

JOURNAL OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

Regular Session, May 29, 1967 -- 4:10 p.m.
Student Union Building, Room 165

The University Senate, meeting in regular session, was called to order by the Chairman, Dr. William H. Maehl, Jr.

Present

Berenda, Carlton W.	(1)
Bienfang, Ralph D.	(1)
Bishop, L. Doyle	(1)
Blick, Edward F.	(2)
Braver, Gerald	(2)
Brixey, John C.	(2)
Canfield, Frank B.	(4)
David, Paul R.	(1)
Duncan, J. Paul	(4)
Everett, Mark R.	(3)
Feaver, J. Clayton	(1)
Goggans, Travis P.	(2)
Gooch, Brison D.	(3)
Hart, Frances	(3)
Hoy, Harry, E.	-
Huneke, Harold V.	(1)
Maehl, William H., Jr.	-
Ohm, Robert E.	(4)
Olson, Ralph E.	-
Plint, Colin A.	(2)
Rice, Leslie H.	(2)
Suggs, Charles C.	(3)
Sutherland, Stephen M.	(3)
Terry, Richard A.	-
Tuma, Gerald	(4)
West, Kelly M.	(4)
Williams, Lloyd P.	(1)

Absent

Andrews, Mildred M.	(2)
Campbell, John M.	(8)
Collier, Robert E.	(3)
Cross, George L.	(6)
Elkouri, Frank	(4)
Feiler, Seymour	(2)
Goodman, George J.	(2)
Hengst, Herbert R.	(5)
Howard, Robert A.	(2)
Levy, Gene	(3)
Livezey, William E.	(3)
Male, Roy R.	(2)
Patnode, Robert A.	(2)
Peterson, Robert V.	(3)
Rohrbaugh, Lawrence M.	(3)
Smith, William H.	(4)
White, Raymond R.	(6)

NOTE: During this year there were eight regular meetings of the University Senate. The numbers in the parentheses above indicate meetings missed. In each case where there is no number, the Senator has a record of perfect attendance for the eight meetings.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The Journal of the University Senate for the regular meeting held on April 24, 1967, was approved.

ACTION BY PRESIDENT CROSS

Class Schedule -- On April 27, 1967, President Cross indicated his approval of the recommendations made by the University Senate relative to the class schedule (see the Journal of the University Senate, April 24, 1967, pages 2-3).

Class-standing of Students -- On April 27, 1967, President Cross indicated his approval of the recommendation made by the University Senate relative to the release to Selective Service or other agencies of the class-standing rank of any student (see the Journal of the University Senate, April 24, 1967, page 4).

Council on University Libraries -- Acting on nominations submitted by the University Senate, President Cross, on April 27, 1967, appointed Professor Fred H. Miller, College of Law, as the replacement for Professor Robert E. L. Richardson on the Council on University Libraries.

STUDY OF THE FUTURE OF THE UNIVERSITY

An ad hoc committee has been appointed by the Chairman of the University Senate, with the advice and consent of the Senate Committee on Committees. The members of the committee are:

Tom J. Love -- Aero & Mech. Engr.
Arrel M. Gibson -- History
Paul R. David -- Zoology

Turner W. Edge -- Drama
L. Doyle Bishop -- Management
James R. Burwell -- Physics

This committee will begin immediately a continuing study of the future of the University in an attempt to formulate action to be taken and the means of facilitating such action.

PROCEDURES FOR NOMINATION OF DISTINGUISHED PROFESSORS

Explanatory Comment

This matter has long been the concern of the Senate Committee on Faculty Personnel. Several reports have been made during 1966-67. Dr. Bienfang presented specific recommendations from the Committee at the meeting on May 29. He moved adoption of the recommendations and his motion was seconded and passed. The recommendations as amended were then approved by the University Senate.

