

MINUTES

Kansas State University Faculty Senate
November 14, 1995 3:30 p.m. K-State Union Little Theater

Members present: Abbott, Anderson, Baker, Balk, Behnke, Benson, Biere, Bissey, Charney, Conrow, Dubois, Dukas, Dyer, Erpelding, Fenton, Feyerharm, Fritz, Gallagher, Glasgow, Gray, Hagmann, Harbstriet, Hamilton, Hassan, Havlin, Hoag, Jardine, Johnson, Kassebaum, Klabunde, Kuhlman, Legg, Maes, McCulloh, McMurphy, Michie, Miller, Moeller, Mohr, Molt, Murphy, Nafziger, Niehoff, Ottenheimer, Pallet, Peak, Peterson, Pierzynski, Poresky, Rahman, Ransom, Reeke, Ross-Murray, Royse, Shultis, Smit, Stewart, Swanson, Twiss, Verschelden, White, Woodward, Wright, Zschoche.

Proxies: Erpelding for Elkins, Foster; Jardine for Buchholz, Lamond; Maes for Moxley; Reeke for Taylor-Archer

Visitors: Bernard Pitts, Ron Downey, Charles Reagan, Ron Trewyn

I. President Havlin called the meeting to order at 3:38 p.m.

II. Minutes of the October 13, 1995, meeting were amended to read:

p. 2, IV. Senator Reeck.....belied that. Dean Donoghue replied: "You'd have to ask the Provost what he meant by that." (Underlined material is new.)

p. 4, VI, C. President Havlinfavor. He indicated that he didn't understand why the proposed organizational scheme was presented to Senate, when the KSURF Board of Directors had voiced considerable concern and opposition to the Proposed organizational structure.

Senator Reeck moved approval of the minutes with his revisions. The motion was seconded by Senator Nafziger and approved.

III. President Havlin introduced Bernard Pitts, new director of the K-State Union. Mr. Pitts relayed his pleasure at being part of the exciting future regarding Union enhancement. He outlined the planned changes.

The Union will be brought into compliance with new safety and ADA codes, e.g. new codes do not permit an open area over three stories high, which impacts the atrium. In addition, according to the current code, there is insufficient egress from the 3rd floor meeting rooms. These and other problems will be addressed as well as enlarging the total space by 15,000 to 20,000 sq. ft., removing asbestos, and adding fire alarm and sprinkler systems.

The expansion design is being developed. Architect Ken Ebert will hold charettes (open design programs) in December and January to refine plans. Mr. Pitts expects construction to begin in early 1997 and to last 12 to 14 months. Although it will cost more, the Union staff is committed to maintaining services during construction. The Food Service will become a privatized system with the State Room and Bluemont Buffet, Catering, and Union Station contracted out and the introduction of franchised fast-food outlets. The Union will continue distribution to campus vending machines. The Union staff hopes to identify food service provider(s) this spring. He distributed information from the Book Store.

Senator Nafziger asked what was being done on behalf of long-term employees in food service. Mr. Pitts indicated that the Union hopes the new contractors would continue hiring them. In addition, the Union staff will provide assistance to employees if they need to find other positions.

IV. Announcements

A. President Havlin welcomed Student Body President Jeff Peterson back after his recent illness.

B. The Faculty Senate is currently without a permanent secretary. President Havlin anticipates that the position would be filled by late November.

C. Representatives Glasscock and Hochhauser will attend the December 12 Senate meeting. Senator Oleen will be unavailable that day.

D. The Board of Regents has asked the Council of Business Officers to develop a tuition waiver plan. The suggestion is that classified and unclassified personnel be granted a three credit per semester waiver funded through OOE. Senator Verschelden asked if it would be transferable. It wouldn't be. Senator Dubois said that it shouldn't be called a "waiver" if it is being funded. Senator Legg wanted to be sure the money came from the institution's, not the department's, OOE. With the current budget constraints, a tuition waiver will be difficult to implement in FY97.

