

## **FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

### **Minutes of March 3, 1999 (approved)**

E-MAIL: [ZBFACSEN@ACSU.BUFFALO.EDU](mailto:ZBFACSEN@ACSU.BUFFALO.EDU)

The Faculty Senate Executive Committee met at 2:00 PM on March 3, 1999 in 567 Capen to consider the following agenda:

1. Approval of the Minutes of February 17, 1999
2. Report of the Chair
3. Report of the President/Provost
4. Budget Update
5. Charging the Faculty Senate Athletics and Recreation Committee
6. Old/new business

#### **Item 1: Report of the Chair**

The Chair recognized Professor Swartz who offered a motion (seconded) to switch the order of agenda items 5 and 6. The Chair determined that there was a quorum present. Professor Swartz said that the purpose of the motion was to allow more ample discussion of the now revised Mission Review document, recognizing it to be priority business. The Chair countered that arranging the schedules of the guests who were present to aid in charging the Athletics and Recreation Committee had been difficult, and that the order of the agenda would allow adequate time to discuss the Mission Review document.

There were comments from the floor:

- against the motion because of the presence of busy guests and because the discussion of athletics following the budget update will be a good juxtaposition (Professor Adams-Volpe)
- didn't bring revised Mission Review document and some members have not yet received it, so this is not the appropriate time to extensively discuss the issue; suggest special meeting devoted just to the topic (Professor Malone)

- Faculty Senate is critical of the administration for not studying issues thoroughly, but is itself unwilling to commit to doing so; the call for a special meeting is a pique the success of which is doubtful (Professor Swartz)
- the mistake was not to devote today's meeting to a discussion of the document, but none of us thought to ask; support the call for a special FSEC meeting devoted to the document (Professor Schack)

The vote was called; the motion was defeated.

The Chair reported that:

- a draft of the 1999/2000 Faculty Senate calendar was distributed last week; because of the difficulty of securing rooms for meetings have scheduled two meetings in September, even though one of these meetings will in fact probably be the Meeting of the Voting Faculty; he moved (seconded) that the calendar, subject to needed revisions, be approved for distribution. The motion passed.
- the Research Committee of the SUNY Senate has asked UB to distribute a letter calling on our faculty and emeritus faculty to mentor faculty at other SUNY institutions, mainly the Colleges; have asked Vice Provost Fischer and Vice President Landi for comments; believe we should distribute the document, but with caution since we would be volunteering our most important scarce resource, faculty time; collaborative projects could be advantageous to all parties
- who will ultimately be responsible for deciding whether to distribute and then actually distributing the letter to all full professors? (Professor Adams-Volpe)
- Faculty Senate is taking the lead in recommending distribution of the letter, but the actual workload is significant (Professor Nickerson)
- put the letter on the web and advertise it in the *Reporter* (Professor Malone)
- Draft Number 2, Revision A of the Mission Review document has been sent in paper to FSEC members; Revision B is on the web
- Provost Triggles has received 6 written comments from faculty (Professor Malone)
- good oral comments were made at the Faculty Senate; Provost Triggles should consider them even though they're not in written form (Professor Schack)

- Provost Trigg will be sent the Minutes for the Faculty Senate meeting of February 23 (Professor Nickerson)
- send him the relevant portion of the tape (Professor Schack)
- rewrote portions of the Health Sciences section to correct inconsistencies and get rid of self-serving statements; the Provost responded and incorporated those suggestions (Professor Smith)
- page one of the sign in sheet for February 24 had disappeared by the end of the meeting; sending around a substitute sheet to record attendance for that meeting
- included Dr. Gold's assessment of the Trustees' Requirements for General Education as they affect UB; we will discuss whether we still want to set up a Faculty Senate ad hoc committee to look at the issue
- on March 17 the Professional Staff Senate and the two UUP Chapters are presenting a workshop for professional staff and supervisors of professional staff; since many supervisors of professional staff are faculty, suggest we co-sponsor the workshop to encourage faculty attendance; moved (seconded and passed) that the Faculty Senate act as co-sponsor
- the following committees were active: the Academic Freedom and Responsibility Committee has a draft, *An Alert for Instructional Faculty*, which they will present at the March 17 FSEC meeting; the Public Service Committee talked about Professor Nyberg's document on Evaluating Scholarship and will work on revisions relating to Public Service; on February 26 the Budget Priorities Committee talked about the 1999/2000 State Budget, and heard presentations from Janet Penksa, Associate Vice President for University Services describing the UB plan for advocacy to support the SUNY Budget and from Senior Associate Vice President Len Snyder on centralized business systems for UB; the Admissions and Retention Committee talked about the formula for undergraduate admissions and will make a report to FSEC on March 31

## **Item 2: Budget Update**

Senior Vice President Wagner summarized the posture of the state budget as of March 3: the Governor has issued his budget and is dealing with the Legislature; prior to the finalization of the 1999/2000 budget there will have to be agreement between the two.

