

Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting of April 11, 1977

The new Senate was called to order by President Vitz. Senators present: Abrams, Boyd, Brett, Ebersole, Giesmann, Goggin, Lindsey, McKim, A. Miller, J. Miller, Moore, Newman, O'Keefe, Peterson, Pinelo, Rambo, Taplits, Tetzlaff, Vitz, Weiss, S. Williams, and Zeiser.

Joe Price presented a proposal for reorganization of the two year program. The proposal was passed unanimously.

President A.D. Albright presented proposals for faculty personnel policies and the missions of the University. He invited discussion and reaction from the faculty, preferably in the form of letters to him. He said that the proposals would be submitted to the Board of Regents at their next meeting, April 18.

President Vitz called for election of new Senate officers. Al Pinelo spoke strongly of the need for contested elections for each of the offices. Elected to fill the following offices were:

President: Bob Vitz

Vice-President: Larry Giesmann

Secretary: Dennis O'Keefe

Parliamentarian: Ed Goggin

Executive Committee: Al Pinelo, Janet Miller, Bill  
McKim, Sharlotta Williams,  
and Tom Rambo

Committee Chairpersons:

Budget Finance, Adm. Services: Al Pinelo

Curriculum: Tom Rambo

Faculty Benefits: Art Miller

Professional Concerns: Bill McKim

Student Affairs: Chris Tetzlaff

At the request of Provost Travis, President Vitz asked the Senate to nominate an academically distinguished faculty member to serve as grand marshal at the May Commencement. Janet Miller moved that each department nominate a candidate, not necessarily from that department, to be grand marshal. The motion was approved 9-8. Nomination should be submitted to President Vitz by April 18.

In regard to the new Faculty Personnel Policies and Procedures proposed by President Albright, Al Pinelo moved and Dennis O'Keefe seconded, that the criteria for granting tenure (Art. II, A, 1) be changed to eliminate the following data for evaluating classroom teaching effectiveness: enrollment patterns, drop rates and quality of syllabi.

A motion to recess until April 13 at 4:00 p.m. was approved.

Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting of April 13, 1977

Senators present: Boyd, Brett, Ebersole, Giesmann, Lindsey, McKim, Moore, Newman, O'Keefe, Peterson, Pinelo, Rambo, Taplits, Tetzlaff, Weiss, and S. Williams.

President Vitz asked each department to nominate faculty members to fill positions on three search committees to select three deans under the proposed reorganization plan. The search committees, composed of faculty and administration, will consider six candidates for each position. Nomination should be submitted by April 18.

The Senate resumed discussion of the proposed personnel policies and procedures. Bob Vitz suggested that we limit our remarks to major items in the proposal and that we seek consensus on any objections we might have to it. Pinelo's pending motion was discussed. Taplits spoke in favor of the motion. Giesmann argued that the data Pinelo sought to eliminate might be beneficial. McKim contended that the data were trivial concerns and only in the extreme would they be relevant for evaluating classroom teaching effectiveness. Peterson said that the data were not direct indices of teaching ability. Brett noted that the drop rate might be high if the faculty member were teaching an introductory course. Giesmann questioned the value of debating all of the criteria mentioned in the proposal. A vote was taken and the motion passed 8-7.

A motion was made by Pinelo, seconded by Peterson, that the wording of the paragraph on warnings of unsatisfactory progress toward tenure (Art. II, 7, C) be changed from "should be notified" to "must be notified". O'Keefe proposed a friendly amendment to require that the warning be given no later than the beginning of the fifth year. The amendment was accepted by Pinelo and Peterson and the motion passed 14-1.

A motion was introduced by Pinelo and seconded by Peterson that the Senate call the attention of the administration to a gap in the guidelines for dismissal for cause. The guidelines did not include a hearing by one's peers in accordance with AAUP standards. Motion was approved 13-0.

A motion was introduced by Jeffrey Williams in behalf of Senator Ted Weiss to amend the criteria for appointment and promotion of instructors and assistant professors (Art. III, A, 1,2) by adding community service. Pinelo seconded the motion. Moore wondered whether anyone in the administration had "walked through" the procedure outlined for promotion and tenure to discover if there were any perpetual loops in which a faculty member might be trapped. The motion was approved 15-0.

Peterson suggested that the administration define what is the equivalent to a terminal degree and provide some examples.

Pinelo moved that the faculty express its appreciation to Dr. Albright for presenting the Faculty Personnel Policy and Procedure to the Senate before it was sent to the Board of Regents. Tetzlaff argued against the motion on the ground that the Senate did not have enough time to consider adequately the document. Jeffrey Williams agreed with Tetzlaff, calling the lack of time for consideration insulting to the faculty. Pinelo retorted that the Senate should try to emphasize the positive aspect, that President Albright did consult the Senate before seeking approval of the new policy by the Regents. Taplits said that President Albright is really interested in soliciting faculty input particularly in regard to the wording and clarity of the proposal. Motion was approved 8-4.

Jeffrey Williams in behalf of Senator Weiss moved that people who are up for tenure this year be evaluated on the existing guidelines previously approved by the Regents. Vitz suggested that the faculty regent be instructed to make that point at the April 18 meeting of the Board.

A motion to adjourn was unanimously approved.