E. COCAO has approved a new Conflict of Interest form. All faculty would have to fill out a four page form, those with potential conflicts of interest would have to fill out the eight page version. President Havlin deemed it unacceptable because it was "far too intrusive". The Provost will form a committee to revise the COI form.

F. After the open forum on "reengineering" on September 22, faculty suggested continuing such meetings. The Executive Committee will discuss the format for possible forums on Nov. 27. President Havlin suggested that the Strategic Planning Committee should cooperate with the CCOP's and CPAC's in future sessions. He indicated that he has been approached by Senators from Arts & Sciences about having a Faculty retreat. In connection with this discussion, he distributed copies of the Regents' "Vision 2020" statement.

Senator Legg inquired about the relation of the Regents' "Vision" document to the discussions. Havlin indicated he was just getting this out to Senators at present. Senator Reeck pointed out that later versions of the draft had blanks to indicate the months in 1996 when specific steps would be taken. Ron Downey reported that the Board of Regents would be discussing the paper at their December 6 meeting.

Senator Rahman agreed that forums and a retreat are good ideas, but sees a difference in that the forum would be a more formal session with representatives of the administration, but a retreat would be a faculty discussion and work group. She added that it would be important to channel summaries from each forum to the appropriate committees.

Senator Reeck envisions the "retreat" as a brainstorming session for faculty to come up with the "new" ideas the Regents want. A straw poll of Senate support for this idea was overwhelmingly positive.

G. President Havlin referred to a newspaper article indicating that KSU had contributed \$100,000 to the TDM project in Manhattan. President Wefald's office indicated that a private donor made the contribution on behalf of the university.

H. The Union Enhancement Committee is looking for interested faculty who would like to work with the group. Please contact President Havlin.

I. President Havlin need four faculty members to serve on a new committee for the Student Discrimination Review Board. Please contact President Havlin.

V. Reports from Standing Committees

A. Academic Affairs - John Johnson

1. Senator Johnson requested an addition to the agenda to approve candidates for graduate degrees for October 1995. His request was approved. He moved approval of the degree list. Senator Michie seconded the motion. It was passed.

2. Senator Johnson moved approval of Course and Curriculum Changes approved by the College of Business Admin. September 6, 1995. The motion was seconded and passed.

3. He moved approval of General Education courses approved May 1995, August 1995, and September 1995. Motion was seconded and passed.

4. He moved approval of the Academic Fresh Start Program (Attachment A). Senator Harbstriet seconded the motion. He explained that Academic Affairs recommended shortening the minimum waiting period from 5 to 3 years as an attempt to entice some of the 25% of students who drop out after their freshman year to return.

Senator Feyerharm responded that permitting a student to remove 4 semesters from the GPA is too

lenient. To rectify that he moved to amend the motion to read in II. 1) "shall be at the end of the 1st or 2nd regular academic semester" (i.e. to delete "3rd or 4th"). The motion to amend was seconded by Senator Bissey. The motion failed.

Senator Legg finds the proposal flawed in that there is no restriction on how late a student may apply for a "fresh start". He moved to amend the motion to read "I. 3) A student who returns after an absence of 3 years or more has 12 months in which to apply for Academic Fresh Start." The motion to amend was seconded by Senator Hamilton.

Senator Johnson pointed out that many non-traditional students might not complete 12 hours within 12 months. Senator Biere suggested that this amendment would simply complicate matters. Besides, in his opinion, this would be less of a problem than the post-dated drops currently being given. The motion to amend failed.

The question was called on the main motion. The motion to approve "Academic Fresh Start" was approved overwhelmingly.

5. Senator Johnson moved to remove the General Education timetable from the table. Senator Balk seconded the motion. It was approved.

Senator Balk distributed an update of courses approved and in the approval process Nov. 14. He addressed specific objections which had been raised in a recent mailing to senators.