Recommendations Approved by the University SenateNomination of Research Professors

1. Method of nomination -- Nomination to a Research Professorship may be made to the Dean of the Graduate College by the executive committee of the nominee's department or may be initiated by the Dean of the Graduate College himself, after consultation with the interested department.

Procedures for Nomination of Distinguished Professors -- continued2. Evaluation of the candidate:

(a) When a nomination has been made, the Dean of the Graduate College shall write to a number (five or six) of department chairmen in the candidate's subject at other institutions to secure names of persons who are intimately acquainted with current activity in the candidate's field of specialization; the chairmen who are solicited should be chosen by reason of the size or prestige, or both, of their departments. The Dean shall also receive suggestions from the executive committee of the candidate's department.

(b) When the Dean of the Graduate College has received the names of five persons at other institutions who are presumed to be qualified to evaluate the candidate, he shall request five of them to state approximately where he would place the candidate (e.g., in the top 10%, 20%, 30%, etc.) among those who are actively engaged in research and publication in the candidate's area of specialization.

3. Recommendation of the candidate -- If as many as four of the five persons selected to evaluate the candidate regard him as being among the top 20% (The figure of 20% is of course both arbitrary and provisional, although it seems a priori a plausible one. The actual cut-off percentile should doubtless be decided upon by the Graduate Dean after consultation with the Graduate Council and the Office of the President.) of those actively working in his field, the Dean after obtaining the advice and consent of the Graduate Council shall recommend to the President that he be appointed a Research Professor.

If three, but not four, of the evaluators place the candidate among the top (20%), he shall not be recommended for the appointment, but his nomination shall be reactivated in the ensuing year, and his name submitted to another set of five evaluators selected as prescribed above (2-a), but through solicitation of Department Chairmen other than those approached in the first year.

COMPULSORY CLASS ATTENDANCE ✕

Memo from Vice President McCarter

May 9, 1967

The Student Academic Advisory Council has adopted the attached statement on the relation of class attendance and grades and now transmits it to the University Senate with the hope that it may serve as a basis for the formulation of faculty policy on this question.

Statement from the Student Academic Advisory Council

Subject: Compulsory Class Attendance

The Academic Advisory Council has discussed at length the policy of some professors to lower a student's grade on the basis of class attendance. It is the feeling of this Council that such a policy can at times unfairly alter the record of an earnest student.

Compulsory Class Attendance -- continued

The point of attending college is the acquisition of knowledge as a springboard for future achievement. If attending a class bears little effect on the knowledge acquired in the course, this Council feels that attendance should not affect the grade earned. The ability of the student may be such that he can learn what is required in a course without physically attending the class. Of special importance here is the fact that certain required courses which are unrelated to one's major tend to be mere repetitions of the text due to large class size and the departmental testing procedure. In this case especially, a student's grade should not be lowered because he learned the material outside rather than inside the classroom.

The general consensus of this Council is, therefore, that a student should be graded on tangible evidence of his achievements. If he has indeed learned the material covered -- as is reflected by tests and research papers, for instance -- he should then be given the deserved grade with no special regard to previous class attendance.

Student Senate Resolution -- Bill No.: Spring - 51 - 67

May 11, 1967

An Act Establishing A Policy Regarding Academic Penalties for Class Absence

- Section 1: This act shall be known and may be cited as AN ACT ESTABLISHING A POLICY REGARDING ACADEMIC PENALTIES FOR CLASS ABSENCES.
- Section 2: The purpose of this act is to clarify the source and establish a policy regarding academic penalties for class absences.
- Section 3: The phrase "academic penalties for class absences" shall be defined in the context of this act as the policy of lowering student grades solely on the basis of class absences.
- Section 4: The administration of the University of Oklahoma may not require academic penalties for class absences.
- Section 5: No college or department may require academic penalties for class absences.
- Section 6: Academic penalties may be dispensed only by the individual class instructors.
- Section 7: Each instructor who chooses to academically penalize students for class absences must announce his policy and system of penalization to the class at the beginning of each semester.
- Section 8: This act shall in no way be construed so as to affect or alter present policies of instructors regarding the taking of roll or the giving of unannounced tests.
- Section 9: This act shall become effective when duly passed by the Student Senate and Faculty Senate in regular session and approved EN TOTO by the proper University authorities.
- Section 10: Copies of this act should be sent to Dr. George L. Cross, Dr. Pete Kyle McCarter, Dr. William H. Maehl, Miss Susan Waltz, and the Deans of the Colleges.

