

FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of January 20, 1999 (approved)

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The Faculty Senate Executive Committee met at 2:00 PM on January 20, 1999 in Capen 567 to consider the following agenda:

- [1. Approval of the Minutes of December 16, 1998](#)
- [2. Report of the Chair](#) [3. Report of the President/Provost](#)
- [4. Report on Centers and Institutes: questions and issues for guided discussion at the January 26 meeting of the Faculty Senate](#)
- [5. Faculty Senate Student Life Committee: discussion of UB implications from State University Police Legislation; faculty involvement with student clubs and organizations](#)
- [6. Approval of Faculty Senate Agenda for January 26, 1999](#)
- [7. Old/new business](#)

Item 1: Approval of the Minutes of December 16, 1998

The Minutes of December 16, 1998 were approved.

Item 2: Report of the Chair

The Chair announced that Professor Hyde has resigned from the FSEC (though she continues as a Senator) and welcomed Professor Holstun as her replacement. He also announced that Professor Schuel had resigned as a Senator. Professor Albini will arrange for his replacement.

The Chair then reported that:

Professor Horvath has agreed to represent the Faculty on the Alcohol Review Board, replacing Professor Adams-Volpe; the Chair has agreed that the Faculty Senate will be a co-sponsor of the Alcohol Review Board's initiative "One Night Can Have a Lifetime of

Consequences." Madison Boyce, Chair of the Alcohol Review Board, described the event scheduled for 7 PM February 9 at the Center for the Arts. Michael Green will make an hour presentation on drug and alcohol use; afterwards there will be dancing in the atrium, and food and non-alcoholic drinks will be served. Attendance of about one thousand is anticipated. Faculty support and participation are welcome.

He is still investigating a group purchase of academic regalia

The election of SUNY Senators is underway. Professor Kramer, Chair of the Faculty Senate Elections Committee, noted first that the announcement in the *Reporter* of Professor Nickerson's election to a second term as Chair of Faculty Senate was premature since the Faculty Senate will consider the resolution directing her to cast one vote for Professor Nickerson at its next meeting. Moving to the SUNY Senate elections, she said that there were two vacancies to be filled; three Professional Staff and two faculty members are standing for election. Ballots will be counted on February 15.

SUNY Senate requires that Senators be elected by a majority of votes cast; how will that requirement be met with two positions to be filled? (Professor Adams-Volpe)

Since voters cast two votes, it is possible for two candidates to each receive a majority (Professor Schack)

Professor Tedlock has resigned as Chair of the Educational Programs and Policies Committee and Professor Meacham has agreed serve as its new Chair. FSEC's vote on Professor Meacham's appointment was conducted by e-mail to expedite getting a new Chair in place to keep the momentum of the Committee

Will e-mail balloting by FSEC become a common practice or was this an extraordinary circumstance? (Professor Swartz)

Do not anticipate using it often (Professor Nickerson)

Professor Gentile, Distinguished Teaching Professor, has agreed to chair the Teaching and Learning Committee

He is in the final stages of confirming a chair for the Athletics and Recreation Committee.

Dean Grant has written a memo suggesting that the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching should be given to senior faculty members. This may be an item for the Teaching and Learning Committee to consider.

President Greiner sent two documents to FSEC members on the Board of Trustees' General Education requirement and an abbreviated packet to all Senators; FSEC passed a Resolution at its December 16 meeting regarding the requirement; when and how should there be further discussion of this issue?

There will be discussion of this it at the Cortland meeting of the SUNY Senate; it would be helpful to the UB SUNY Senators to hear comments from the Faculty Senate (Professor Adams-Volpe)

President Greiner has asked for our input on the membership of the search committee for a new Provost; the Chairs of the Faculty Senate and the Professional Staff Senate will serve on the committee and five or six faculty will also be appointed.

re: Faculty Senate Committees: the Budget Priorities Committee, the Affirmative Action Committee and members of the Women's Task Force met with Assistant Vice President for Human Resources McNamara; data was presented that salary inequities for women, while addressed, have not been resolved and data was requested for minority faculty salaries; there will be further FSEC and Faculty Senate discussion of the matter; the Academic Planning Committee is examining a revision of Professor Headrick's Mission Review document, and the Chair hopes APC will be able to present its report at the February Faculty Senate meeting; the Affirmative Action Committee met alone to discuss multicentric education and the disparity in minority salaries.