- a. Previous proposals offered content specific plans which were unacceptable to Senate. The committee discussed what students needed to know and developed this proposal.
- b. The committee has never told faculty how to teach, just what to achieve.
- c. He agreed that courses should be spread across the campus and not heavily rely on courses in Arts & Sciences.
- d. Evaluation is a built-in requirement of this plan.
- e. It is time to "get off the dime" and implement the plan which was approved in the past by 69% of the Senate.

Senator Shultis pointed out that the ten point proposal under discussion did not agree with the May 10, 1994, plan. He understood that we would not implement the plan until we had developed the necessary tracks to see if it was feasible.

Senator Klabunde did not understand why certain courses were not approved. Senator Balk replied that they had not fit the committee's template. Senator Klabunde asked that Jay Goodwin, a student, be recognized. Mr. Goodwin expressed his concerns about the proposal. He had thought it would include the core curriculum as it is in Arts & Sciences. He is bothered that the proposal stresses methodology instead of content, while he believes the pedagogy should fit the course. In addition, 1 of 4 lower division courses and 1 of 2 upper division courses approved to date are Honors courses and not available to most students. He also stated that the proposed system does not stress diversity.

A member of the committee challenged the student's understanding of the "prescribed" pedagogy and said he was misinformed.

Senator Rahman indicated she was pleased that Senator Balk was talking about content, not pedagogy, especially the critical and analytical thinking aspects. She encouraged the inclusion of an objective method for determining success.

Senator Wright perceives this as an opportunity to use new, collaborative approaches to content courses. She argues that "critical thinking skills" are best taught within a domain of knowledge.

The question was called. The motion was passed. Senator Gallagher requested a roll call vote. The results were 48 "yea", 17 "nay", and 2 abstentions.

B. Faculty Affairs - Gary Pierzynski

Senator Pierzynski moved approval of changes in sections C33, C34.2, C45.1, C. 30.3, and a new section C31.5 of the Faculty Handbook to bring it in line with Board of Regents documents on faculty evaluation. Senator Michie seconded the motion.

Senator Michie explained that many senators first heard of this item when the agenda came out. An item this important to faculty needs to be discussed more widely. Therefore, she moved to table all of Attachment C in the agenda and to revisit the question in December. The motion was seconded and passed. Senator Dubois suggested including the applicable BOR documents with the agenda for the December meeting.

C. FSCOUP - Michel Ransom

FSCOUP has been studying the proposed reorganization of KSURF. Senator Kuhlman presented a response to the proposed reorganization which was prepared by the FSCOUP Subcommittee (Attachment B) and moved its acceptance. He described events of the past week, including the resignation of Debbie Nuss and the appointment of Ron Trewyn as president of KSURF.

Senator Reeck moved to postpone action on the report in light of the lateness of the hour and the importance of accurate information on recent happenings. His motion was seconded by Senator Rahman. Senator Kuhlman did not understand a postponement since accepting the report did not involve a policy statement. Senator Reeck agreed to withdraw his motion, if he could be assured KSURF would be on the agenda at the next meeting. He was. He withdrew the motion with the consent of the seconder.

Senator Smit asked about salary savings with Dr. Trewyn as acting president. She also asked whether the entire KSURF Board voted on the new president. Senator Kuhlman reported receiving a great deal of e-mail on this topic, some of which contains rumors and generalizations not backed up by facts. In this context, Senator Michie suggested that President Havlin find out as far as possible how the employees were treated in the reorganization and what the organizational links are between KSU and KSURF. President Havlin assured that he has kept in touch with Central Administration and that KSURF will not be reorganized without significant faculty input and advice. FSCOUP will remain involved and faculty attendance at future KSURF Board meetings was assured by Provost Coffman.

Senator Kuhlman's motion to accept the report passed.

- VI. There was no old business.
- VII. There was no new business.
- VIII. No one offered anything for the good of the university.
- IX. The meeting was adjourned at 5:43 p.m.