

FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Minutes of February 21, 2001 - (approved)
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The Faculty Senate Executive Committee met at 2:00 PM on February 21, 2001, in Capen 567 to consider the following agenda:

1. [Report of the Chair](#)
2. [Report of the President/Provost](#)
3. [Budget/Advocacy - Provost Capaldi, Senior Vice President Wagner](#)
4. [Building appearances - Associate Vice President for University Facilities Dupre](#)
5. Old/new business

Item 1: Report of the Chair

The Chair reported that:

1. the Student Life Committee of the UB Council met on February 20; the Committee discussed the newest and still under construction student housing project, Flint Village; two buildings will be reserved for Law students; the Committee also discussed a newly proposed student recreation center; he noted that the Faculty Senate Committee on Athletics and Recreation should also be involved early in the discussion of such a center
2. Professor Kramer attended the February 20 meeting of the UB Council in the Chair's absence
 - the Council approved a resolution to name the "Cecil and Violet Newton Center for Instructional Technology" in the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences; the Council approved a resolution opposing proposed legislation which would limit flexibility in imposing student fees; the student representative, Karen Woodman, reported on the proposed student recreation center (Professor Kramer)
3. he attended a meeting of the Public Information Committee on February 16 for the SUNY Senate; improvements in the SUNY web site were discussed as were suggestions for making the web site more useful to SUNY faculty for communicating their research

4. two Faculty Senate committees are active: the Teaching and Learning Committee's workshop on teaching assessment will be held on February 23 with all seats filled; the Public Service Committee met on February 16
5. the President responded to the FSEC's resolution supporting the merger of the Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology with the Department of Pathology, making the merger effective immediately; the new department will be named the Department of Pathology and Anatomical Sciences
6. SUNY Trustee Candace de Russey has written about a survey of SUNY students' knowledge of American history; she is very critical of SUNY and draws some wide-ranging conclusions from the results

There were comments from the floor:

- in an effort to acquaint the UB Council with UB faculty and what they do, faculty are being invited to make a presentation at each meeting of the Council; Professor Brenda Miller gave an excellent presentation on her research at this last meeting; am interested in nominations of other faculty who would be effective speakers (Provost Capaldi)
- am worried that UB is over building student housing; President Greiner should consult more widely before continuing to build and amass debt (Professor Boot)
- market surveys have been done; interestingly a large number of students going into the new housing are local students; will schedule a presentation on new housing (Professor Nickerson)
- will UB's American Pluralism satisfy SUNY's general education requirements? (Professor Booth)
- CAS Associate Dean for Undergraduate Academic Programs and Services Peter Gold says UB is in good shape; will schedule him to talk with the FSEC (Professor Nickerson)
- Provost Salens will speak at a meeting on the General Education Requirements this week; that may clarify the situation (Professor Malone)

Item 2: Report of the President/Provost

There was no report of the President/Provost.

Item 3: Budget/Advocacy

Senior Vice President Wagner gave an overview of items relevant to SUNY in the Governor's Executive Budget for 2001/2001. The Executive Budget provides state tax support of \$973.8M for SUNY, supplemented by an additional \$116.2M in tax support which replaces payments from the SUNY teaching hospitals, for a total of \$1,090M in adjusted base.

The substitution of state tax support for payments from the SUNY teaching hospitals is a major step in stabilizing SUNY's funding. Because changes in the health care field have substantially reduced the ability of the teaching hospitals to produce the excess revenue from which to make these payments, the hospitals have had to borrow money from the State to meet their obligations to SUNY.

- UB's School of Medicine has not benefited from what is a \$116.2M state subsidy for the other three medical schools; to be equitable UB's School of Medicine should receive \$40 M more in its state support (Professor Spurgeon)
- as part of the legislative package which is being worked out for the teaching hospitals, UB is requesting additional money for the School of Medicine (Senior Vice President Wagner)

The Governor recommends a \$55.2M increase in SUNY's operating budget. Most will go for contractual obligations with only \$13.5M left for other needs. He also recommends no increase in undergraduate tuition. He would allow \$155M of added bonding authority for dormitory rehabilitation; UB will participate in this program. Finally the Governor recommends funding for TAP.