Item 3: Report of the President/Provost

The Chair welcomed Provost Trigg. The Provost sketched out matters he is working on.

He is getting generally up to speed on the business of the Provost's Office.

He is involved in the enrollment issue. UB is just about holding its own in undergraduate enrollment and slipping significantly in graduate and professional enrollment.

Undergraduate enrollment can be addressed from a coherent central theme, whereas the

whole graduate program and structure is so decentralized and specialized that a single strategy for increasing enrollment is not possible. Decreasing graduate enrollment is a national trend, but UB is unfortunately ahead of the national curve. This has serious budget implications, especially if SUNY's new Resource Allocation Methodology is implemented as an allocation initiative from a constant pot. The Provost will put lots of energy and enthusiasm into initiatives aimed at increasing enrollments, especially undergraduate enrollment. He hopes to increase undergraduate enrollment by 100-150 students for next Fall. He is also working with various graduate programs to strengthen graduate recruitment strategies. One area of concern is the timeliness of response to requests for applications.

UB is late in submitting its Mission Review Statement, and pressure from Albany is beginning. Faculty Senate input should be given at the earliest possible date.

The SUNY budget process is underway in Albany. When the Governor's Budget is released we will see what level of support is being requested. However the SUNY Trustees' budget did not request funding for several initiatives that had been expected. It would seem, therefore, that SUNY's budget will not be increased.

The announced \$5M SUNY funding for a joint biotechnology initiative between UB and Roswell Park is also dependent on making it through the budget process. Additional cooperative projects with Roswell Park should probably be explored since SUNY seems to find cooperative projects attractive.

The General Education initiative will also preoccupy UB this coming year.

The Chair asked for comments:

- any thoughts on who will replace Chancellor Ryan? (Professor Malone)
- Provost Salins has been mentioned (Provost Triggler)
- how are Distance Learning students counted for purposes of enrollment figures? (Professor Baier)
- if they are enrolled in classes, they count (Provost Triggler)

- the Academic Planning Committee will be discussing the Mission Review Statement on January 25; are there planned reductions in professional programs, e.g., Pharm.D. or M.D.? (Professor Welch)
- the change in Pharmacy from a 5 year undergraduate professional degree to a 4 year undergraduate and 2 year graduate program will result in a reduced headcount but increased dollars (Provost Triggle)
- what impact will the trend toward privatization have on professional schools? (Brion Scudder)
- as the percentage of state support continues to decrease there will be increased emphasis on off-shore and outreach programs, and the cost to students of professional education will increase; however if schools are largely funded on their own bottom, there will likely be less cooperation within the University (Provost Triggle)
- problems of retention, not just recruitment, impact enrollment; it is difficult to provide adequately funded graduate stipends without significantly decreasing the number of graduate assistants (Professor Welch)
- increased stipends are definitely needed in some areas, but there will probably not be additional money available; the trick will be to change the mix of students by attracting more paying students for terminal masters and certificate programs to support larger stipends (Provost Triggle)
- the Graduate School of Education admits good students early and then finds itself unable to offer them Presidential Fellowships because they are already admitted (Professor Malave)
- the intent is to offer Presidential Fellowships to new students who might not otherwise come to UB; early admission should not be a bar since the Fellowships are available in December to give Departments flexibility in recruitment (Provost Triggle)

Item 4: Report on Centers and Institutes: questions and issues for guided discussion at the January 26 meeting of the Faculty Senate

There will be a discussion of the Hay Report on Centers and Institutes at the January 26 Faculty Senate meeting. The Chair reviewed the steps he is taking to guide discussion of the Report. Senators will have copies of the Hay Report and the current administrative guidelines for organized research centers. Professor Oak, substituting for Professor Hay, will make a brief presentation. The Research and Creative Activity Committee has drawn up a list of questions and issues that its discussion of the Report raised. The Chair has invited the heads of several existing Centers and Institutes to be present to inject reality into the discussion. PRB representation has been requested. The Chair asked for suggestions:

- distribute the questions formulated by the Research and Creative Activity Committee prior to the Faculty Senate meeting; the *Charter* gives Faculty Senate responsibility for the general conduct of research, and it would be useful to present the Report within that context; since this is not the usual pattern for Faculty Senate discussion, the Chair should clarify the ground rules and indicate what outcome from the discussion is expected (Professor Welch)
- must make sure that the policies governing organized research centers impose responsibility for proving the continuing viability of centers and for building centers around areas of the University strength (Provost Triggler)
- FSEC and Faculty Senate are being used to identify and clarify issues for our committees rather than the committees informing FSEC and Faculty Senate; it would be better if the committees drafted the points to be discussed and provided adequate ground information for the discussion (Professor Schack)
- good that the agenda will specify that there will be a guided discussion of the Report without action; important that neutral guidelines be developed for closing down centers since some of the centers will have symbolic and emotional importance; useful to examine the current guidelines on center with special attention to accountability provisions (Professor Swartz)
- a critical part of forming a new center is the establishment of concrete, agreed upon performance expectations over a defined lifetime; no one should feel aggrieved if a center which does not meet those expectations is closed (Provost Triggler)

Item 5: Faculty Senate Student Life Committee: discussion of UB implications from State University Police Legislation; faculty involvement with student clubs and organizations

The Chair welcomed Professor Ludwig, Chair of the Student Life Committee, the Vice President of Student Affairs, Dennis Black and the Associate Vice President for Student Affairs Clifford Wilson. The Chair asked for a discussion of the impact of the recent state legislation giving increased police powers to campus security officers; specifically, does it impose a duty on an officer to bring to court a student who breaks the law in front of the officer?

Vice President Black replied that on campus there would be no change in the way public safety officers' work. The law does, however, change how they work off campus. In the past when the officers were off campus, for example in transit between campuses or working at an auxiliary site, they reverted to private citizen status. The law gives the public safety officers the full status of police officers. In cooperation with local police jurisdictions, public safety may now perform the full range of duties off campus, for example, interviewing victims and carrying out investigations. Additionally, if requested, public safety officers may assist city or town police in emergencies.

The Chair asked that Vice President Black discuss the University disciplinary system. The Vice President responded that the aim of the system is to work with students who are in violation of University rules and regulations in order to retain them in the University if possible. The disciplinary system is composed of various parts, for example, the Judicial Affairs Office, the Ombudsman Office, a mediation/arbitration service, and a community standards project in the dorms. There were questions from the floor:

- the terms public safety officer and security officer are no longer accurate; they are now officially police officers (Professor Swartz)
- how do we know what it is appropriate for the officers to do now? (Professor Adams-Volpe)

- if you have a question, ask; if the officers can't help they may be able to direct you to other resources (Vice President Black)
- Public Safety would be very discrete in responding to questions; there are investigators as well as regular officer to respond; the officers new status does not change what they can do on campus (Associate Vice President Wilson)
- what are some of the more serious offenses that have been handled through University disciplinary procedures? (Professor Holstun)
- for a serious offense a student may face criminal prosecution off campus in addition to the University procedures (Vice President Black)
- would a student who assaulted another student be allowed to live in the same dorm with the victim which might further intimidate the victim? (Professor Holstun)
- in such a case the two students would be separated and the aggressor student might be banned from even being in the victim's presence; a student, of course, has the right to press charges irrespective of what the University is doing (Associate Vice President Wilson)
- does Public Safety have jurisdiction when UB students are involved in an incident off campus? (Professor Malone)
- no; based on the seriousness of the incident the University (not Public Safety) might consider whether the student will remain part of the University community (Associate Vice President Wilson)
- what parameters would trigger University involvement in an off campus incident involving a student? (Professor Ludwig)
- an incident which represents a threat to the well being of the campus would trigger a University response; for example if a Greek letter house was having problems with its neighbors, the University might mediate but would not attempt to enforce noise or trash collection ordinances using Public Safety officers (Vice President Black)
- if one student assaulted another student off campus, would the aggressor student be subject to University disciplinary procedures in addition to criminal sanctions; what if both students were in a class together? (Professor Baumer)

- the aggressor student would not be subject to University disciplinary procedures simply for the assault; however, if there were a University interest involved, for example, if the assault was related to an attempt to plagiarize, then University disciplinary procedures might be triggered (Vice President Black)

The Chair asked the Vice President to discuss faculty involvement in student clubs and activities. The Vice President noted that in the 1970's SUNY decided to take a hands off approach to student fees and student activities. This policy creates a divide that limits out of class interactions between students and faculty. Some faculty are in fact deeply involved in student activities and others might be interested in becoming involved. The Vice President will be working with the Student Life Committee to discuss ways to increase faculty involvement.

