Faculty Senate Monthly Packet February 1988

Portland State University Faculty Senate

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To: Senators and Ex-officio Members to the Senate

From: Ulrich H. Hardt, Secretary to the Faculty

The Faculty Senate will hold its regular meeting on February 1, 1988, at 3:00 p.m. in 150 Cramer Hall.

AGENDA

A. Roll

*B. Approval of the Minutes of the January 11, 1988, Meeting

C. Announcements and Communications from the Floor

D. Question Period

1. Questions for Administrators

The following questions by the Steering Committee have been submitted to Provost Martino:

1. "What are the options in managing enrollment, and which options do you favor?"
2. "How can we make the best and fairest use of lecturers? How can we arrange for them to teach more than the currently allotted maximum number of hours if lecturers voluntarily waive the rights to benefits?"

2. Questions from the Floor for the Chair

E. Reports from the Officers of Administration and Committees

1. Winter Term Registration Up-date -- Tufts

F. Unfinished Business -- None

G. New Business

*1. Proposed Constitutional Amendment, IV, 4, 4c -- Hammond

*2. Motions regarding Conversion to Semesters -- Jones and Cease

*3. Recommendations regarding Status of Budget and Educational Policies Committees -- Hammond

*4. Motion regarding Development of Library Collection -- Cabelly

H. Adjournment

*The following documents are included with this mailing:

B. Minutes of the January 11, 1988, Meeting

G1. Proposed Constitutional Amendment

G2. Motions regarding Conversion to Semesters

G3. Recommendations regarding Status of Budget and Educational Policies Committees

G4. Motion Development of Library Collection

** Included for Senators and Ex-officio Members only
Minutes: Faculty Senate Meeting, February 1, 1988
Presiding Officer: Marjorie Burns
Secretary: Ulrich H. Hardt


Alternates Present: Dawson for Alberty, Cabelly for Anderson, White for Boyle, Mohr for Goslin, Buell for Reece.

Members Absent: Badi'i, Balogh, Chapman, Constans, Jackson, Limbaugh, Lutes, Maynard, Gurtov, Walker.

Ex-officio Members Present: Diman, Edgington, Erzurumlu, Hardt, Martino, Miller, Pfingsten, Reardon, Ross, Schendel, Sheridan.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Cogan and Powell reported that they had been present at the January 11 meeting. The minutes of that meeting were approved.

QUESTION PERIOD

1. GOEKJIAN asked if affirmative action guidelines were being rewritten and, if so, what faculty participation there is in the process. MARTINO said that the Affirmative Action Officer was rewriting the guidelines now but was not finished; he did not know to what extent faculty was participating. GOEKJIAN pointed out that the Affirmative Action Committee had only recently been called together. BRENNER confirmed that the Committee had met one week ago and had been informed of the project; she said that the draft would be reviewed by the Committee and by many other individuals, including the President, before it would be finalized. GOEKJIAN however pointed out that the normal chain of events is that the Committee would help draft the guidelines before they went to the President. BRENNER concurred and reported that the Affirmative Action Committee had asked the President for clarification of the charge on this kind of issue. TANG suggested that the Steering Committee follow up on the process being used for this project.

2. J. Daily was puzzled by the underrealized tuition and wanted to know how the University could at the same time have overrealized incidental fees. MARTINO said that PSU actually was above the enrollment corridor, but the state system was below projected figures. The $1.9 million gap has to be filled, but there is no relationship between the shortfall and PSU's share. EDGINGTON added that PSU's share was
$144,000 to make up the difference. Incidental fees will come in as projected—in fact, there will be more at the end of the year than was budgeted.

3. MARTINO responded to the question about managing enrollment. Since an ad hoc committee is now studying the issue, he thought it would be churlish of him to say what the committee should report. However, managing enrollment does not mean limitation he said; on the contrary, the committee may propose added recruitment, especially in some areas where a surplus faculty exists. The report should be ready in one to two months and will be shared with the Senate. The committee is chaired by R. Diman and has R. Vieira, B. Ross, F. Nunn, W. Greenfield, and E. Rose on it. Greenfield is the only teaching faculty on the committee; the Senate is free to add more teaching faculty to the group.

4. MARTINO said he was uncomfortable about the question regarding the voluntary waiving of rights to benefits by lecturers in order to allow them to teach more than the allowed hours. He said the University's responsibility is to pay the benefits. The institution should not try to maximize output through underpaid faculty. Besides, technically it can't be done.

5. MARTINO also answered the question regarding stability in the funding of lecture sections, saying that more progress was made in that regard this year. EDGINGTON, to whom the question had originally been directed, added that this year's base budget had contained money for lecture sections and next year would have even more. Responsible management should foresee what the need will be and cover that in the base. PSU has the potential for scheduling more lecture sections than all other schools. But MARTINO warned that we should try to eliminate the need for lecture sections as much as possible.