- is proposed legislation to limit student fees likely to pass? (Dr. Coles)
- Chancellor is not for it; the SUNY campuses are not for it; the State is not interested in filling the \$50M/60M funding hole that would be created (Senior Vice President Wagner)

Provost Capaldi said that historically the Legislature has added funding for SUNY to the Governor's Executive Budget. Indeed, this year the Governor signaled that Chancellor King and the Board of

Trustees are free to lobby the Legislature for additional support. Locally the Western New York SUNY institutions met with the WNY Legislative Delegation and agreed to a lobbying agenda.

First, we will lobby to support and enhance the Executive Budget. Specifically we will support the SUNY Trustees' Budget Request which includes a \$40M Quality Initiative, \$6.5M for increased enrollment and sponsored research growth, \$14M for inflation, \$19M for increased energy costs and legislation authorizing differential tuition for graduate and professional programs. We will support the Governor's proposals on SUNY Hospital Flex. UB is also requesting \$3M to support the reform and modernization of the School of Medicine's practice plan administration. We will oppose capping of student fees. We will support SUNY Flex Legislation introduced by the SUNY Construction Fund which would allow flexibility in doing certain capital projects similar to the flexibility the campuses already have to build student housing.

Second we will lobby for support of university research and industry-university collaborations. The Governor, the Senate and the House all have specific proposals; we are focusing on the basics that will be needed in any formulation, viz., for basic research, faculty recruitment and matching of Federal research funds; for technology development, incubator space, grants and loans for product development, financing for research parks, and working capital for emerging companies, for development of core facilities, capital for such facilities and state of the art equipment.

Third, we will lobby for support of informatics and biomedical development in WNY. Under that umbrella are included the UB Center of Excellence in Bioinformatics, our NYSTAR application on disease modeling and therapy discovery, the UB/Roswell Park Center for Advanced Medical Technologies Initiative and land lease legislation to allow for possible development of a South Campus Research Park.

Fourth, we will lobby for funding for the Institute for Local Governance and Regional Growth. Finally, we will lobby for Gender Equity Funding for Division I athletics.

There were comments from the floor:

- the campuses will have to pay the \$19M in energy inflation costs even if there is no separate funding for it (Professor Boot)
- believe the Legislature recognizes the special need for energy costs and will add funding (President Greiner)
- would a research park on South Campus be built in existing campus space? (Professor Easley)
- on the south-east corner of the South Campus (President Greiner)
- the Budget Priorities Committee is concerned that faculty have a voice in setting budget priorities; faculty input is limited by poor communication about the budget process and by the fact that UB budgets incrementally rather than from a zero base (Professor Hamlen)
- zero based budgeting runs counter to long term commitments we make to students when we accept them into degree programs and to faculty with tenure; a five to ten year planning horizon is about right for a university; Chancellor King has restored higher education to importance in the State's thinking about priorities, so the repeated budget cuts of the last decade should be over, allowing for positive planning (President Greiner)
- does our lobbying agenda include increased funding for graduate students? (Professor Bono)
- would probably use money from the Quality Initiative (Provost Capaldi)
- low stipends are a problem in recruiting quality graduate students which in turn affects the quality of undergraduate instruction; the requirement that grants include funding for graduate students will help the situation; important that the Budget Priorities Committee and the faculty in general understand all funds accounting (President Greiner)

Item 4: Building appearances

The Chair introduced the topic of campus cleanliness by pointing out that choices about the level of cleaning and who does the cleaning have been made because of budget constraints. He asked Michael Dupre, Associate Vice President for University Facilities, to talk about those choices and the issues they raise.

