Faculty Senate Monthly Packet March 1989

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 March 6, 1989, at 3:00 p.m. in 150 Cramer Hall.

AGENDA

A. Roll

*B. Approval of the Minutes of the February 6, 1989, 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 the Officers of Administration and Committees
   1. IFS Report -- Tang
   2. Legislative Report -- Edgington
   3. Academic Calendar Information -- Diman

F. Unfinished Business
   1. General Education Requirements Recommendation -- Forbes

G. New Business
   *1. Proposed Constitutional Amendment, Article VII -- Tang
   2. Resolution re Self-financing of Budget Adjustment -- Ellis
   3. Recommendation re Change in Admission GPA Requirement -- Houk

H. Adjournment

*The following documents are included with this mailing:

A Minutes of February 6, 1989

G1Proposed Constitutional Amendment, Article VII**

** Included for Senators and Ex-officio Members only
PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY

Minutes: Faculty Senate Meetings, March 6 and 13, 1989
Presiding Officer: Marjorie Burns
Secretary: Ulrich H. Hardt

March 6


Ex-officio Members Present: Diman, Edgington, Erzurumlu, Hardt, Heath, Miller, Nicholas, Pfingsten, Powell, Reardon, Ross, Schendel, Sheridan, Vieira.

March 13


Alternates Present: White for Boyle, Tracy for Cease, Scholten for LeGuin, Vistica for Parshall, Newborg for Sampson.


Ex-officio Members Present: Diman, Edgington, Hardt, Heath, Martino, Miller, Toulan.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the February 6, 1989, meeting were approved as circulated.
ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. BURNS announced that a PSU reception for Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Bartlett would be held on March 27, between 5:00 and 7:00 p.m.

2. BURNS reported that a group of PSU faculty, administrators, and students, Portland city officials and citizens, and PSU Foundation officers had appeared before the Ways and Means Sub-committee on Education in Salem to speak for higher education and PSU. She said that the meeting had gone well. She also announced that Mayor Clark has appointed Commissioner Blumenauer as the city's liaison with PSU.

3. TANG reported that the IFS met on February 10-11, 1989, at Portland State University.

The proposal from Oregon State University regarding tenure relinquishment was discussed and senators reported on tenure relinquishment conditions at their institution. The IFS is concerned about quality of opportunity for faculty throughout the system in the area of tenure relinquishment and also the implications of the elimination of a mandatory retirement age.

The Senate heard a report on the Retirement/Financial Planning Task Force currently working with the Chancellor's office. Significant progress is being made to improve retirement planning and counseling at the colleges of the state system.

A report was also heard from a representative on the task force working on Senate Bill 618.

Vice Chancellor Larry Pierce met with the Senate to discuss a variety of programs and answered several questions regarding the availability of a 12-month pay option and details regarding the block transfer program.

The Senate discussed the desirability of a senator attending the Academic Council meetings and agreed that whenever possible we should do so.

Roger Bassett was scheduled to meet with IFS on Saturday, but was ill.

IFS members discussed the concern on the campuses regarding the self-financing of the 2% + 2% salary adjustment for 1989-91. The campus senates or assemblies are encouraged to communicate their concerns to the Governor and appropriate legislators, and the IFS will also be in communication regarding this problem.

The Senate made plans to meet with legislators at the next IFS meeting scheduled in April at Western Oregon State College.

The IFS was concerned that there was no faculty representation on the search committee which had been named to find a replacement for Larry Pierce -- Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs in the Office of the
Chancellor. This was discussed with the Chancellor following the meeting, and TANG announced that Oma Blankenship, a PSU representative on the IFS, has been named as the faculty representative on that search committee.

The Senate discussed their disappointment in the decision regarding the change to semesters and passed the following resolution:

"The Interinstitutional Faculty Senate objects to the process by which the State Board of Higher Education cancelled the transition of the Oregon State System of Higher Education to the semester calendar. The Board's reversal of that decision wasted countless hours of faculty and staff time during a period of severe budgetary difficulties and punished institutions for carrying out its own prior decision. While the IFS recognizes the pressures under which Board members must serve and appreciates the conscientiousness and devotion they bring to a very difficult task, it is also bound as the representative body for faculty members in all OSSHE institutions to object when the Board errs in such a fashion.

The IFS does not wish to see this sort of politically driven reversal repeated. We are now apprehensive that Board-approved fifth-year teacher education programs will be subjected to the same questionable procedure."

COGAN observed that both chairpersons of the search committees seeking replacements for vice chancellors were from the UO; he asked if Tang saw any problem with that. TANG responded that she did not and thought the method was much more efficient this way.

4. DIMAN said there was nothing new to report regarding the academic calendar.

At about this point, the meeting was adjourned until the following Monday (March 13) so that the Senate and PSU Faculty could hear an address by Chancellor Bartlett.

Continuation of Senate Meeting, March 13

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. FORBES explained that the ARC proposals regarding the General Education Requirements had been passed on to the EPC at the request of the Senate.

