

JOURNAL OF THE FACULTY SENATE (Norman campus)
The University of Oklahoma

Regular Session -- March 20, 1978 -- 3:30 p.m. -- Dale Hall 218

The Faculty Senate was called to order by Dr. Donald Cox, Chairperson.

Present:

Artman	Cox	Goff	Kunesh	McDonald	Scheffer
Atherton	Crim	Herrick	Kutner	Merrill	Seaberg
Bishop	Crites	Hill	Lancaster	Murray	Snell
Caldwell	Davis	Hood	Larson	Rasmussen	Thompson, Steve
Calvert	Foote	Joyce	Lee	Rowe	Toothaker
Carmack	Gillespie	Kitts	Lis	Saxon	Walker
Coulter					

AUOPE representatives: Burger Cowen Guyer

UOSA representative: Stillwell

Absent:

Blick	Brown	Dewey	Hockman	Lewis	Rice	Thompson, Gary
Braver	Christian	Hackler	Huettner	Reynolds	Shahan	Yeh

Provost's Office representative: Langenbach

AUOPE representatives: Campo James Timmons

UOSA representatives: Bruton Foster Gold Magnus

AGSE representative: Jones

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Journal of the Faculty Senate for the regular session on February 13, 1978, was approved.

The Journal of the Faculty Senate for the special, "executive" session on February 20, 1978, was approved with the following corrections:

Page 1 (Declaration of "Executive Session" status)

As recommended by Professor Kutner, ~~the~~ fourth paragraph was revised to read as follows:

~~"Professor Kutner commented~~ The comment was made from the floor that the State Attorney General had ruled that the new 'open meetings' law does not apply to groups like the Faculty Senate. Professor Kutner then stated that, under a recent amendment to the 'open meetings' law, there was an explicit exception for faculty meetings of institutions of higher education; therefore, a closed meeting of the Senate did not violate the spirit of the 'open meetings' law. [25 Okla. Stat. § 304(1)]. Professor Davis, nevertheless, implored the Senate to set an example."

Page 2 (Search Committee for the President)

As recommended by Professor Crites, the first sentence of the section, "Background Information," was revised to read as follows:

"At a 'faculty town meeting' on February 14 (see page 3 of the Senate Journal for February 13, 1978), the ~~Norman campus General~~ faculty members in attendance approved the following recommendation for Senate consideration:"

ANNOUNCEMENT: Spring meeting of Norman campus General Faculty

The General Faculty on the Norman campus will hold its spring semester meeting at 3:30 p.m., on Thursday, May 4, 1978, Adams Hall 150.

ANNOUNCEMENT: Spring meeting of OU/OSU Executive Committees

The Executive Committees of the Oklahoma University Faculty Senate and the Oklahoma State University Faculty Council will hold their spring semester, 1978, joint meeting on the Stillwater campus on Tuesday evening, March 21, 1978.

ACTION TAKEN BY UNIVERSITY REGENTS: Presidential Search Committee

On February 27, 1978, Mr. Thomas R. Brett, President, University Board of Regents, addressed the following self-explanatory letter to Dr. Donald Cox, Senate Chair:

"Thank you for your recent letter. I regret the faculty senses its input and voice in University affairs is not enjoying the hearing it deserves. I believe, if I were you in this regard, it is more apparent than real because I know the Regents are definitely interested and open to the faculty views on all subjects of interest to the University of Oklahoma.

"Concerning the Presidential Search Committee, the Regents very much appreciate the quality of the Faculty Senate suggested nominees. We have now had our first Presidential Search Committee meeting and I am very impressed with both the quality of the Committee and that it is representative of the appropriate University constituency.

"I know both the Regents of the University and the Presidential Search Committee desire the faculty express its views to the Committee and to the Regents concerning the search and selection."

(See Senate Journals for special sessions on January 30, 1978, and February 20, 1978.)

