

Faculty Senate Executive Committee

Minutes of February 2, 2000 - (approved)

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The Faculty Senate Executive Committee met at 2:00 PM on February 2, 2000 in Capen 567 to consider the following agenda:

1. Report of the Chair
2. Approval of the minutes of January 19, 2000
3. Report of the President/Provost
4. Report on the Faculty Student Association
5. Report on the SUNY Senate meeting of January 27-29, 2000

Item 1: Report of the Chair

The Chair reported that:

- Susan Hough, the new Director of Personnel, has not yet arrived in Buffalo; he will reschedule a meeting with her when she arrives on campus, probably in early March
- the SUNY Senate which met in Buffalo last week was favorably impressed by UB; our UB SUNY Senators will report on the meeting later this afternoon
- two new members are attending today's meeting, Austin Booth, from the Libraries and Eris Perese, from the School of Nursing
- he attended the Provost's meeting with the Deans: Senior Vice President Wagner discussed the governor's proposed budget for SUNY which includes money for TAP but no increase for the community colleges; the Deans were concerned that salary increases for Management Confidential staff are indexed to CSEA increases; there was a discussion of numerous problems with IBM's "Host on Demand", a program which replaced "Omnipath", the non Y2K compliant program we had been using; after much work by IBM technicians "Host on Demand" is stable but still has problems; e-mail is projected to increase, requiring additional computer capacity by the Fall; considerable funds will be needed for IT; additional faculty participation is needed on the IT structure; the Provost is talking with Central Administration about holding UB financially harmless for several years if we raise our admission standards from the current mean SAT

score for freshmen of 1140; this is an issue for the Admissions and Retention Committee; the Provost distributed a model letter to be sent to faculty whose promotions will occur beyond the usual time line; the Provost has appointed a subcommittee of Deans to look at the effect of discounting undergraduate tuition; UB has over committed its \$8.6 M graduate student tuition scholarship budget but will cover the deficit internally; 90% of the budget will be given to the units and 10% reserved to meet opportunities outside of the historical record

- the Academic Planning Committee considered a proposal to change the status of the Women's Studies program to that of a department; the Chair invited Professor Welch, Chair of the Committee, to give its interim report:

Professor Welch reported that the Women's Studies program had been a part of the Department of American Studies which is scheduled to be dissolved at the end of the academic year; in recruiting a chair for Women's Studies, former Provost Headrick promised that the program would become a department, and it has been functioning in all respects as a department; the APC is concerned, however, about the restricted size of its core faculty, which is currently only one full professor, two assistant professors and a chair who is a full professor in the Law School; before giving its blessing to the proposed change in status the APC would like additional information on how many faculty in other academic areas are formally affiliated with Women's Studies; the Committee also feels that it would be appropriate to consult with the nascent faculty governance structure of the College of Arts & Sciences on the matter; with these two pieces of information the APC is likely to recommend the change in status

- get clarification of what representations Provost Headrick made; given the concerns of the report, am surprised that you say the APC will likely recommend for the change in status; the Provost says he wants fewer programs and departments, and this change in status runs counter to that (Professor Swartz)
- decision most appropriately made by the current Provost and the Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences; Committee has good reason to believe that the College will try to meet the need for additional faculty since the College has identified Women's Studies as an important area for development (Professor Welch)