The EPC had reviewed the recommendations and moved "that the specific listing of courses approved to meet general education requirements... be replaced with a list of courses excluded from meeting those requirements."

FORBES explained that an exclusionary list would be much shorter and easier to use. Several Senators agreed and spoke in favor of the motion. COOPER wanted to know if the ARC would generate the list of excluded courses. FORBES and MAYNARD answered in the affirmative.
The motion was passed.

2. FORBES then moved "that omnibus-numbered courses by excluded from meeting general education requirements."

HOROWITZ said the history department did not like the automatic exclusion of all omnibus numbers, because the department's 407 and 410 courses had much depth and reflected the faculty's current interests and work. BUILL supported that logic. On the other hand, several Senators argued against the motion, saying that 199, 299, and 399 courses as well as omnibus-numbered courses from 401 to 410 had not been reviewed by curriculum committees and the Senate. Another problem would be whether to accept our own omnibus numbers but not those transferred in. It was pointed out that departments could still use 407 and 410 courses for their majors. And any problems with omnibus numbers from students who studied abroad could be handled by petitions.

The motion was defeated.

3. FORBES moved "that of the 18 upper division credits required in the academic distribution areas but outside the student's major department, at least 12 credits should also be outside the student's major distribution area."

After considerable discussion, most Senators seemed to prefer the ARC version, which requires 18 upper division credits outside the student's major department.

The EPC motion was defeated.

NEW BUSINESS

1. TANG presented a constitutional amendment of Article VII regarding the election and service on the IFS. The proposed amendment will be sent to the Advisory Council for review and will be returned to the Senate for a vote on April 3.

2. ELLIS presented the Budget Committee's resolution in support of a 10 + 10% tuition increase for the 1989-91 biennium. After a brief discussion, several small, friendly amendments were accepted.

The resolution was passed with one abstention.

The resolution will be sent to the Governor, Chancellor, Senator Roberts and his sub-committee, Richard Hensley and other board members, Paul Bragdon and Roger Bassett.

3. MAYNARD, speaking for the ARC, presented a proposal for raising the GPA levels for admission to PSU. He reviewed a memo distributed to Senators at the meeting. The ARC had done an analysis of the 335 students admitted and enrolled in Fall 1987 who would be ineligible under new admission standards. It showed that 88% of those admitted were
Doing satisfactory work; six had already graduated and six were on the honor roll. Only 12% were on academic warning or disqualified.

MAYNARD spoke of the two-edged problem of the proposal. PSU does not want to be seen as having lower standards than the other universities. On the other hand, PSU does not want to exclude students who, according to the study, can obviously succeed.

JOHNSON asked if other ways of admission existed for students whose GPA was too low. DIMAN listed four options and said all students who were denied admission were sent information about the options, and ROSE added that these potential students immediately follow up regarding these options.

MARTINO and EDGINGTON commented that PSU will in all likelihood be given restricted enrollment caps, and the raised GPA may be viewed as one possible avenue of reduction, a less heinous one than others. The concern will have to be that we do not disadvantage minority students disproportionately.

ALBERTY moved "that, effective Fall 1990, the following recommended changes in GPA requirements for entrance to PSU be required:

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Care should be taken that minority students not be disadvantaged disproportionately."

The motion was passed.
4. Because of the importance for PSU to continue its efforts of present­ing faculty views to the public, TANG offered the following resolu­tion. She said that the charge for the task force should be developed by the Senate Steering Committee and the Advisory Council and that consideration should be given by the task force at the end of one year as to whether a permanent committee be established for this purpose.

"Be it resolved that the Senate Steering Committee and the Advisory Council for the Portland State University Faculty Senate create a task force of no more than five faculty and staff members to con­tinue our efforts to present the views of the PSU faculty to the public."

The motion was passed.

5. DAHL moved "that the PSU Faculty Senate congratulate the 1989 PSU NCAA Division II wrestling champions and their coach Marlin Grahn for an outstanding accomplishment."

The motion was passed with acclamation.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 16:30.
CURRENT WORDING:

Article VII. Election of the Interinstitutional Faculty Senate.

The Faculty shall elect during spring term by secret ballot one institutional representative and two alternates to the Interinstitutional Faculty Senate, from the membership of the Faculty other than ex-officio members of the Senate. The election shall be administered by the Secretary to the Faculty, under the supervision of the Senate Steering Committee, concurrently with the selection of the Advisory Council, and according to the same procedures as described in Article VI, Section I. The person receiving the highest number of votes shall be appointed to serve a three-year term. An interim vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the Secretary to the Faculty who shall designate the non-elected nominee with the greatest number of votes to fill the unexpired term. An additional vacancy shall be filled by the third finalist.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Proposed Amendment:

... votes shall be appointed to serve.

Persons elected shall serve a three-year term and may be re-elected. After having served two consecutive terms, a member shall be ineligible for reelection until one year has elapsed.

Members will begin service on IFS the January following their election.

An interim vacancy shall ...