6. HEATH reported that at present no change was envisioned out of the Chancellor's office regarding the conversion to semesters even though UO, OSU, and a number of legislators had expressed sentiments to reconsider. Apparently UO's assembly will be asked to vote on a postponement this week. Community colleges generally have been very vocal and hostile about the conversion and are holding a meeting Saturday. There are also reports that the Board will be asked to reconsider the matter; a number of legislators are pushing for that.

JONES wanted to know how the UO proposed semester calendar was different. HEATH explained that they wanted a shorter fall semester (68 days) and longer spring (82 days), but there are strong political reasons for not taking this seriously. TANG explained that the proposal includes longer class periods in the fall and would permit a longer break between semesters. HEATH concluded that there was much anguish and frustration, that community colleges felt they had not been properly consulted, and that OSSHE faculty also felt they had not been allowed to give much input in the deliberations.
REPORTS FROM OFFICERS OF THE ADMINISTRATION

TUFTS reported that winter registration was up by .05% over 1987.

NEW BUSINESS

1. The Senate was given a proposed constitutional amendment of Article IV, 4, 4c. The vote will be taken in March.

2. JONES/BUELL introduced the motion to abandon the plan for conversion to semesters. JONES reported that his informal poll had found very few in favor of the conversion. His own department was overwhelmingly opposed. Although faculty are in favor of the curriculum review, they are against the conversion for all of the reasons identified in the motion. Besides, the new Chancellor should have a chance to express a preference.

CEASE reported that legislators from the Eugene and Corvallis area were meeting with faculty of the two universities and were proposing a delay in the conversion—with the intention of killing the proposal. A delay, however, will allow the Board to save face.

Further, he said that it was nonsense to believe that the conversion would not cost any money. An analysis has proven that to be wrong. The community colleges are even moving backwards on their promise to at least work with OSSHE. CEASE said he had no problem with the motion to abandon.

CABELLY thought the semester system is supportive of increasing research at PSU, a high priority in the Plan for the 90s. He suggested that the entire faculty should be polled. WYERS replied that that had already been done twice and that the faculty was split 50/50. Various faculty gave pro and con reasons in a lengthy discussion.

CABELLY/TANG proposed a substitute motion "to poll the faculty by mail whether they want to move to the semester system."

Several Senators argued against the motion saying that the faculty had selected the Senate to act in their behalf, nor was it fair to ask for faculty opinion without presenting the issues and allowing for discussion. HEATH added that polling the faculty is a nice idea but departments need to know which way to plan. He warned that unless the Board reconsidered the decision this month, the train would be moving too fast to stop. The timeline for conversion was very tight. CEASE agreed but also said that there was a lot of activity throughout the state system. A conversion to semesters, without the concurrent conversion in the community colleges, would be chaos for Oregon students.

The substitute motion was defeated.

BRENNER/BUELL moved to substitute the Cease motion for postponement for the Jones motion.
The motion to substitute was narrowly defeated.

The Jones motion to abandon semester conversion was defeated.

3. HAMMOND presented the Committee on Committees' recommendation regarding the continuation of the Budget and Educational Policies Committees. The constitutional charges given to the two committees are broad and important enough to demand their continuation; it is not realistic to suppose that one committee, the University Planning Council, could adequately discharge the duties.

4. BRENNER/WYERS presented an extensive motion requesting that the Library Committee take a pro-active approach to the development of a library collection appropriate to the needs of an urban comprehensive research University. Everyone realizes that the library is a serious problem.

The motion was passed unanimously.

5. BOWLDEN requested the privilege of the floor for student Chris Land, member of the IFC. LAND expressed concern as a student that President Sicuro had not consulted the IFC regarding distribution of funds for athletics. She said that the IFC was charged with making those decisions and the President could not make a unilateral decision and force the IFC to then appeal. TANG asked if the President had talked to IFC. LAND reported that he wanted to meet in a closed session. The IFC could not do that since it is governed by the open meeting law.

GOEKJIAN recalled that the President promised the Senate earlier this year that he would not transfer IFC funds. MARTINO countered that the guarantee given by the President was only that ASPSU would be aware of any transfers, that it would not be done in secret. TANG, however, read from the November minutes that Sicuro "had signed new guidelines, halting the practices of transferring IFC funds without consultation of the IFC." MARTINO explained that that was a promise to do it openly.

BOWLDEN moved the following resolution:

"The Faculty Senate calls upon the President to reconsider his premature decision to allocate all over-realized incidental fees to the athletics debt, and to work with the student Incidental Fee Committee to reach a solution that incorporates student input."