Compulsory Class Attendance -- continued

Student Senate Resolution -- Bill No.: Spring - 52- 67

May 11, 1967

An Act Establishing A Policy Regarding Class Attendance

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- Section 3: The administration of the University of Oklahoma may not require class attendance.
- Section 4: No college or department may require class attendance.
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- Section 7: This act shall become effective when duly passed by the Student Senate and Faculty Senate in regular session and approved EN TOTO by the proper University authorities.
- Section 8: Copies of this act should be sent to Dr. George L. Cross, Dr. Pete Kyle McCarter, Dr. William H. Maehl, Miss Susan Waltz, and the Deans of the Colleges.

Senate Action

Kenneth M. Morris, President of the Student Senate, addressed the University Senate with regard to compulsory attendance and explained the Student Senate Resolutions No. 51 - 67 and No. 52 - 67. Numerous questions were directed to him.

Dr. Bishop moved that the two Student Senate Resolutions be referred to the Senate Committee on Teaching and Research. His motion was seconded and passed.

Dr. David moved that the memorandum on compulsory class attendance from Vice President McCarter be referred to the Senate Committee on Teaching and Research. His motion was seconded and passed.

GRADING SYSTEM +

Memorandum from the Student Academic Advisory Council

May 12, 1967

The purpose of a university is the advancement of higher learning, and to this end, this Council feels compelled to re-examine the present grading system as it is now established at the University of Oklahoma to judge whether it conforms to this criterion.

Grading System -- continued

The Council feels that a pass/fail system would provide an excellent opportunity for the University to place more emphasis on learning rather than continuing the sterile pursuit of grades.

Grades have no function as an educational device per se, but are expedients for measuring a student's academic achievement as indicators that may be used in determining various scholastic honors or rewards (or qualifications for future employment or further educational grants and scholarships) for the students involved. The Council recognizes the legitimacy of grades used in this context, but it feels that the system now in use, that of grading all class work regardless of its relationship to the student's academic goals, can be greatly improved without impairing the grading system's general function as an indicator of academic achievement.

The present grading system has unfortunately become an intellectual hindrance, or at best, a nuisance to be endured. Many students feel coerced to take only those courses in which they are certain of success, rather than work that they might be interested in, but lack sufficient confidence to attempt because they fear that a bad grade might jeopardize their future academic advancement or even post-graduate careers.

This Council therefore recommends that the University of Oklahoma institute a pass/fail system for grading in all courses outside of the student's major field, except for a minimum of twelve hours of credit to be designated by the student himself beyond this major field in which he wishes to demonstrate superior performance or competence. This system will allow the grades in the student's major field, and whatever other courses he desires, to indicate his academic achievement in the areas he feels are most vital to his intellectual advancement.

The pass/fail system would allow a student to enroll in a wider selection of courses outside of his major field without fear of possibly risking his academic record because of a poor performance in a discipline in which he could do passing work but not excellent work.

This Council further recognizes the difficulty in implementing such an innovation as the proposed pass/fail system, and wishes to make clear that it hopes that the plan recommended will be considered more as a guideline rather than as a rigid proposal. The Council does not contend that the new system which it proposes is the best possible, for it is only one alternative, but it does believe that this sort of legislation, aimed at a pass/fail system of grading, would be a reasonable and desirable modification of the grading system now employed at the University of Oklahoma.

