

## JOURNAL OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

Regular Session, October 30, 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. Gilbert C. Fite.

Present

Alley, John N.  
Andrews, Mildred M.  
Berenda, Carlton W.  
Berthrong, Donald J.  
Bishop, L. Doyle  
Blick, Edward F.  
Braver, Gerald  
Brixey, John C.  
Christian, Sherril D.  
David, Paul R.  
Elconin, Victor L.  
Elkouri, Frank  
Feaver, J. Clayton  
Feiler, Seymour  
Fite, Gilbert C.  
Goggans, Travis P.  
Goodman, George J.  
Hart, Frances

Present

Heller, Ben I.  
Howard, Robert A.  
Hoy, Harry E.  
Kendall, J. L.  
Kitts, David B.  
Livezey, William E.  
Nordby, Gene M.  
Ohm, Robert E.  
Olkinetzky, Sam  
Pray, Joseph C.  
Renner, John  
Roller, Duane H. D.  
Springer, C. E.  
Stone, George T.  
Terry, Richard A.  
Tuma, Gerald  
White, Raymond R.

Absent

Bruce, John B.  
Canfield, Frank B.  
Cross, George L.  
Dunham, Lowell  
Everett, Mark R.  
Hengst, Herbert R.  
Smith, Thomas M.  
Suggs, Charles C.  
West, Kelly M.

## APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was noted that Edward F. Blick was reported absent on September 25, 1967, although he was in fact present. The Journal of the University Senate, with the single correction, was then approved.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO RETIREMENT SYSTEM ~~X~~

At the meeting on September 25, Dr. Berenda called the attention of the members of the Senate to the increased amounts contributed by many faculty members to the retirement system as a result of the passage of the Oklahoma Senate Bill 311. The University Senate then requested that Senator Phil Smalley be invited to discuss this matter at the October meeting.

On October 30, Senator Smalley discussed retirement legislation at some length. He indicated that in recent years most faculty members paid into the retirement system four percent of the maximum of \$7,500 and that under Bill No. 311 they are now paying four percent of the maximum of \$12,000; the increase being \$180 a year for those making \$12,000 or more annually. He discussed certain aspects of the development of that bill in the legislature and responded to a number of questions.

Specifically, Senator Smalley suggested that the University Senate might want to have a representative charged with the duty of watching for legislative bills that affect the University, its faculty, and its staff.

Contributions to Retirement System -- continuedSenate Action

Following the presentation by Senator Smalley, Dr. David moved that the Chairman of the University Senate be instructed to confer with President Cross with regard to whether the Senate might be represented at the briefing sessions that are from time to time conducted with members of the legislature. His motion was seconded and passed.

## PROCEDURES FOR NOMINATION OF DISTINGUISHED PROFESSORS ✓

Dr. David, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Faculty Personnel, indicated that the committee is continuing its work. In particular, it is making a study of the David Ross Boyd Professorship. No formal report was rendered.

## STUDY OF THE FUTURE OF THE UNIVERSITY ✓

Dr. Bishop, Chairman of the special ad hoc committee for study of the future of the University, indicated that his committee has met three times in the last two weeks. At the first meeting, Dr. Hollomon briefed the group with regard to the study effort he is exerting. As a result of the second meeting, a recommendation was made to Dr. Hollomon that he add to his study committees one that would devote itself to the study of specific kinds of faculty problems. At the third meeting of the ad hoc committee, a list of 130 faculty members was developed to constitute the nominations for membership on the various committees and panels to be utilized by Dr. Hollomon.

## PROPOSED CALENDAR -- 1968-69 ✓

At the meeting of the University Senate on May 29, 1967, consideration of a proposed calendar for 1968-69 was referred to the Senate Committee on University Organization, Budget, and Publications.

Report of the Senate Committee on University Organization, Budget, and Publications

October 27, 1967

The Senate Committee on University Organization, Budget, and Publications met with Dean Price on Tuesday, October 24, 1967, to discuss the school calendar for 1968-1969. The Committee members were in general agreement on the following points:

1. The proposed calendar, submitted by the Office of Admissions and Records (See Journal of the University Senate, May 29, 1967, page 9) did not allow enough class days (69 and 71 for the 1st and 2nd semesters respectively), compared with a model figure of 75 over the past few years. (Class days in this report do not include Saturdays.)
2. The last few class days following the Christmas vacation in our traditional schedule are often not as productive as earlier periods, and the idea of finishing the semester before the vacation was attractive.



Proposed Calendar -- 1968-69 -- continued

3. It was not immediately obvious how a semester of about 75 days could be devised, which would finish before the Christmas vacation. One possibility, that of starting in late August, was mentioned, but not considered a desirable solution.

