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Faculty Senate Monthly Packet February 1985

Portland State University Faculty Senate

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MEMORANDUM

To: Senators and Ex-officio Members of the Senate  
From: Ulrich H. Hardt, Secretary of the Faculty

January 21, 1985

The Faculty Senate will hold its regular meeting on February 4, 1985, at 3:00 p.m. in 150 Cramer Hall.

AGENDA

A. Roll

*B. Approval of the Minutes of the January 14, 1985, Meeting

C. Announcements and Communications from the Floor

D. Question Period

1. Questions for Administrators
   a. Question for President Blumel, submitted by the Steering Committee: "What basic differences are there between the State Board's budget requests and those of the Governor's and what impact will they have on PSU?"
   b. Question for Phil Bogue, submitted by the Advisory Council: "Several members of the faculty have expressed disappointment with Governor Atiyeh's recommendations for PSU in the higher education budget. What advice would you offer individuals or groups who want to most effectively express their views to their legislators?"
   c. Question for President Blumel, submitted by the Steering Committee: "Given the unique positions of the two Oregon Senators, what is PSU doing to put forward any proposals for federal funds which might be available, benefitting the University broadly?"

2. Questions from the Floor for the Chair

E. Reports from the Officers of Administration and Committees

1. Winter Registration Up-date -- Blumel

F. Unfinished Business -- None

G. New Business

H. Adjournment

*The following documents are included with this mailing:

*B Minutes of January 14, 1985, Senate Meeting**

**Mailing to Senators and Ex-officio Members only.
PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY

Minutes: Faculty Senate Meeting, January 14, 1985
Presiding Officer: Nancy Tang
Secretary: Ulrich H. Hardt

Members Present: Beeson, Bennett, Bentley, Bjork, Brenner, Cabelly, Carl, Cogan, Cooper, Diman, Hakanson, Harmon, Jackson, A. Johnson, D. Johnson, Kempner, Kimbrell, Koskoff, Kristof, Lall, Martinez, Maynard, Moor, Neklason, Newberry, Olson, Petersen, Reardon, Reece, Rodich, Scheans, Sheridan, Smeltzer, Solie, Sommerfeldt, Soohoo, Spolek, Tang, Tracy, Walton, West, White, Williams, Wolk, Wyers, Yoshikami.


Members Absent: Cawthorne, Constans, Forbes, Grimes, Heneghan, Hillman, Mandaville, Robertson, Rose.

Ex-officio Members Present: Blumel, Bogue, Corn, Dobson, Edgington, Erzurumlu, Forbes, Hardt, Harris, Heath, Miller, Morris, Ross, Schendel, Williams, Guy for Leu, Nunn for Paudler.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the December 3, 1984, meeting were approved after changing the last sentence of paragraph one under "Question Period" (p. 8) to "PSU has achieved setting parity as a state goal."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DUNBAR announced that the women's volleyball team became the national NCAA champion in December, and she congratulated the team and its coach, Jeff Mozzochin, who was introduced to the Senate.

DASH announced that the Faculty Support Fund will no longer accept contributions. 47 faculty members have contributed to the fund from which four terminated faculty have received $8,840 for assistance with research, attendance at professional meetings and similar activities. A balance of $6,639 remains, and eleven faculty are still contributing. He explained that non-tenured faculty were also eligible for assistance. What to do with the remaining funds at the end of this academic year needs to be decided, and DASH invited ideas. For any requests or input the following persons may be contacted: John Hammond, Joanne Fleming, Jim Heath or John Dash.
1. EDGINGTON gave the following answer to the question regarding asbestos at PSU:

"We have asbestos within buildings at Portland State. It is in most commercial structures built prior to the early 1970's. It was used primarily for fireproofing and insulation. It had good fire resistant and heat resistant qualities. Further, as long as the fireproofing remains undisturbed and the insulation is not in need of repair, no particular hazard exists. However, whenever work is done in areas which contain asbestos, such as the space between ceilings of a room and the floor slab above, there is the potential that it can become airborne. If it is friable and it appears it can get into the air, it is either removed or contained. This is done by a contractor who is experienced in the removal of hazardous waste material. In such cases, all standard procedures required by the Environmental Protection Agency for space isolation, discontinuance of ventilation through the subject space, use of prescribed equipment and clothing for workers involved with removal or encapsulation are followed. After the abatement procedure, the area is retested, and if determined to be within established limits, the original project requiring access to the space will proceed.

Use of asbestos-containing materials as insulation occurs generally within mechanical spaces, tunnels and pipe chases, and is not available to the general University population.

Up to now, the largest removal of asbestos on this campus was from the unoccupied attic of Lincoln Hall, at a cost of $30,000. Smaller removal projects have occurred in Science I, and in the Cramer Hall heating plant in conjunction with major steam valve overhauls.

In any substantive remodel or renovation on campus, asbestos evaluation is a basic part of the design process, and the treatment of asbestos-containing materials becomes an added and routine additional cost of such remodels.

There is no imminent respiratory hazard for the general population of the University, and we do not foresee any circumstance where such hazard could readily increase. Over time, the majority, if not all, asbestos-containing materials will have been abated here, but only after substantial investment.

If there are questions on specific facilities or technical aspects of asbestos abatement, I recommend that you contact John Sundberg or Elliott Estes in the Physical Plant at Extension 3738."
2. DOBSON responded to the question about the status of the review of the proposed General Education Requirement by recalling that the Smeltzer Committee was appointed nearly six years ago. That had hoc committee proposed changes, received and incorporated many reactions from individuals and groups who were asked to respond (e.g., the Writing and Mathematics faculty), and presented the report to the President. From there the proposal was sent to the Academic Requirements Committee which is reviewing it. ARC has formulated slight changes and modifications and has returned a preliminary report to the Smeltzer Committee which is expected to respond. DOBSON estimated that the Smeltzer report and ARC's modifications will reach the Senate in March. Because of the far-reaching importance of this document, she said that it would be circulated widely. KIMBRELL expressed concern that the discussion not be rushed through the Senate as some items are. TANG assured him that all necessary care will be taken; the March agenda is clear of any regular business.

REPORTS FROM THE OFFICERS OF ADMINISTRATION AND COMMITTEES

BLUMEL reported that winter term registration was down 2 to 3 per cent from a year ago, but fees paid were up a little more than 3 per cent.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

DUNBAR moved approval of the proposed changes in the requirements for the Master of Urban Planning, as described on p. 4 of the November curriculum document. It was found that there was no overlap with courses offered in Social Work and Business. COOPER wanted to know about the increase of number of hours in the program. ABBOTT explained that the MUP has always been 72 hours. The change merely reduced the required credits in the core while it increased the hours in the field areas. The proposed MUP program was approved.

NEW BUSINESS

WEST reported having attended the very enjoyable December 8 Scan-Fest which had been organized to raise funds for endowing Scandinavian courses at PSU. He lauded those efforts and made the motion "that the officers of the Senate thank Professor and Mrs. Bernhard Fedde for their long-standing care and dedication in furthering Scandinavian studies at Portland State University, and wish the organizers of Scan-Fest the greatest possible success in their commendable undertaking." The motion was enthusiastically and unanimously passed.

ROSS asked what planning process existed for groups that wanted to raise money for PSU. BOGUE replied that coordination generally occurs through University Relations. Scan-Fest has been going on for years, even before Bogue arrived at UR; other major programs, such as the Judaic Study Center, have also been coordinated with PSU.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 15:30.