Senate Action

Dr. David moved that the foregoing memorandum relative to the grading system be referred to the Senate Committee on Teaching and Research for study and a report. His motion was seconded and passed.

PENCIL SHARPENERS 24

Student Senate Resolution -- Bill No.: Spring - 55 - 67

A Resolution Recommending the Installation of Pencil Sharpeners in University of Oklahoma Classrooms

- Whereas: There is a definite lack of pencil sharpeners in University of Oklahoma classrooms, and
- Whereas: The installation of such pencil sharpeners would be a great service and convenience to the students and faculty of the University of Oklahoma, be it therefore
- Resolved: That the Student Senate of the University of Oklahoma recommends to the University administration that pencil sharpeners be installed on a trial basis in key classrooms and locations of campus buildings, and be it further
- Resolved: That if the need for additional pencil sharpeners is proven at a future date, the University administration take adequate steps to meet these needs of the students and faculty, and be it further
- Resolved: That copies of this resolution be sent to President George L. Cross, Vice-President Horace B. Brown, Mr. John H. Kuhlman, and the Faculty Senate of the University of Oklahoma.

Senate Action

Dr. Berenda moved that the matter of pencil sharpeners as indicated above be referred to the Director of Physical Plant. His motion was seconded and passed.

NOMINATIONS FOR UNIVERSITY COUNCILS FOR 1967-68

The Senate Committee on Committees submitted a list of nominees for the various University councils. On May 29, one person was nominated from the floor of the Senate. The following list of nominees has been submitted to President Cross. He will select the persons to fill the vacancies on the councils.

Athletic Council

Rodney L. Boyes -- Management
 George Cozad -- Microbiology
 William F. Eick -- Physical Education
 Marion C. Phillips -- Marketing
 Wilson B. Prickett -- Finance
 Robert W. Ross -- Music
 Francis J. Schmitz -- Chemistry
 Robert A. Shapiro -- Industrial Engr.
 C. M. Stookey -- Music

Budget Council

V. Jean Brown -- Pharmacy
 Jack L. Kendall -- English
 Eunice Lewis -- Education
 Colin A. Plint -- Physics
 Joseph C. Pray -- Political Science
 Jim E. Reese -- Economics
 Elroy L. Rice -- Botany
 Orcenith Smith -- Music
 George M. Sutton -- Zoology
 Gerald Tuma -- Electrical Engineering

Nominations for University Councils for 1967-68 -- continuedExtension Council

Robert Bell -- Anthropology
 R. E. Hilbert -- Sociology
 W. N. Huff -- Mathematics
 Harold Huneke -- Mathematics
 Kenneth R. Merrill -- Philosophy
 George T. Stone -- Geology
 Dwight V. Swain -- Journalism
 Gerhard Wieng. -- Modern Languages
 Donald A. Woolf -- Management

Faculty Personnel, Council on

Allen S. Davis -- Mathematics
 Erich Eichholz -- Modern Languages
 Helen Gregory -- Dance
 James E. Hibdon -- Economics
 David B. Kitts -- Geology
 Anthony Lis -- Administrative Services
 Don E. Menzie -- Pet. & Geo. Engr.
 Walter J. Saucier -- Meteorology
 Fred Sloan -- Education

Students Activities and Welfare,
Council on

Russell Buhite -- History
 Robert Collier -- Microbiology
 John Dyrud -- Law
 Richard Grunder -- Pharmacy
 Geoffrey Marshall -- English
 Raymond R. White -- Administrative Services

Planning and Development, Council on

Daniel G. Gibbens -- Law
 Robert Howard -- Physics
 Joe R. Taylor -- Art

Instruction, Council on

Charles W. Bert -- Aero. & Mech. Engr.
 Mildred Chisolm -- Education
 Jack Cohn -- Physics
 Ed F. Crim -- Economics
 Seymour Feiler -- Modern Languages
 George Goodman -- Botany
 Leonard Haug -- Music
 William Horosz -- Philosophy
 E. Blanche Sommers -- Pharmacy
 Patrick E. Sutherland -- Geology