ACTIONS TAKEN BY PRESIDENT PAUL F. SHARP

- (1) "Probationary Period" section of the Faculty Personnel Policy: President Paul F. Sharp informed the Senate Secretary that the University Regents on February 16, 1978, had approved the Senate recommendation for rewording Section 3.7.3(c), "Probationary Period," of the Faculty Personnel Policy. (See pages 5-6 of the Senate Journal for January 16, 1978.)
- (2) Exclusion of Home Economics from Program Discontinuance Policy: On February 19, President Sharp informed the Senate Chair that he was transmitting to the University Regents the Senate resolution concerning the singular exclusion of the School of Home Economics from the provisions of the Norman campus Program Discontinuance Policy. (See pages 26-27 of the Senate Journal for February 13, 1978.)
- (3) Academic Titles - Temporary Faculty: On February 17, President Sharp notified the Senate Chair that he had approved for presentation to the University Regents the Senate recommendation concerning academic titles for temporary faculty with the further stipulation that this revision in policy apply to the Norman campus only. (See pages 25-26 of the Senate Journal for February 13, 1978.)
- (4) Proposed Graduate Assistant Handbook: President Paul F. Sharp acknowledged the recent Senate recommendation concerning the proposed Graduate Assistant Handbook with the following comments addressed to the Senate Chair on February 20:

"I have received Professor Lis' February 14 memorandum describing the action of the Faculty Senate concerning the proposed Graduate Assistant Handbook. I am delighted that the Faculty Senate has endorsed this worthwhile effort.

"As you know, at the same time that the Handbook was being circulated by the Faculty Senate to the departments and schools, it was also being distributed among various administrative offices. This review has resulted in a few technical changes. I have asked Provost Uehling to describe those to your Executive Committee so that you may be aware of them.

"I extend my appreciation to the Faculty Senate for the careful and thorough way it has handled this matter."

(See pages 13-25 of the Senate Journal for February 13, 1978.)

At this meeting, on March 20, Dr. Cox, Senate Chair, reported that the Handbook is now being printed for distribution later this month. He also stated that the final version includes virtually all of the comments offered by Norman campus chairs and submitted to the administration by the Senate.

(5) Search Committee, Director, University Libraries: On February 28, President Paul F. Sharp notified the Senate Chair that Dr. Martin C. Jischke had resigned from the Search Committee for the Director, University Libraries, in view of his recent appointment as a faculty alternate on the Presidential Search Committee. President Sharp accepted Dr. Jischke's resignation with regret and appointed Dr. Jim Estes (Botany) as his replacement on the Search Committee for the Director, University Libraries. (See page 3 of the Senate Journal for November 14, 1977.)

(6) Faculty Replacements - University Council and Committees: On February 7, President Paul F. Sharp announced his selection of Professor Edith Steanson (Education) to serve on the Faculty Awards and Honors Council.

At the same time, President Sharp approved the following Senate elections:

Computer Advisory Committee: Professor Robert Morris (Mathematics)

Faculty Advisory Committee to the President: Professor Roger Babich
(Communication)

(See page 13 of the Senate Journal for February 13, 1978.)

ANNOUNCEMENT: Senate replacement — College of Arts and Sciences

Dean Paige Mulhollan, College of Arts and Sciences, notified the Senate Secretary on February 27 that Dr. Larry Toothaker (Psychology) had been selected to complete the unexpired portion (1978-79) of the term of Dr. Robert Bell, who is on sabbatical leave this semester.

REPORT: Meeting of Inter-Senate Liaison Committee

Dr. Cox, Senate Chair, reported briefly on the March 2 meeting on the Norman campus of the Inter-Senate Liaison Committee.

The group (Profs. Cox, McDonald, and Lis, Norman campus; Profs. Wizenberg, Curcio, Counihan, and Weiss, HSC) discussed at length the following topics: (1) changes in the Faculty Personnel Policy and (2) the Graduate Assistant Handbook.

PROGRESS REPORT: Senate ad hoc Committees preparing "position papers"

Dr. Cox, Senate Chair, reported that three ad hoc Committees preparing "position papers" (Faculty Governance, University Image, and Educational Priorities) have either already submitted or will soon submit their final reports. Because of the methods used to collect data, open hearings will not be necessary.

The Chair requested the two remaining Committees (Budget Priorities and Salary and Fringe Benefits) to complete any appropriate open hearings by April 3, with advance notice to the Senate office so that appropriate publicity can be arranged.

(See pages 7-8 of the Senate Journal for October, 10, 1977.)

SEARCH COMMITTEE FOR PROVOST, NORMAN CAMPUS

Dr. Don Cox, Senate Chair, reported that no requests have been received to date from the administration for faculty nominations for a search committee for the Provost, Norman campus. He also reported on his recent discussion of this topic with President Sharp.