Although the SUNY Board of Trustees this Fall developed a multi-year investment plan, their final request to the Governor on December 15 was for only one item from the plan, continuing current operations at \$44 M. The Executive Budget however, takes SUNY's current year budget as the budget for the next fiscal year.

UB has developed an advocacy plan for the 1999/2000 SUNY budget. Our first priority is restoration of baseline SUNY funding by providing funding for negotiated salary increases and inflation (a \$6 M. impact on UB). Our next priority is restoration of the Tuition Assistance Program (a \$2.5 M. impact on UB). A relatively minor item is the restoration of next year's contribution to SUNY's five-year Capital Plan. Without the restoration of these base line reductions, there's no point in talking about investments.

We have identified four UB specific projects for investment funding. The first is additional funding for Division I athletics as we move into the Mid-American Conference and Division I A football; a portion of that funding would be to achieve gender equity in UB athletics. The second is Medical School Clinical Practice support. We are asking for \$2 M. to put in place an infrastructure which would allow us to manage our practice plan more efficiently and to conduct building system studies. Our request is comparatively a drop in the bucket for what the three SUNY hospitals will require. The next project is a \$5 M. facilities development initiative split between UB and Roswell Park to bring pharmaceutical, biotechnology and micro-bioengineering to Western New York. There is also an operating costs component to the biotechnology initiative, and we will be asking for support in developing a Center for Advanced Technology to ensure the success of the facilities. The fourth project is the transfer of the Research Institute on Addictions from the NYS Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services to UB. This simply involves the transfer of funding from one agency to another, but gives UB opportunities for collaborative projects.

We will also advocate several SUNY System-wide initiatives. SMART-NY focuses on the University Centers and Cornell and is similar to the 1980's Graduate Research Initiative. The Undergraduate

Engineering and Applied Science Initiative is an attempt to increase the number of engineering graduates in NYS. The Eminent Scholars Program is a dollar matching program to strengthen development efforts. Business systems and technology development would encompass SUNY Connect, student access to learning technology, University business systems and Y2K compliance.

The Chair asked for a description of the responsibilities of Associate Vice President Janet Penksa. Senior Vice President Wagner responded that the position of Director of Government Relations has been upgraded to an Associate Vice President position. Associate Vice President Penksa was the chief staff person for the Assembly's Ways and Means Committee, and as such was part of a six person group including the Governor, the Division of the Budget Director and the Leaders of the Senate and the Assembly that sorted out conflicting priorities for state resources. She will be explaining UB's needs in Albany.

The Chair asked for questions:

- will a late budget impact UB negatively? (Professor Malone)
- because UB's budget cycle runs from July to June, rather than on the April to March cycle of other state agencies, UB will be fine unless the budget is later than July (Senior Vice President Wagner)
- they are engaged in some constitutional and statutory games about how you move the budget which will impede budget resolution; the budget may come out in stages (President Greiner)
- hopefully the budget will have taken shape enough in May for us to make campus decisions on financial plans (Senior Vice President Wagner)
- any idea why the Governor didn't include inflationary increases in his budget; why did the Trustees off their investment plan? (Professor Baumer)
- the Trustees' investment plan would have totaled \$150 M.; the Trustees received firm instructions that this was not what the Executive Chamber wanted and they acceded; pragmatically there was no point in the Trustees flouting the Executive; the Division of the Budget decided not to fund contractual increases in anybody's budget, not just SUNY's; it's a trade off between the state and the unions that there would be raises but a reduced work force; salary increases will probably be an add on to Governor's budget; the Governor's

advisors may be receptive to the message that SUNY has been cut enough; New York is fiftieth among the states in its additional support for higher education, and in absolute dollars total support for higher education in New York is down slightly from ten years ago; nationally there is concern for funding education, including higher education, so we could see a different mode of thinking developing in Albany; think there is a chance for funding of the four UB specific funding proposals (President Greiner)

### **Item 3: Report of the President/Provost**

The Provost's Mission Review document in its entirety is now available on the web. The President is not quite satisfied with the format and would move historical material from the Appendices to be Chapter 2 and the analyses of the positions of the various Schools and Colleges from the Appendices to be Chapter 3. He would add Provost Headrick's planning document as an appendix. The President urged FSEC to look at the entire document; he wants to discuss it further with FSEC.