Libraries, Council on

Ralph Bienfang -- Pharmacy
 Norman H. Boke -- Botany
 Harry Holloway -- Political Science
 Alex J. Kondonassis -- Economics
 Richard Kuhlman -- Arch. & Planning
 John W. Morris -- Geography
 John A. E. Norden -- Geology
 Leslie F. Smith -- History
 Ernest L. Trumble -- Music

ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES

In accord with the University Senate procedure of electing replacements to the Senate Committee on Committees at the final meeting of the year, two replacements were elected on May 29, 1967. The replacements were elected from the list of new senators elected recently to represent the various colleges and the General Faculty.

The new senators who will serve on the Senate Committee on Committees for the three-year term, 1967-70, are:

Gilbert C. Fite -- History

C. E. Springer -- Mathematics

PROPOSED CALENDAR - 1968-69

Proposed Calendar as submitted by the Office of Admissions and Records

First Semester - 69 days
(not including 13 Saturdays)

Enrollment - September 2, 3, 4, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
Classes Start - September 5, Thursday
Early Enrollment for 2-68-69 - November 14, 15, 16, Candidates for Degrees;
November 18-27, all other eligible students
Thanksgiving Vacation - November 28, 29, 30, (Thursday, Friday, Saturday)
Classes Resume - December 2 (Monday)
Last Day of Classes - December 12 (Thursday)
Final Exams - December 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 (8 days)
Christmas Vacation - December 22 - January 7, 1969 (16 days)

Second Semester - 71 days
(not including 13 Saturdays)

Enrollment - January 8, 9, 10, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
Classes Start - January 13, Monday
Spring Vacation - March 15 (Saturday) through March 23 (Sunday) 8 days
Classes Resume - March 24 (Monday)
Early Enrollment Advisement for 1-69-70 - April 8, Candidates for Degrees;
April 9, 10, 11, all other eligible students
(No classes during this early advisement)
Last Day of Classes - May 2 (Friday)
Final Exams - May 5 (Monday), 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14 (8 days)
Commencement - May 18 (Sunday)

Summer Session 1969 - 39 days
(not including Saturdays)

Enrollment - June 2, 3, Monday, Tuesday
Classes Start - June 4, Wednesday
Last Day of Classes - July 20, Tuesday
Final Exams - July 30, 31, Wednesday, Thursday
Commencement - August 3, Sunday

Senate Action

Dr. David moved that consideration of the proposed calendar be referred to the Senate Committee on University Organization, Budget, and Publications. His motion was seconded and passed.

REPORT OF UNIVERSITY ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

The individuals who have been elected to represent the various colleges and the General Faculty in the University Senate, 1967-70, are:

Arts and Sciences -- John N. Alley -- Modern Languages
Sherril D. Christian -- Chemistry
Victor L. Elconin -- English
J. L. Kendall -- English
Thomas M. Smith -- History
C. E. Springer -- Mathematics
George T. Stone -- Geology (to complete term of Ralph Olson, 1967-68)

Business Administration -- Raymond R. White -- Administrative Services

Engineering -- Gene M. Nordby -- Engineering

Fine Arts -- Sam Olkinetzky -- Museum of Art

Pharmacy -- John B. Bruce -- Pharmacy

School of Medicine -- Ben I. Heller

General Faculty -- Lowell Dunham -- Modern Languages
Gilbert C. Fite -- History
David B. Kitts -- Geology
Joseph C. Pray -- Political Science
Duane H. D. Roller -- History

ADJOURNMENT

The University Senate adjourned at 5:52 p.m. The next regular session will be held on Monday, September 25, 1967. Materials for the Agenda should be in the Office of the Secretary by Wednesday, September 13.

Gerald A. Porter, Secretary
University Senate