Associate Vice President Dupre stated that when budget reductions began about 10 years ago, the cleaning operation was targeted for extra cuts to protect other areas. Over those ten years Facilities has lost about \$8M from its budget. Compounding the

problem were the six new buildings that came on line for cleaning with no additional resources provided. A decision to out source cleaning was made in 1993, and Facilities custodial staff is gradually being reduced by attrition. Since on both the contracting out side and the state side the resources available for cleaning have been reduced, on average cleaning levels are as low as they have ever been. Cleaning levels in buildings under contract have been relatively stable, though there have occasionally been problem contract employees and poorly performing contractors; because of the roller coaster effect of attrition, cleaning levels in buildings on the state side have deteriorated.

Provost Capaldi and Senior Vice President Wagner have indicated a desire to improve cleaning and maintenance levels. This will happen over time. As contracts come up for bid, cleaning specifications will be raised. More contracting out will occur, allowing Facilities staff to concentrated in fewer buildings which will raise cleaning levels.

- is there a special cleaning level for clinic space used for patients? (Professor Nickerson)
- don't recall specific clinical inventory, but we do special cleaning for special needs (Associate Vice President Dupre)
- accreditation standards on clinical cleanliness must be met (Professor Easley)
- the Faculty Senate Committee on Information and Library Resources has been told that it is difficult for the Libraries to get lights replaced and that general cleanliness is a problem; (addressed to Associate Vice President Dupre) should faculty call you about problems? (Professor Nickerson)
- don't get many calls though I am willing to be called; think people know that budget cuts have resulted in deteriorating conditions; a major problem in the appearance of the Libraries is worn out carpeting for which there is no replacement money (Associate Vice President Dupre)
- my area has been offered the option of cleaning during the day; is this a new policy? (Dr. Coles)
- will change shifts at the request of an area (Associate Vice President Dupre)

- might be useful to mount a campaign to encourage students to clean up after themselves to decrease the custodial staff's workload; am very impressed with how hard the custodial staff work (Professor Farkas)
- faculty should encourage students to pick up after themselves as a courtesy to the other students (Professor Boot)
- use list serves to remind faculty and students about keeping classrooms clean (Professor Ellison)
- construction in Cary-Farber causes dirt that carries into other buildings (Professor Easley)
- dirt has actually contaminated research being done in those areas; need to complete the construction to attract new faculty (Associate Vice President Dupre)

There was a motion (seconded) to refer cleaning issues to the Budget Priorities Committee. The motion passed unanimously. Associate Vice President Dupre offered to work with the Committee.

- perhaps units could adopt areas and help to police them (Professor Farkas)
- use student offenders to pick up cigarette butts (Professor Booth)

There being no old/new business to consider, the meeting adjourned at 3:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
 Marilyn McMann Kramer
 Secretary of Faculty Senate

Present:

Chair: P. Nickerson
Secretary: M. Kramer
Parliamentarian: D. Malone
Arts & Sciences: J. Bono, C. Fourtner
Dental Medicine: M. Easley
Health Related Professions: G. Farkas
School of Information Studies: J. Ellison

Law: L. Swartz

Management: J. Boot

Medicine & Biomedical Sciences: B. Noble, C. Pruet, S. Spurgeon

Nursing: E. Perese

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

University Libraries: A. Booth

University Officers: W. Greiner, President

E. Capaldi, Provost

R. Wagner, Senior Vice President

Guests:

S. Hamlen, Chair, Budget Priorities Committee

W. Coles, Chair, Professional Staff Senate

J. Lewandowski, *Reporter*

M. Dupre, Associate Vice President for

Facilities **Absent:Architecture:** R. Shibley

Arts & Sciences: W. Baumer, M. Jardine

Engineering & Applied Sciences: R. Sridhar

Graduate School of Education: L. Malave

Medicine & Biomedical Sciences: A. El Sohl

Pharmacy: R. Madejski