute for a mathematics/science course. A. JOHNSON stated that all that is left of the B.A. at present is the two-year foreign language requirement. FULLER stated that ________, and foreign language and the sciences are necessary more than ever in the emerging world environment. WAMSER noted there are now 28 credits on both sides, but both requirements are less than previously, and suggested that a balance would be appropriate, by adding 4 credits of math/science to the B.A. requirement. MOOR urged that care be taken not to increase the distribution requirement or elective options then decrease. GOSLIN suggested debated be concluded as no consensus either way was emerging.

CEASE concluded the debate, and stated that the issue will be returned to the Steering Committee for deliberation on the next step to be taken.

G. NEW BUSINESS

None

H. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:24 p.m.
IFS was addressed by Mark Nelson, Association of Oregon Faculties (AOF) lobbyist, Grattan Kerans, Government Relations Director, Oregon University System (OUS), and Ed Dennis, Oregon Student Association (OSA) Director. They gave an overview of the legislative interim and prospects for the 1999 session.

Nelson said the OUS budget has been prepared and presented to Governor Kitzhaber. The problem is that the Governor seems to have a different order of priorities than that which OUS supporters would envision; for example, he seems to value initiatives in the environmental realm over higher education. He will thus present his causes earlier and more forcefully to the Legislature and, in any case, will give the legislature an OUS budget one-half to one-third below OUS desires (or about $120 million).

Kerans asserted that OUS is putting on the "full court press" over the interim and will be continuing to do so in the upcoming session (a strategy never before practiced by the system, he claimed). The strategy in talking to legislators is to discuss system needs first in terms of what Oregon gets for money dedicated to OUS, and what it does for students of every kind. In particular, he said, these discussions would be an attempt to relate higher education spending to each legislator's constituents, in order to make it relevant to the needs of each district, even those without an institution in them.

The speakers cautioned that any additional funds OUS gets will be financed on cuts to other agencies, promising a difficult and competitive struggle in the upcoming session. The Governor has, in fact, already directed agencies to present budgets reflecting cuts. (The OUS budget is the current services budget roll-up plus half of the original request: $60 million versus $120 million).

Ed Dennis reported that OSA met with over fifty legislators this summer and had pushed its "Access To Quality" agenda devised in the Spring. This campaign includes a tuition freeze and a faculty salary increment which were to be included in the Governor's budget. OSA has since modified its message and is now telling its contacts "fund the new OUS budget model and you automatically get access to quality."

All higher ed coalition members, Dennis said, must "hammer" the Governor between now and next session--reminding him it's his turn to "step up" because Oregon spends $91 per capita for higher education while the average of the thirteen western states is $151. He also noted that higher education supporters need to register students to vote if they are to get the desired turnout of 62 to 65 percent for the November election, the level sufficient to ensure a legislature friendly to higher education.

All of the speakers emphasized that OUS has done a remarkable job of coordinating their efforts thus far to get a new message of higher education out: that in the wake of reversal of the negative budgets since 1990, OUS recent increases have been used effectively and the system has used them effectively. Despite this success in communicating OUS triumphs, however, the speakers stated clearly that the level of "noise" in support of increased funding must go up from
higher education's partisans, particularly with reference to Governor Kitzhaber. He is, they asserted, currently the weak link in making the higher education case to the Legislature, followed by Brady Adams, President of the Senate, and then Speaker of the House Lynn Lundquist, presuming he is reelected to the post. If they can be made supporters, the rest of the Legislature will be much easier to convince.

Representative Barbara Ross, Democrat of Corvallis (Dist. #36), spoke next. A supporter of higher education, she thinks there will be excess funds of about $120 million in the session, but believes OUS will get only about $40 million, or one-third of its original request. She expects a chaotic session with intense competition among many deserving agencies and needs--law enforcement, county government and prosecutors, public health, and infrastructure, particularly roads.

The message of all the speakers was that faculty must organize campus by campus and get out and work on behalf of friends of higher education, because there is a real chance to make a difference for the next session.

Saturday, 3 October
Discussion in the Saturday IFS session focused largely on the issue of the faculty member on the State Board of Higher Education. In the 1997 legislative session, PSU-AAUP, AOF, and IFS had successfully lobbied a bill into law that gave the Governor the discretion to name a faculty member to the State Board. The Act's passage was made possible by the higher education coalition's acceptance of a modification to the original bill that permitted such latitude rather than directing a faculty appointment. Yet the two vacancies that did occur after passage were given to others this summer, despite the fact that the coalition's agreement was predicated on Governor Kitzhaber promise to select a faculty member for the first available opening.

The next opening is supposed to occur in July '99 and the IFS has devised a plan in connection with AOF and PSU-AAUP to present a united front on two strong candidates in order to make the Governor do what he originally promised:

1) campus senates will forward recommends to a small group of IFS, AOF and PSU-AAUP representatives;
2) this group will choose perhaps two names of people who will have agreed to serve if selected; and,
3) names would then be returned to the various senates for endorsement.

A forthcoming letter from Kemble Yates, IFS president, to the campus senates will formally reiterate these points, but it was thought urgent for the campus senates to begin discussions of the matter as soon as possible, hence the announcement at the recent meeting.

