

JOURNAL OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

Regular Session, April 27, 1959, 4:10 P. M.
Monnet Hall, Room 101

The University Senate, meeting in regular session, was called to order by Dr. Rufus G. Hall, Jr., Chairman.

Present

Almquist, C. T.
Artman, Jim
Bandy, William R.
Bowen, Willis H.
Brixy, John C.
Cass, Carl B.
Coffman, Stanley K.
Crites, Dennis M.
Croft, Albert J.
Elconin, Victor
Ewing, Crotez A. M.
Ezell, John S.
Fell, Ruth D.
Fite, Gilbert C.
Hale, John M.
Hall, Rufus G., Jr.
Heilman, Arthur
Howard, Robert A.

Present

Hoy, Harry E.
Keown, William H.
Larsen, Earl G.
Mouck, Fred A.
Peterson, Robert A.
Pool, Richard B.
Poston, Lawrence, Jr.
Raines, John W.
Roller, Duane H. D.
Rupiper, Omer
Smith, William H.
Schultz, E. J.
Sommers, E. Blanch
Steanson, Edith
Upchurch, Vernon
Warren, Mary A.
Wilcox, Stewart

Absent

Bell, Robert E.
Brinker, Paul A.
Colmore, John P.
Cross, George L.
Livezey, William E.
Love, Tom J.
Morris, John W.
Rice, Leslie H.
Tongue, William R.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The Journal of the University Senate for the regular meeting held on March 23, 1959, was approved.

SENATE ACTION APPROVED

On March 26, 1959, President Cross indicated his approval of the recommendation of the University Senate that an ad hoc University Organization Study Committee be established to study, prepare, and present to the Senate and to the President a current and explicit definition of the continuing role of the University Senate in the affairs of the University. The complete recommendation of the Senate in this regard was presented in the Journal for March, 1959.

On March 26, 1959, President Cross indicated approval of the recommendation of the University Senate relative to a fringe benefit insurance plan. The recommendation of the Senate in this regard was presented in the Journal of the Senate for March, 1959.

ANONYMOUS GRADING OF SUBJECTIVE EXAMINATIONS

Student Senate Resolution No. 1958-F-4

December, 1958

Title: A Resolution Suggesting a New System of Recording Grades in Courses Concerned With Subjective Examinations and Papers

Whereas: Students enrolled in many courses of the University are required to submit personal interpretations of the material relevant to the courses, and

Whereas: Professors and instructors may form opinions about a particular student to the extent that it becomes difficult to grade without bias, and

Whereas: A system whereby students are numerically classified and grades are recorded by number would tend to alleviate the problem of prejudice; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Student Senate recommend to the proper university authorities that a revision of the present system of recording student's grades in favor of listing them by number be referred to the deans of several schools for study.

NOTE: Underscored portion of last paragraph added when the Committee on Teaching and Research requested clarification.

Report of the Committee on Teaching and Research

March 23, 1959

The Committee on Teaching and Research has met to consider Student Senate Bill No. 1958-F-4. Mr. Stan Betzer, the student senator who authored the bill, appeared at our invitation to explain it.

The Committee believes that the Title of the bill, and the wording of the concluding resolution do not express the intent of the senate as explained to us by Mr. Betzer. The resolution at least creates an impression that the Student Senate desires an anonymous recording of grades by number. However, the true intent appears to recommend an anonymous grading of subjective examinations papers similar to the system used by the College of Law.

The system used at the College of Law, as explained by Mr. Bandy, is as follows: at each examination students are instructed not to place their names upon the examination paper, but to sign a numbered list left at a designated place in the classroom. The Student selects any unused number, signs his name in space provided, and then places that number upon his bluebook. The instructor places the list in a secure place during his grading, and does not establish the identity of the papers until the grading has been completed.

Anonymous Grading of Subjective Examinations -- continued

The Committee recommends that the Student Senate Resolution, as interpreted herein, be transmitted to the Deans of the various colleges for appropriate consideration.

Committee on Teaching and Research

W. R. Bandy
John P. Colmore
Arthur Heilman
Jim Artman

Tom J. Love
William Tongue
John Ezell, Chairman

Senate Action

Dr. Ezell, Chairman of the Committee on Teaching and Research, commented briefly relative to the foregoing report and moved that it be approved by the University Senate. His motion was seconded but failed to pass.