4. A cogent argument against the proposed 69-day calendar was that the Final Exam period would end on December 21, with the Christmas vacation starting on the following day. The effect this would have on some faculty members' vacations was briefly discussed.

In connection with a reduction in the number of class days, Dean Price provided the following useful information:

1. The North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools has no specific criterion, but Dean Price says that a 75-day semester is considered to be the norm. If we were to reduce it appreciably, they might expect us to substitute some "experience" for the lost days. We would probably ultimately have to defend the reduction in class days.

2. There are a number of professional accrediting bodies with which our various schools and departments may be involved (e.g., business, social work, etc.) and a reduction such as that proposed should first be cleared with all of these bodies.

Dean Price also informed us that a recent survey with which he is acquainted showed that only one or two of approximately 30 respondent Universities finished the first semester before Christmas. The Dean's opinion is that the Faculty should carefully consider the various ramifications of a schedule that finishes before Christmas.

Dean Price described and compared two alternative calendars, and the Committee unanimously agreed that the "Price" alternative, had considerable merit. This calendar has, for the first semester, 75 class days, with 15 meetings for each day of the week. There are two, instead of three registration days, five days for Thanksgiving, and fifteen days for Christmas. (Vacation days include Saturday and Sunday.) There is a complete week of classes after the vacation. There are eight Final Exam days, with no stop day. The second semester has 74 class days, all but Tuesday (with 14), having 15 meetings. These are two days for registration, 7 1/2 days for spring vacation, and eight for Final Exams, with a stop day. Summer Session is 40 days.

The Committee also asked Dean Price to look into the possibility of reducing the Final Exam period to less than eight days.

Senate Committee on University Organization,  
Budget, and Publications

|                            |                    |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Raymond R. White, Chairman | Frank B. Canfield  |
| Gerald Braver              | Mildred M. Andrews |
| William E. Livezey         | George T. Stone    |

Proposed Calendar -- 1968-69 -- continuedSenate Action

The foregoing report of the Senate Committee on University Organization, Budget, and Publications was presented by Dr. Braver. A chart depicting the month-by-month pattern of the University calendar for 1968-69 was studied by each member of the Senate.

Dr. Livezey moved that the report of the Committee be adopted and that the Committee be instructed to continue its study of calendar matters. His motion was seconded and passed.

The Calendar for 1968-69 submitted to President Cross is as follows:

## First Semester 1968-69

Registration -- September 9 and 10  
 Classes start -- September 11  
 Thanksgiving Vacation -- November 27, 28, 29, 30, and December 1  
 Classes resume -- December 2  
 Christmas Vacation -- December 22 through January 5  
 Classes resume -- January 6  
 Final examinations -- January 13 through 21

## Second Semester 1968-69

Registration -- January 27 and 28  
 Classes start -- January 29  
 Spring Vacation -- Noon, March 29 through April 6  
 Classes resume -- April 7  
 Stop Day -- May 20  
 Final examinations -- May 21 through 29  
 Commencement -- June 1

## Summer Session 1969


Begins -- June 3  
 Final examinations -- July 30 and 31

NEW MEMBERS OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE AND  
 ADJUSTMENTS IN COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

During the past month, two replacements for senators were elected:

Graduate College -- Donald J. Berthrong was elected to replace Brison Gooch.  
 College of Education -- John Renner was elected to replace Lloyd Williams.

New Senate Committee Assignments: Donald J. Berthrong to the Committee on  
 Academic Standards  
 John Renner to the Committee on Committees  
 John Bruce to the Committee on Committees  
 Thomas M. Smith to the Journal Committee

ACADEMIC FREEDOM 

The Chairman of the University Senate, Dr. Gilbert C. Fite, requested that the Vice Chairman, Dr. L. Doyle Bishop, preside over the meeting.

Dr. Fite then moved that the University Senate adopt the following resolutions: (His motion was seconded.)

The University Senate of the University of Oklahoma believes in the necessity of maintaining the University as a place of free inquiry where opinions on every public issue may be expressed and discussed. The University Senate is convinced that freedom of inquiry and the right to discuss the most controversial and unpopular issues are a basic requirement of every university.

Following considerable discussion, the resolution was passed.

Dr. Berthrong then moved that the resolution be sent to the Regents of the University of Oklahoma, to the Boren Committee, and to the Cleveland County legislative delegation. His motion was seconded and passed.

Dr. Ohm then moved that the Chairman of the University Senate be instructed to appoint a special committee of the Senate to continue to study problems evolving from questions and issues relating to academic freedom. His motion was seconded and passed.

## ADJOURNMENT

The University Senate adjourned at 5:38 p.m. The next regular session will be held on Monday, November 27, 1967. Materials for the Agenda should be in the Office of the Secretary by Wednesday, November 15.

Gerald A. Porter, Secretary