Maggie Niess, President of the OSU Senate spoke about the abolition of the BUBB (staff) and SEBB (faculty) benefits boards and the advent of PEBB--the combination of BUBB and SEBB--and the possible adverse consequences for faculty. There was concern on the OSU campus about the loss of the opt-out clause and the loss of the cafeteria feature of the SEBB plan. Meanwhile, she reported, Blue Cross Plan III, the most heavily subscribed health care option for faculty across the OUS campuses (except at PSU) has been dropped for 1998-99.
The 28 September open meeting of the PEBB planners did nothing to assuage concerns about the PEBB health care benefits options, because, for example, while it was said that there would continue to be a cafeteria plan, it would be considerably reduced compared to Plan III. Professor Niess also noted that the meeting was rancorous, with the chief PEBB planner displaying some hostility to questioning of the proposals.

A benefit information packet will be coming to faculty soon with more detailed information and a survey about what employees will want in the new PEBB offerings and faculty are encouraged to fill it out. However, Niess observed that the instrument may not be adequate for faculty to express preferences, inasmuch as it only covers limited subjects. Moreover, she was skeptical about how much attention will be paid to input.

Niess expressed additional concern that the PEBB options seem to be running toward HMOS which, she asserted, do not work well for faculty, who are often not in the locale of the HMO covering them, owing to research trips, extension assignments in remote places, and the like. She strongly advised each faculty member to fill out the survey carefully and to offer additional comments on matters not raised by the instrument where doing so would provide important insight to planners on faculty needs.

Next year, she said, everyone will be held harmless, but in 2000 “all bets are off.” One strategy is for higher education to have its own plan within PEBB and that is a live option if, indeed, the PEBB options turn out to be inadequate. But higher education, and faculty in particular, needs to make clear to the PEBB board that we are different from other state employees. We have until January 1999 to set our 2000 proposals and, she said, we should get to work.

Finally, budget was taken up again. IFS believes our message to politicians should be: Fully fund the model ($120 million) above current service levels. That is the message that will be delivered to the State Board itself and to the Legislature by IFS representatives.
Questions for Vice President for University Relations Gary Withers & Director of Marketing Jan Woodruff

1. Recent articles in The Oregonian and the PSU Vanguard have suggested that the Office of Marketing and Communication envisions a direct role for itself in academic decision making. What are the components of the marketing strategy? Also, please indicate to the Faculty Senate, who are the representatives of the PSU faculty, what role is being suggested for the Office of Marketing and Communication in curricular and other academic matters. Has this role been discussed with the Provost, Council of Academic Deans, or other official bodies of the University that have academic roles and responsibilities?

2. The Office of Marketing and Communication recently eliminated staff positions that were responsible for providing information about PSU to news organizations. What is the Marketing office plan for ensuring the timely and accurate release of information to the press, and for monitoring news reports about PSU?

Faculty Senate Meeting, November 2, 1998
At the meeting of 12 October 1998, the Faculty Senate Steering Committee and Pat Wetzel, Academic Requirements Committee Chair, reviewed the proposal to amend the B.A. requirement and the issues raised in the Senate debate on this issue. It was clear to all that while there is consensus that the B.A. be amended to reflect the recent changes in the B.S.

The Steering Committee proposes the following motion:

The B.A. Requirement Proposal be returned to the Academic Requirements Committee to resolve issues of consensus with interested and appropriate parties regarding: 1) the definition of the baccalaureate degree, 2) the foreign language requirement, and 3) inclusion of a 4 cr. science/mathematics requirement. The ARC will return this item to the Faculty Senate on January 4, 1999, for final consideration.
On May 20, 1998 the University Studies Committee approved the following recommendation to revise the interpretation of University Studies requirements for students transferring with 45 to 89 hours.

Rationale:
In the Fall of 1997 65.4% of the entering or "new" students were transfer students. Students who transferred 45 to 89 credit hours made up 36% (n=617) of the transfer students. The present interpretation of the University Studies requirement is that students in this category would come in as sophomores and take 3 Sophomore Inquiries regardless of how close they may be to Junior standing. This has created a frustration among transfer students in this category and perpetuated a situation where many of these students must petition the Academic Requirements Committee for exceptions. Petitions could become the norm instead of the exception.

Proposal:
This proposal would break down University Studies requirements to better match the students' academic credit hours with the appropriate University Studies course of study. A related issue is the role of Transfer Transition for these students. Below is a table of requirements for addressing the above transfer student issues.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit hours transferred</th>
<th>UNST requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30 to 44 hours (n=241 in the fall of 1997)</td>
<td>Transfer Transition + 3 SINQ courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 to 89 hours (n=617 in the fall of 1997)</td>
<td>3 SINQ courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 to 59 hours</td>
<td>2 SINQ courses*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 to 74 hours</td>
<td>1 SINQ course*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75 to 89 hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The Upper-Division Cluster must come from one of the SINQ classes. See 1998-99 PSU Bulletin, p. 15

On Oct 8, 1998 the ARC approved this UNST recommendation.