The Chair asked for comments for the President:

- FSEC will appreciate the opportunity to discuss the document with you; suggests you will not be sending it to Albany immediately (Professor Welch)
- will send it soon; this will be an iterative process, allowing us to continue the discussion with Albany as a participant (President Greiner)
- schedule a special meeting of FSEC for next week so we can fully comment before the document goes to Albany (Professor Schack)
- during our break, will check people's schedules for a meeting on March 10 (Professor Nickerson)
- your response to the Faculty Senate resolution expressing displeasure at the Statistics Department process should have ended as "nostra culpa" not "mea culpa," since you were not the only, nor the major, offender (Professor Malone)

### **Item 4: Charging the Faculty Senate Athletics and Recreation Committee**

The Chair announced that he had been able to schedule a special FSEC meeting for March 10.

The Chair introduced Professor Cerny, the new Chair of the Athletics and Recreation Committee, the Director of Athletics, Robert Arkeilpane, the Assistant Athletic Director for Recreation and Intramurals, Ed Michael, the NCAA representative, Professor Malone, the Chair of the Intercollegiate Athletics Board, Professor Price and Vice President Dennis Black.

Professor Malone explained the interrelationship of these entities. The IAB was established by the Board of Trustees when they authorized certain colleges to go to upper division athletics and to award athletic scholarships. The IAB is responsible for recommending and monitoring the athletics budget. The Director of Athletics supervises the athletics program, and all the coaches and staff report to him. He generates the budget, schedules contests, etc. Ed Michael is responsible for recreation and intramurals. Vice President Black represents student life. As the NCAA representative Professor Malone is the link between the faculty and their academic concerns and the Athletics Division and their concern. The coaches and athletes think of him as the cop on the beat and the faculty think of him as the consigliere for the athletic Mafia. He is also responsible for enforcing NCAA regulations, which are numerous and mutable.

Professor Cerny was persuaded to take the Chairmanship after talking with the Director and Assistant Director of Athletics who saw opportunities for the Committee to be productive. He has identified several areas of interest. The first thing the Committee should explore is how well we are integrating academics and athletics. Second in the recreation area there is duplication of effort and some missed opportunities because of that, so he would like to explore coordinating efforts. To that end he has asked for the addition of a student to the Committee.

Mr. Arkeilpane invited dialogue with concerned faculty. Athletes are at the University to get an education and only then to hone their athletic talents to promote the University and to take the tangible benefits of athletics into their lives.

Vice President Black looks forward to working with Professor Cerny and Mr. Arkeilpane.

Mr. Michael sees opportunity to integrate students, faculty and staff in athletics and wellness activities. That could help the recruitment and retention of students, faculty and staff. For example, the Living Well Center is now willing to reach out to faculty and staff with their services. Athletics will

continue their traditional activities with faculty and staff, but will also seek to integrate wellness concepts into programs. Athletics is also looking at how to increase the accessibility of programs and facilities to faculty and staff. One idea is to lower fees, for example seeking sponsorship from health care providers, the Provost and perhaps the unions for lowering the cost of membership in the Alumni Arena.

The Chair noted that a frequently asked question about athletics in general and intercollegiate athletics in particular is what is their budget. Professor Price, Chair of the IAB, answered that athletics at the University is funded through a variety of mechanisms. State support is a significant component of the overall athletics operation, both capital and operating costs. There is also fee income from undergraduate students. The balance of the budget includes resources from gate revenue, from commercial sponsorships, from private donors, and from NCAA revenues. Mr. Arkeilpane said that the total budget this year was just under \$8 M, funded roughly in thirds from the state, from students and from all other sources. Revenue from guarantees from scheduled games could increase dramatically if we chose to play with Ohio State, Michigan, etc., but it seems better to give the program a chance to develop. Professor Malone added that NCAA revenue this year was about \$150,000, and that figure will increase as we merge more fully with the Mid-American Conference. Mr. Arkeilpane pointed out that our athletic budget is 13th among 13 in the Mid-American Conference.

There were questions from the floor:

- athletes have five years of eligibility to play; is it possible to get a Masters degree in the fifth year? (Professor Baier)
- know that some athletes have done so; for example, two years ago a basketball player got an M.B.A. (Mr. Arkeilpane)
- the Hay Committee Report lists \$2 M. of indirect cost returns as being taken to subsidize Division I status (Professor Baier)
- first time ever heard that (Mr. Arkeilpane)
- IAB was never given any such information, but would have debated the idea at great length (Professor Price)