- faculty may have acted in reliance on commitments made by Provost Headrick so it is important to clarify what was promised (Professor Swartz)
- issue of departmental status arose when the College made an appointment to the Department of Women's Studies, to my knowledge the formal process for establishing a new department was not followed (Senior Vice Provost Levy)
- given the trend towards fewer departments, the Committee's report should make a case for separating Women's Studies from other entities; what is meant by the statement that Women's Studies functions fully as a department? (Professor Schack)
- faculty appointments are made in a department; *Board of Trustees Policies* specifically recognize the administrative position of chair of a department (Senior Vice Provost Levy)
- sounds like Women's Studies is functioning like a department because no one was paying attention, rather than that it has evolved to a stage in which it can function best (Professor Schack)
- an important attribute of a department is its ability to be linked to a doctoral program and Women's Studies hopes to mount a doctoral program (Professor Welch)
- to what department are the existing faculty in Women's Studies appointed? (Professor Fournier)
- existing faculty were probably appointed in the Department of American Studies; new appointments could have their locus in the College of Arts & Sciences (Senior Vice Provost Levy)
- the APC wanted to know who the affiliated faculty were and what they thought about the change in status; the Provost wants fewer programs, not necessarily fewer departments; don't need to be a department to grant the Ph.D. degree, just need a Department of Education registration number for the degree (Professor Malone)

There was a motion (seconded) to receive the report. The motion passed unanimously.

- that the Faculty Senate is co-sponsoring a teleconference on distance learning on February 3
- the Professional Staff Senate Wellness Day is February 11; Dr. Coles invited faculty to participate and make suggestions for improvement
- the following committees have been active: the Academic Planning Committee, the Budget Priorities Committee which heard from Senior Vice President Wagner about the new SUNY budget and reviewed and discussed the budget for athletics; the Computer Services Committee which has drafted a resolution that calls

for an evaluation of how effectively UB is meeting its IT needs; and the Teaching and Learning Committee which will meet to revise its resolution for a second reading at the February meeting of the Faculty Senate

There were comments from the floor:

- the Libraries have heard that inflation money may not be included in the SUNY budget; the Libraries will be hard hit if this is so (Professor Adams-Volpe)
- am listed as a member of the Academic Freedom and Responsibility Committee, but my appointment was a temporary one (Professor Swartz)

Item 2: Approval of the minutes of January 19, 2000

The minutes of January 19, 2000 were approved.

Item 3: Report of the President/Provost

There was no report of the President/Provost.

Item 4: Report on the Faculty Student Association

Associate Vice President for Student Affairs Clifford Wilson, described the Faculty Student Association. It is a not-for-profit organization which contracts with UB to provide food service in cash units like the Walkway Cafe and in the residence halls and to run vending machine operations, convenience stores in the residence halls and in the Commons, several candy counters, and the UB Card operation. Its annual budget is about \$14 M and it aims to come within 1% of its budget. It is totally self-supporting, leasing space from UB, maintaining and paying utilities for that space. The FSA reports to the Vice President for Student Affairs, is governed by a 12 member Board of Directors composed of 6 students, 2 faculty members, 2 administrators, 1 professional staff member and 1 classified staff member, and is run day to day by its Executive Director, Mitch Green.

There were questions from the floor:

- is the FSA responsible for student housing? (Professor Fournier)

- no (Associate Vice President Wilson)
- who appoints the members of the Board of Directors? (Professor Malone)
- the President appoints the 2 administrators, the Faculty Senate appoints the 2 faculty members, the Professional Staff Senate the professional staff member, CSEA the classified staff member and the presidents of the student governments the 6 student members; there is also a 26 member assembly which is appointed by the same process (Associate Vice President Wilson)
- why do South Campus dining facilities operate on the North Campus schedule; does FSA contract with fast food franchises to offer more variety? (Professor Easley)
- have several franchises on the North Campus; when Harriman Hall is renovated, expect to have franchises there (Associate Vice President Wilson)
- will try to get the Greenery's schedule adjusted to South Campus needs (Mr. Green)
- keep the Greenery open during the summer (Professor Easley)
- the Greenery doesn't cover its own expenses during the regular school year, and during the summer the population is smaller (Mr. Green)

Mitch Green then spoke about operations. Last year the Marriott Corporation assessed the FSA and made a number of recommendations, many of which have been implemented.

All board operation facilities have been renovated and new food concepts, such as wok stations and vegetarian lines have been introduced. The cash operations have also added new food options, such as tossed salads made to order, a bakery, a Taco Bell and have partnered with Rich Products for a pizza shop and Campbell Soups for a soup station. There will be additional innovations on both campuses.

