

## JOURNAL OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

Regular Session, November 27, 1967 -- 4:10 p.m.  
Student Union Building, Room 165

The University Senate, meeting in regular session, was called to order by the Secretary, Dr. Gerald A. Porter (both the Chairman, Dr. Gilbert C. Fite, and the Vice Chairman, Dr. L. Doyle Bishop, were absent). Dr. Paul R. David was elected to serve as the temporary Chairman of the University Senate and presided over the remainder of the meeting.

Present

Andrews, Mildred M.  
Berthrong, Donald J.  
Blick, Edward F.  
Braver, Gerald  
Brixey, John C.  
Bruce, John B.  
Cross, George L.  
David, Paul R.  
Elconin, Victor L.  
Everett, Mark R.  
Feaver, J. Clayton  
Goggans, Travis P.  
Hart, Frances  
Heller, Ben I.  
Hengst, Herbert R.

Present

Howard, Robert A.  
Hoy, Harry E.  
Kendall, J. L.  
Kitts, David B.  
Ohm, Robert E.  
Olkinetzky, Sam  
Renner, John W.  
Roller, Duane H. D.  
Smith, Thomas M.  
Springer, C. E.  
Stone, George T.  
Terry, Richard A.  
Tuma, Gerald  
West, Kelly M.  
White, Raymond R.

Absent

Alley, John N.  
Berenda, Carlton W.  
Bishop, L. Doyle  
Canfield, Frank B.  
Christian, Sherril D.  
Dunham, Lowell  
Elkouri, Frank  
Feiler, Seymour  
Fite, Gilbert C.  
Goodman, George J.  
Livezey, William E.  
Nordby, Gene M.  
Pray, Joseph C.  
Suggs, Charles C.

## APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The Journal of the University Senate for the regular meeting held on October 30, 1967, was approved.

## ACTION BY PRESIDENT CROSS

Calendar -- 1968-69. On November 2, 1967, President Cross indicated his approval of the proposed calendar for 1968-69 as submitted to him by the University Senate (see the Journal of the University Senate, October, 1967, page 4).

Academic Freedom. On November 2, 1967, President Cross indicated his approval of the resolution regarding academic freedom that was developed by the University Senate on October 30 (see the Journal of the University Senate, October, 1967, page 5).

ACADEMIC FREEDOM XExplanatory Comment

On October 30, 1967, the University Senate instructed the Chairman, Dr. Gilbert C. Fite, to appoint a special committee of the Senate to continue to study problems evolving from questions and issues relating to academic freedom.

Membership of Ad Hoc Senate Committee on Academic Freedom

Dr. Fite has appointed the following Senators:

Gerald Braver
Travis P. Goggans
Victor L. Elconin
Richard A. Terry
Donald J. Berthrong

Dr. Berthrong has been instructed to call the committee together.

UNIVERSITY RETIREMENT SYSTEM XLetter from Dr. Lachman

October 30, 1967

Dr. Gilbert C. Fite, Chairman  
University Senate

I would greatly appreciate your directing this to the appropriate Senate committee for discussion and possible action.

Recently I have been made aware of a decision of the State Teachers' Retirement System which I regard as unwarranted and unfair. Since this practice is of general interest to all O.U. faculty members planning to retire in the future, I submit my case for your consideration.

In 1966, after reaching age 65 and after 32 years of service with the University, I was offered a list of options by the State Teachers' Retirement System, from which I chose option 2. This option provides for a monthly benefit for life to myself and my wife at the date of actual retirement. Since I chose to continue my full time activities at the University, I was put on "deferred retirement." This entitles me, and in case of my death my wife, who is one year older than I am, to a monthly benefit of \$115.70, a sum which is set at the present time, regardless of my actual retirement date. My own contribution to the Retirement System amounts to \$9,244.60.

I have the following comments pertaining to this arrangement. For choosing option 2, providing for my wife in case of my death, I am subject to the following penalties, only some of which I regard as fair and equitable.

- A. My personal deposit in the amount listed above is closed and does not draw interest for my benefit. This is contrary to a statement by the System which reads: "If you do not retire this year, interest will continue to be credited at the close of each fiscal year."

University Retirement System -- continued

- B. My retirement age is set at age 65, although I may not avail myself of the stipulated benefits until I have reached age 70. At this age, my life expectancy is, of course, much shorter. The same holds for my wife who will then be 71.

In other words, my and my wife's retirement benefits are the same, regardless of whether I will retire at 65 or as late as 70, irrespective of changes in life expectancy.

- C. Granting that there is a risk involved for the System in option 2, it should be balanced against potential savings arising from the fact that payments do not fall due until the actual retirement age which may be 5 years later.

The fixed pre-setting of benefits as if I had retired at age 65 regardless of the actual date of retirement with built-in decrease in life expectancy, and the non-payment of interest on my own deposit, seem to me far too high a price to pay for choosing option 2.

Since this arrangement may affect many other faculty members and teachers in general, I assume my case will be of general interest to the faculty and should be investigated by the appropriate agency.

Sincerely yours,

Ernest Lachman, M. D.  
Professor and Chairman  
Department of Anatomy  
Regents Professor of Anatomy & Radiology

Senate Action

Dr. Smith moved that the foregoing matter be referred to the appropriate committee of the University Senate. His motion was seconded and passed.

Referral was made to the Senate Committee on University Organization, Budget, and Publications.

CLEVELAND COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION X

Explanatory Comment

Speaking to the University Senate, on October 30, 1967, Senator Phil Smalley suggested that the University Senate have a representative charged with the duty of watching for legislative bills that affect the University, its faculty, and its staff.

Later, the University Senate instructed its Chairman 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.

President Cross did approve the idea of having a representative of the Senate sit in on the meetings which the administration holds periodically with the Cleveland County Legislative delegation.

Cleveland County Legislative Delegation -- continuedSenate Action

On November 27, 1967, an election was held to select a member of the University Senate to serve as a representative at meetings which the University administration holds periodically with the Cleveland County legislative delegation. The individual elected is:

Joseph C. Pray -- Department of Political Science

REGENTS PROFESSORSHIP 

Statement from President Cross

November 17, 1967

Professor Gilbert C. Fite, Chairman  
University Senate

You may wish to report to the Senate that the Regents of the University of Oklahoma have approved the attached statement concerning the Regents Professorship. The statement will be included in the next issue of the University catalogue.

Regents Professorship -- (statement of the University Regents)

The Regents Professorship is conferred by the University Regents from time to time in recognition of outstanding service to the University in academic administration or in general contributions to the progress and welfare of one or more of the academic units of the University.

Appointments to the rank of Regents Professor, together with appropriate recognition in salary and teaching load, is recommended to the Board of Regents by the President of the University after conferring with the President of the University Regents and the Chairman of the University Senate. Recommendations of the appointment may be made to the President of the University by any instructional Department or by one or more Deans, but such recommendations are not required.

## ADJOURNMENT

The University Senate adjourned at 5:27 p.m. The next regular session will be held on Monday, January 29, 1968. Materials for the Agenda should be in the Office of the Secretary by Wednesday, January 17.

Gerald A. Porter, Secretary