The Senate Executive Committee feels that the search for the new Provost should be delayed until the new President assumes office. In the Committee's opinion, the opportunity to participate in the choice of the Provost, as well as the Vice President for Administrative and Financial Services, can and should be utilized as an added inducement in the search for President Sharp's successor.

Professor Gillespie moved approval of the above recommendation of the Executive Committee. With one dissenting vote, the Senate approved the motion.

PROVOST'S PROPOSED TASK FORCE ON UNIVERSITY GOALS

Background Information: Provost Barbara S. Uehling recently requested Senate Executive Committee reactions to her proposal for appointing a task force to study long-range goals for this University. Concurrently, she submitted a tentative list of faculty members to serve on that task force.

The Senate Executive Committee unanimously agreed to recommend that such a task force not be appointed for the following reasons:

- (1) The proposed task force would detract from, if not duplicate, the charges of established University councils and committees.
- (2) The work of the task force would be made more difficult by the fact that Provost Uehling, the individual initiating the study, would not be on campus to provide continuing direction and guidance.
- (3) The appointment of such a task force could be viewed as an encroachment on the prerogatives of Provost Uehling's successor.
- (4) Task forces on this campus in recent years have studied similar issues. Any lack of faculty enthusiasm could very well prove to be counterproductive in such an important endeavor.

On March 6, the Committee's suggestion was forwarded to Provost Uehling.

Senate Action: Dr. Foote moved that the Senate reaffirm the recommendation of the Senate Executive Committee in this matter. Without dissent, the Senate approved the motion.

EEC ad hoc COMMITTEE: Noon-hour recreation period

Dr. Cox, Senate Chair, announced that Mr. Pat Corley, Chair, Employee Executive Council, had requested the selection of one or two faculty members to serve on an ad hoc Committee investigating the availability of recreational facilities to faculty and staff during the noon hour.

Dr. Bernard McDonald, Senate Chair-Elect, has discussed this matter with Mr. Johnny James, Committee Chair.

The Senate Executive Committee will select the faculty representative.

HOSPITALIZATION RELEASE FORMS

Professor Beverly Joyce, Chair of the Senate Committee on Faculty Welfare, reported that, as a result of public notice given the pertinent faculty complaint at the February 13 Senate meeting, the University Insurance Office had taken the initiative in calling this problem to the attention of the insurance firm. Company policy has been revised to allow any dependent of an insured faculty or staff member to sign herself/himself out of the hospital.

(See page 27 of the Senate Journal for February 13, 1978.)

PROGRAM DISCONTINUANCE POLICY

Background Information: On February 13, the Senate voted to urge the University Regents not to exclude any academic program from the provisions of the Norman campus Program Discontinuance Policy approved by them on November 10, 1977. (See pages 26 and 27 of the Senate Journal for February 13, 1978.)

President Paul F. Sharp notified the Senate Chair on March 21 "that no action was taken by the Board on this matter and it was accepted as a communication only."

Senate Action: Professor Crim moved that an appropriate communication be sent by the Senate Chair to the Regents (a) expressing the Senate's disappointment with the lack of a Regential response to the Senate resolution of February 13 and (b) reiterating Senate concerns without specifically referring to the School of Home Economics. The Senate approved the motion without dissent.

SEARCH COMMITTEE: Vice President, Administrative and Financial Services

Background Information: On December 15, 1977, President Paul F. Sharp announced his selection of the Search Committee for the Vice President, Administrative and Financial Services. (See page 2 of the Senate Journal for January 16, 1978.)

Senate Action: Dr. Cox, Senate Chair, voiced faculty concerns over the possibility that the search for both the Provost and the Vice President, Administrative and Financial Services, might be initiated before the new President arrives. He mentioned his recent conversations with President Paul F. Sharp and Dr. Donald Murry, Chair of the Vice Presidential Search Committee.

The Senate Executive Committee's recent deliberations on this topic brought out two options -- (1) to terminate the Search Committee now and reconstitute the Committee after the new President arrives and, (2) in order not to delay the appointment of the Vice President when the new President arrives, to continue the current search up to the point that the names are sent forward but that the final selection be made by the new President rather than by President Sharp.

According to a comment made from the floor, the Administrative and Physical Resources Council had already recommended to President Sharp that the search for the Vice President be terminated.