Marriott suggested advertising more aggressively. FSA hired a marketing firm to upgrade its advertising. Parents and incoming students now receive more information before arrival on campus.

A variety of board options are available. A traditional meal plan of all you can eat breakfast and dinner 5 days a week and brunch and dinner on Saturday and Sunday is offered. There is also the Dining Dollars option, which is a debit account to be used in the

cash operations for lunch and in vending machines. There is also a block meal program for students who live off campus or who expect to miss meals. Pre-paid meal plans for students on campus are exempt from state sales tax. Faculty and staff also may also purchase Dining Dollars and for departments monthly billing is offered.

There were comments and questions from the floor:

- Marriott suggested merging the 8 food service operations in the Ellicott Complex into a single central facility; have received the architect's report and will move forward with it (Associate Vice President Wilson)
- describe catering (Professor Nickerson)
- offer catering for any size event anywhere on campus and will work with a customer's budgetary limits though must break even (Mr. Green)
- how do you compare with off campus vendors? (Professor Fournier)
- survey several times a year; for example, we are \$.35 cheaper on a comparable pizza than Pizza Hut, but \$.05 higher than Taco Bell; deli is competitive with off-campus prices (Mr. Green)
- FSA brings competition onto the campus with its various sub-contractors (Professor Boot)
- the University keeps FSA aware of prices and services on competing campuses because food services add to the cost of being a student at UB (Associate Vice President Wilson)
- catering stands on its own bottom, but some of service areas are subsidized by other operations to ensure adequate service to students and staff, viz. the South Campus (Professor Boot)
- if you can't make a profit on the South Campus, bring in private contractors who can (Professor Easley)
- UB is unique among the SUNY Centers in that we retain local control of food services; we provide services that a contractor wouldn't necessarily be willing to offer; for example, Marriott runs Binghamton's food services and all students living in the dorms are required to have a board contract, whereas here, only freshmen living in dorms are required to have a board contract (Mr. Green)
- how are rents set for FSA space? (Professor Fournier)
- the University unilaterally sets the charge; cost go up every year, but on the other hand FSA has returned some space to the University (Mr. Green)
- how green are the FSA operations? (Professor Nickerson)

- FSA abides by the University's green policy wherever possible; we offer china service in most units, do own recycling and trash collection, work with vending companies to install reverse vending; use energy efficient equipment, etc. (Mr. Green)
- how many staff and how many student workers? (Dr. Coles)
- 225 classified, 30 non-union, non-classified and 35 management staff member and 450/500 students (Mr. Green)
- what is Campus Cash? (Professor Nickerson)
- Campus Cash is a debit account on the UB card that can be used at the private vendors in the Commons, at the campus book store and several off campus book stores and Domino's Pizza (Mr. Green)
- is there a limit on the amount of a Campus Cash purchase; can students transfer money off Campus Cash? (Dr. Coles)
- there is no limit to the amount of a purchase, but effectively the kind of places that accept Campus Cash tend to keep purchases amounts reasonable; also most students put money onto Campus Cash by charging the amount to their student account so there is a time limit during a semester after which no additional charges can be incurred; when the student leaves campus unused Campus Cash is returned to the student, and in a hardship situation, FSA would work with the student (Associate Vice President Wilson)

Item 5: Report from the SUNY Senate

The Chair thanked Professor Adams-Volpe for the excellence of the arrangements for this SUNY Senate meeting. Professor Adams-Volpe attributed the planning to Anna Kedzierski and Jane Liebner. The Chair asked the SUNY Senators and others who attended the meeting to comment on it.

Dr. Durand outlined highlights of the meeting. President Greiner welcomed the SUNY Senate to UB. There were reports on the SUNY General Education Requirement and the proposed SUNY budget. Chancellor King addressed the Senate, saying that he believes New York's and SUNY's futures are intimately tied, that he intends to listen rather than lead by edict and that he pledges to visit each of the SUNY campuses annually. The Chancellor was optimistic about the budget.