J. DAILY asked about the huge surplus in incidental fees and wondered why there were unspent funds left over each year. GOEKJIAN wanted to know whose wrong projections they were. LAND said that the administration made the projections. Some of the overrealized funds represent a safety measure, and it is justifiable to have a reserve of $100,000 to carry into the next year.
MOOR/LENDARIS presented a substitute motion that

"The Faculty Senate recommends that the President reconsider his decision to allocate all over-realized incidental fees to the athletics department and that he not use such over-realized fees to reduce debts incurred by the athletics department without the consent of the appropriate student organizations."

The motion was passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 16:37.
MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 12, 1988
TO: Faculty Senate
FR: Committee on Committees
RE: Proposed Constitutional Amendment, Article IV, Section 4, 4c

Current Wording:

4c) Scholastic Standards Committee. This committee shall consist of seven faculty members, selected at large, and two students.

Proposed Amendment:

"This committee shall consist of ten faculty members...."

Rationale:

The nature of the work of the committee could be better accomplished by the availability of ten faculty members; i.e., student petitions are read by committee members who are able, on short notice, to adjudicate requests for the suspension of regulations.

For the last several years the committee has, in fact, had nine faculty members, and it is time to amend the constitution.
DATE: January 14, 1988
TO: Faculty Senate
FROM: Steering Committee
SUBJECT: Motion to Abandon the Plan for Conversion to Semesters

Whereas the semester system would seriously limit the choices and opportunities for PSU's unique student population by not accommodating the professional development needs of the community;

Whereas the community colleges in the metropolitan area have declined to convert to the semester system;

Whereas public school calendars in the entire state of Oregon would not match the higher education semester calendar;

Whereas the particular needs of Summer Session programs could not be accommodated under the proposed semester system; and

Whereas the fiscal implications of the changes have not been adequately addressed, a concern of particular importance during this time of fiscal reduction, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the PSU faculty request that the plan for conversion to the semester system be abandoned.
MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 15, 1988
TO: Faculty Senate
FR: Ron Cease
RE: Semester Conversion

I suggest that this motion or its equivalent should be passed by the faculty and student governance of the universities and colleges of the Oregon State System of Higher Education.

"Whereas a large number of economic, social, and academic problems associated with state-wide system conversion to semesters have surfaced, and

whereas the new chancellor and the state system staff will need time to reassess the impact of semester conversion,

Be it resolved that the State System of Higher Education and all member institutions suspend, until June 30, 1989, all planning and related actions to convert to a semester system, in order to permit careful consultations with faculty, students, and the general public."
MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 21, 1988

TO: Faculty Senate

FR: Committee on Committees

RE: Status of Budget and Educational Policies Committees

REPORT TO FACULTY SENATE

The Committee on Committees recommends that Budget and Educational Policies Committees be continued with charges as specified in the Faculty Constitution; i.e., they should not be allowed to die by having their functions absorbed by the University Planning Council.

Following are some of the chief considerations that influenced the Committee's deliberations on this matter:

1. The constitutional charge of each of these two committees (Budget and EPC) is broad and important enough to occupy a single university committee. It is not realistic to suppose that one committee could adequately discharge the duties presently assigned to the three committees affected by the proposed reorganization (i.e., Budget, EPC, and Campus Planning Committee).

2. Budget Committee work alone is technical and demanding on the time and energy of committee members. A former Budget Committee chair observed, "It takes up to two years just to develop the skills to be effective...."

3. Educational Policy Committee's role of advising the University on educational innovations (e.g., Writing across the Curriculum) requires a greater commitment of time and effort than is reasonable to ask of a body which has other significant responsibilities.

4. Some Committee on Committees members believe that there may well be important functions for a planning group constituted as is the UPC, and that these functions are different from, or not covered by, the charges of present university committees. Generally, the feeling was that there is a need for a group to engage in a continuing preoccupation with broad integrative planning and the establishment of priorities ("the future shape of the University"). Some specific issues mentioned were:

- PSU's relation to other colleges and universities in the state
- Ways to improve the general campus physical and learning environment
- PSU's relations to the Portland community
MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 21, 1988
TO: Faculty Senate
FR: Johanna Brenner and Alan Cabelly

We request that the Library Committee take a pro-active approach to the development of a library collection appropriate to the needs of a comprehensive research university serving an urban area. To that end, we suggest that the Senate move

"that the Library Committee determine whether the library collection is currently meeting curricular, research, and other academic needs;

identify, as they relate to the Library, academic needs and expected shortfalls in the coming decade;

initiate discussion with appropriate administrators to identify additional methods/sources of funding for the future; and

that the Library Committee respond to these issues in its annual report to the Senate in December 1988, so that the Senate may forward recommendations to the University administration for inclusion in the 1989-91 biennial budget."

UHH/b
MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 9, 1988
TO: Faculty Senate
FROM: Ulrich Hardt, Secretary
RE: Continuation of March Meeting

The Faculty Senate will meet on Monday, March 14, at 3:00 p.m. in SMC 298. Please bring the Senate mailing from last week.

UHH/b

298 SMC