- faculty is seriously divided over the commitment to Division I athletics; would the Athletics and Recreation Committee consider re-examining the strategy? (Professor Swartz)
- Committee investigated the possibility of changing direction in the athletics program and was told that there are contractual obligations which prevent us from doing so (Professor Nickerson)
- athletics can be done right and be an integral part of the academic experience; we should be trying to pull things together so that athletics is not a distraction or a financial drain (Professor Cerny)
- IAB report is given to the Chair of the Faculty Senate and is available to anyone who wants to read it (Professor Malone)
- service on IAB has given me great respect for the problems faced by the athletic staff and an appreciation of how athletics can strengthen recruitment and retention; the athletics staff is doing a good job of making athletics more enjoyable for the campus and the community (Professor Adams-Volpe)
- percentage of athlete students who have a 3.00+ average is higher than the percentage of non-athlete students who do so; the distribution of majors among athlete and non-athlete students is about the same (Professor Malone)
- athlete students in World Civilization are as responsive as non-athlete students to being told how to succeed; athletics do cost money, but they also bring in money that would otherwise not come to the University; not possible to be recognized as a first class university without a Division I athletics program (Professor Baumer)
- agree that Division I athletics aid development activities; as the University of Washington gained recognition in athletics, its fund raising became so successful that the University is now in the top 20 fund raisers; UB needs to increase student support of and interest in athletics (Professor Sridhar)
- recently met a member of the Class of 1951 in Denver; what he wanted to know about his alma mater was what was happening in athletics; UB has been lax about keeping in touch with and cultivating its alumni as a development resource (Professor Price)

- all the AAU universities down to UB play Division I athletics; if we want to keep that company, we need to play in the same league; Student Life and Athletics last year created a position to develop student interest in athletics (Mr. Arkeilpane)
- we have been talking about football at UB since the 1960's; we need to learn from our mistakes and do it right for the students (Vice President Black)
- believe that the people involved are doing a good job, but the question is whether the job should be done at all; external regulation of intercollegiate athletics is extremely intrusive, much more so than any academic accreditation, and limits how we use resources; ultimately athletics costs money which could be used for other purposes; many students resent paying \$200 in athletic fees (Professor Boot)
- can say about any activity that it costs more than it contributes, but we have decided that we value athletics (Professor Price)
- anecdotes make bad science; ten years ago there were no studies which documented that athletics improves giving; as a community of scholars we should require more than gut feelings to support a proposition; the Committee could see if studies have been done in the interim; it could also study whether more money should go to recreational activities and explore ways of publicizing the academic achievements of the athletes (Professor Schack)
- *Reporter* carried such an article last semester (Professor Malone)
- last semester 45 % of the athletes had GPA's of 3.0+; typically the rate runs at 33 % range (Mr. Arkeilpane)
- Committee should guard against incursions into the intramurals program, which is more important to the majority of students who don't qualify for these more expensive programs; in light of \$2.5 M being spent on upgrading the stadium, it is interesting to note that for a mere \$35,000 athletic facilities on the South Campus could be substantially upgraded and could serve many students (Professor Woodson)
- this year Student Life gave every new student a tee shirt with the football schedule and the raging bull logo on it (Vice President Black)
- UB will be required to fill out an interim report called the Certification Review for NCAA; a member of the Athletics and Recreation Committee should be involved in that process (Professor Malone)

- thanks for giving us opportunity to talk to faculty on athletics (Mr. Arkeilpane)

## **Item 5: Approval of the Minutes of February 17, 1999**

The Minutes of February 17, 1999 were approved.

### **Item 6: Old/new business**

Vice President Black reminded the Faculty Senate that it had an invitation to meet in the Community Center of Hadley Village in the Fall. The Chair thanked him for the reminder.

Professor Malone reported that he and Vice President Black had gathered information about class release time, both for athletic and academic activities. They will be coming to FSEC with the information. The Athletics and Recreation Committee and the Student Life Committee might want to jointly discuss issues raised.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn M. Kramer

Secretary of Faculty Senate

### **Present:**

**Chair:** Peter Nickerson

**Secretary:** Marilyn Kramer

**Arts & Letters:** James Holstun

**Dental Medicine:** Robert Baier

**Engineering & Applied Sciences:** Ramalingam Sridhar

**Health Related Professions:** Judith Tamburlin

**Information & Library Studies:** George D'Elia

**Law:** Louis Swartz

**Management:** John Boot

**Medicine & Biomedical Sciences:** Cedric Smith

**Natural Sciences & Mathematics:** Melvyn Churchill, Samuel Schack

**Nursing:** Jacqueline Thompson

**Pharmacy:** Nathan

**Social Sciences:** William Baumer, Mitchell Harwitz

**SUNY Senators:** Judith Adams-Volpe, Dennis Malone, Claude Welch

**University Libraries:** Dorothy Woodson

**University Officers:** William Greiner, President Robert Wagner, Senior Vice President

**Guests:**

Sue Wuetcher, *Reporter*

Frank Cerny, Chair, Athletics and Recreation Committee

Dennis Black, Vice President

Robert Arkeilpane, Director of Athletics

Ed Michael, Assistant Athletic Director

Al Price, Chair, Intercollegiate Athletics Board

**Excused:**

**Medicine & Biomedical Sciences:** Boris Albini

**SUNY Senators:** John Fisher

**Absent:**

**Architecture & Planning:** Shahin Vassigh

**Graduate School of Education:** Lilliam Malave

**Ex-Officio:** Robert Hoeing