The Provost spoke also. He talked about the mission review process; once the Memorandum of Understanding is finalized and summaries of each campus's mission statement shared, SUNY will set up a 6 year ongoing cycle for mission review. The Provost said that SUNY Administration had increased the target for SUNY research to \$800 M; but Chancellor King raised the goal to \$1 B to be achieved within the next 5 years. The Provost commented on distance learning and on increasing communication within SUNY, focusing on his web site, <<http://www.sysadm.suny.edu/provost>>, and *On-Course*, a bi-monthly newsletter. He also talked about a 5 member task force which is developing implementation guidelines for the SUNY General Education Requirement and the Advisory Council for General Education which will review proposals and make recommendations for acceptance of programs to the Provost.

The Senate passed 3 resolutions. The first committed the Senate to minimizing paper mailings, relying on the Senate web page for communication. The second recommends that the campus President and Chief Academic Officer ensure that programs are reviewed continuously, with a 5 year report to be prepared. The third recommends prompt and direct communication with faculty when there is an issue between the administration and faculty needing resolution.

Professor Adams-Volpe added that the Provost clarified that campuses did not have to have the full 30 credits of General Education Requirements in place this Fall semester so long as students entering in the Fall were able to complete the 30 hours before graduation. That should make implementation easier. Dr. Durand noted that the community colleges are only required to offer 21 hours of the General Education Requirements. A student who transfers to a four year program would have to complete the remaining 9 hours. Professor Fisher said that the Health Sciences sector talked about having a mid-September conference to talk about common issues. Mr. Celock was happy that the Chancellor stressed making SUNY more widely known. Having participated in recruitment activities for UB, Mr. Celock says that SUNY is not as well known as other North Eastern state universities. Professor Malone confirmed that Senators thought this was the best and most productive SUNY Senate meeting in some time. Professor Flynn, Chair of the SUNY Senate, especially

commented that even though UB is the largest of the campuses, it seemed warm and welcoming.

There were comments and questions:

- General Education Requirements may not be a problem for 2 year graduates of community colleges, but that is not the profile of the majority of transfer students (Professor Fournier)
- there was concern that there will be no additional resources to implement the General Education Requirements (Professor Malone)
- how will the success of students with the General Education Requirements be assessed? (Professor Booth)
- there is a committee working on testing; Professor Meacham serves on that committee (Professor Fournier)

There being no old/new business the meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn McMann Kramer
Secretary of Faculty Senate

Present:

Chair: P. Nickerson

Secretary: M. Kramer

Arts & Sciences: W. Baumer, C. Fournier, S. Schack

Dental Medicine: M. Easley

Health Related Professions: J. Tamburlin

Law: L. Swartz

Management: J. Boot

Nursing: E. Perese

SUNY Senators: J. Adams-Volpe, J. Boot, H. Durand, J. Fisher

University Libraries: A. Booth

Parliamentarian: D. Malone

Guests:

C. Welch, Chair, Academic Planning Committee

M. McGinnis, *Reporter*

B. Ahmad, *The Spectrum*

P. Chu, *The Spectrum*

J. Celock, Red Jacket Hall Council

M. Weiss, Pre-Professional Special Interest Housing

C. Wilson, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs

M. Green, Executive Director, Faculty Student Association

K. Levy, Senior Vice Provost

W. Coles, Chair, Professional Staff Senate

Excused:

Arts & Sciences: J. Meacham

Engineering & Applied Sciences: R. Sridhar

Information Studies: C. Jorgensen

Medicine & Biomedical Sciences: Cedric Smith

Absent:

Architecture: R. Shibley

Arts & Sciences: Charles Smith

Education: T. Schroeder

Medicine & Biomedical Sciences: B. Albini

Pharmacy: N.