Dr. Raines then moved that the recommendations of the Student Senate and the report of the Committee on Teaching and Research be referred to individual faculty members by means of reporting in the Journal of the Senate. His motion was seconded and passed.

The foregoing material in this Journal relative to the topic "Anonymous Grading of Subjective Examinations," constitutes the complete report to the faculty.

STUDENT SENATE— UNIVERSITY SENATE RELATIONS

Letter from the President of the Student Senate

March 24, 1959

Dr. Rufus G. Hall, Chairman
University Senate
University of Oklahoma

Dear Dr. Hall:

The Student Senate has three proposals which it would like the University Senate to consider. They concern the relationship between our two senatorial bodies. You will find these proposals outlined in the attached "Resolution Concerning Student Senate-University Senate Relations," as well as a Special Executive Committee Report which outlines in detail some of the thinking which has gone into the preparation of this resolution.

The first two proposals are not new ideas. In fact, in past years there has been some visitation and voicing of Student Senate opinion before the University Senate and its committees. It has, however, been a very casual and/or unqualified and/or unwritten sort of arrangement which should, at least, be formally stated in one way or another. We think that it might be very

Student Senate--University Senate Relations -- continued

beneficial to the University Senate if a well qualified, germane, and trustworthy Student Senate Officer be able to attend your regular meetings, as well as have students called to your committee meetings when relevant issues are before the group.

With respect to proposal number three, we noted in the last report from the Council on Instruction that about 75% of the items which they discussed were identical to many projects and ideas which we also were considering. Since this Council is a Standing University Committee, and since it has proven to be desirable to have students serve on such committees, it therefore seems only reasonable that students should be nominated by the University Senate to be placed on the Council on Instruction which is considering matters with which we are most vitally concerned and affected.

We would be very happy to discuss the details of these three proposals in committee with the faculty. If there are any questions, do call the Senate Office.

Let me say in closing that I have enjoyed the opportunity to work with the University Senate in the last four years, and I am confident that the complementary work and unity of purpose of both groups will continue to prosper in the years ahead through better mutual understanding.

Sincerely,

James W. White, President
Student Senate

Student Senate Resolution Concerning Student Senate-University Senate Relations

Whereas: The relations between the University Senate and the Student Senate have been commendable in past years; and

Whereas: Both Senate bodies should strive to improve their relations in order that the welfare of the University be maximized; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Student Senate of the University of Oklahoma requests that the following proposals be accepted by the University Senate:

1. That a member of the Student Senate Executive Council be allowed to attend University Senate meetings in order that the Student Senate can better understand the work of the University Senate as well as express the student view on relevant issues;
2. That student representatives be allowed to work on University Senate Committees when matters of student concern are considered so that the members of said committees might better understand the viewpoint of the student with respect to the matters under deliberation; and
3. That two students be included as regular members to the Council on Instruction

Student Senate--University Senate Relations -- continued

Senate Action

Following a brief discussion of the elements involved in the foregoing letter and Student Senate resolution regarding Student Senate--University Senate relations, Dr. Raines moved that the requests of the Student Senate, as they appear at the bottom of page 4 be denied. His motion was seconded and passed by the University Senate.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES

Explanatory Comment

During the spring of each year, the Committee on Committees of the University Senate submits nominations for University committees which will be appointed by President Cross. The Senate then considers the nominations, may make additional nominations from the floor, and at the next regular meeting approves the list of nominations to be submitted to President Cross.

Senate Action

Dr. Heilman, Chairman of the Committee on Committees, presented the list of nominations prepared by the Committee. The University Senate considered the nominations made by the Committee on Committees and several additional nominations were made from the floor of the Senate. The final list of nominations will be approved by the Senate at its regular meeting on May 25 and then will be submitted to President Cross so that he can make specific appointments to the various University committees for 1959-60.

ADJOURNMENT

The University Senate adjourned at 4:40 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, May 25, 1959 at 4:10 p.m. Material for the Agenda should be in the Office of the Secretary by Wednesday, May 13.

Gerald A. Porter, Secretary

10/10/10

10/10/10