- how does the goal of increasing faculty participation in student affairs relate to the Faculty Senate's discussions of consensual sexual relations between faculty and students? (Brion Scudder)
- we're still working on the policy (Professor Nickerson)
- do we need permission to change the hands off policy? (Professor Harwitz)
- would only look to make opportunities for interaction without threatening student control (Vice President Black)
- academically focused clubs provide a good place for faculty student interaction; what is the budget for such academic clubs versus other student organizations? (Professor Welch)
- about \$2M gets spent on student activities and academic clubs get a relatively small portion of that; some academic clubs are subsidized by Departments and Schools, for example the School of Engineering has very strong academic clubs (Vice President Black)
- would guess that academic club budgets average about \$500-\$1000; it would be good if students and administration recognized the value of such academically oriented activities and funded them more adequately (Professor Welch)

- the University has chosen to support activities other than academically focused ones; that may have been an unwise choice (Vice President Black)
- the Student Union is very poorly designed for noise control; need to find a way to balance the right of the students to stage events the way they want with the right of staff to a reasonable work environment (Professor Swartz)
- are exploring alterations to make Union space more usable; concerning the sound issue, there is a committee defined maximum sound level, we have now purchased a sound meter and if the Student Activities staff are reluctant to use it, call me (Vice President Black)
- what is the status of the move to establish faculty academic advisement for students? (Brion Scudder)
- there has been progress under Vice Provost Goodman (Vice President Black)
- will students be consulted about involving faculty in student activities? (John Celock)
- there will be discussions with the Faculty Senate Student Life Committee and also with student government leaders (Vice President Black)
- there is currently one student member of the Student Life Committee and more will be added (Professor Nickerson)
- FSEC is invited to meet in the community room of Flickinger Court this year and in Hadley Village next academic year; Hadley Village will be providing 620 spaces for non-freshmen undergraduate students and 550 spaces are already reserved; this will be a bridge experience between dorm and off campus living (Vice President Black)
- studies suggest that there is a high correlation between which dorm an engineering student lives in and how well the student does in the engineering program; will there be any attempt to create special interest groups in these new apartments? (Professor Malone)
- the traditional dorms have some special interest programs; for example there is an engineering dorm in which there are about 100 engineering students (Associate Vice President Wilson)
- own group is the Pre-Professional Special Interest Housing group, which admits 20 non-freshmen pre-med, pre-dental and pre-law students; the group has a very

successful dinner program, and no faculty member invited has ever turned the group down (Chris Connelly)

Item 6: Approval of the January 26, 1999 Faculty Senate Agenda

There was a motion (seconded) to approve the draft agenda for the Faculty Senate meeting of January 26, 1999. The motion passed. Professor Welch then requested clarification of the agenda's listing of second readings for John Boot's resolutions. Professor Nickerson explained that the reference was to the resolutions arising from the discussion of the Statistics Department issue and not from his report on consensual relations between faculty and students. Professor Welch suggested that the General Education requirement might be a more significant issue than the Hay Report. Professor Schack concurred that the General Education requirement is more pressing. The Chair will enforce limits on presentations so that there will be time for a discussion of the General Education requirement under new business to guide our SUNY Senators at the Cortland meeting of the SUNY Senate.

Item 7: Old/new business

Professor Sridhar asked that some action be taken to deal with an anomaly in the academic calendar. There are several holidays on which classes before 6 PM are canceled, but classes after 6 PM are held. The make-up day reschedules all classes, so that evening classes meet twice. The Chair will refer the matter to Vice President Black.

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 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

Graduate School of Education: Lilliam Malave

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

Social Sciences: William Baumer, Mitchell Harwitz

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

University Officers: David Triggie, *Provost*

Guests:

Dennis Black, Vice President

Clifford Wilson, Associate Vice President

Suzanne Ley, Undergraduate Student Association

Brion Scudder, SBA/GMA

Christopher Connolly, Pre-Professional Special Interest Housing

Sue Wuetcher, *Reporter*

John Celock, *The Spectrum*

Jeannette Ludwig, Chair, Student Life Committee

Madison Boyce, Director Student Judiciary & Onbudsman

Excused:

Medicine & Biomedical Sciences: Boris Albini

Pharmacy: Nathan

SUNY Senators: William Fisher

Absent:

Architecture & Planning: Shahin Vassigh

Nursing: Powhatan Wooldridge

University Libraries: Dorothy Woodson