Professor Davis subsequently moved that the search for the Vice President, Administrative and Financial Services, be terminated and that the Search Committee be disbanded so that the new President may have the opportunity of (a) appointing a new search committee and (b) redefining the Vice Presidency in accordance with any of his or her own preferences. The motion was rejected.

Dr. Bishop then moved that the Senate recommend to the President that the search for the Vice President be delayed until such time as the new President can participate in the search. With two dissenting votes, the Senate approved the motion.

ENERGY RESOURCES CENTER

Background Information: Last spring, Provost Barbara Uehling reported to the Senate on the proposed Energy Resources Center. (See page 6 of the Senate Journal for April 11, 1977.)

On April 21, 1977, President Sharp announced his selection of Professors Tommie Thompson, David Huettner, Kenneth Starling, and Eugene Kuntz to serve on the Search Committee for the Coordinator of the proposed center.

The Administrative and Physical Resources Council addressed this matter in its fall (1977) semester report to the Senate. (See page 6 of the Senate Journal for February 13, 1978.)

Senate Action: In reviewing this subject, Dr. Cox, Senate Chair, reminded Senate members that the University Regents last October had approved the concept of establishing an Energy Resources Center on this campus and had forwarded their recommendation to the State Regents for Higher Education. The funding indicated at that time greatly exceeded the amount mentioned originally during the preceding academic year. Reportedly, the Legislature is being requested to appropriate a \$300,000 budget for the first year of operation.

The Senate Chair reported that he had received communications from several faculty members who had expressed their concerns regarding probable impact of the Center on current University programs. Specifically, the faculty members raised questions concerning any use of E&G money as matching funds, the administrative structure of the proposed Center, the research program of the Center, faculty utilization, and current status of the project.

Upon contacting the State Regents' Office, Dr. Cox ascertained that the only pertinent document in that office at that time was a summary of the original proposal, which contains no reference to the \$300,000 budget item for 1978-79.

The Senate Executive Committee voted recently to recommend to the Senate that the administration be requested to submit to the Senate a report on the current status of the proposed Energy Resources Center, particularly with reference to impact on the budget and the academic and research program at this University.

The consensus of the Senate was that any such report should be submitted in writing.

Dr. Foote commented that such a program, if operated as effectively as the existing very successful Science and Public Policy Program, could be a "golden opportunity" for obtaining additional research funds from outside sources. He suggested that the President and the Provost be requested to address the Senate on this important topic. Dr. Cox added that Provost Uehling, in a recent conference with Senate officers, had expressed her willingness to appear before the Senate.

Professor Crim then moved that the administration be requested to submit to the Senate a status report, in writing, concerning the mission, the funding, the budgetary impact on academic and research programs, the personnel, and other related aspects of the

proposed Energy Resources Center. In addition, an invitation would be extended to Provost Barbara S. Uehling to address the Senate in connection with that written report.

With one dissenting vote, the Senate approved the motion.

FORMAL EVALUATION OF NEW PROGRAMS

Dr. Cox, Senate Chair, called attention to the fact that, at a recent AAUP meeting on campus, Dr. Bishop had moved that a formal program be instituted on campus to evaluate proposed academic programs to be modeled after the new program discontinuance plan.

A subcommittee (Drs. Christian, Cox, and McDonald) is now working on an appropriate charge to be presented to the Senate.

The Senate Chair solicited faculty suggestions for Committee consideration.

UNIVERSITY REGENTS' COMPROMISE DECISION: Ph.D. Dissertation of Benjamin F. Hart

Background Information: At their March 9, 1978, meeting, the University Board of Regents considered the recommendation of President Paul F. Sharp that the Ph.D. degree awarded to Benjamin Franklin Hart in 1975 be "rescinded and the validity of that degree no longer recognized by the University of Oklahoma."

That recommendation was based not only on the finding of a graduate faculty investigating committee that there was evidence of "blatant and premeditated plagiarism" but also on the recommendations of the Dean of the College of Education, the Dean of the Graduate College, and the Provost.

The Regents instead approved a "compromise" that would allow Mr. Hart two more years to write a satisfactory dissertation. Otherwise, the degree would, at that time, be rescinded. The "compromise" contract is to be considered for approval by the Regents at their regular meeting on April 13, 1978.

The Norman campus Graduate Faculty will also consider this question at a special meeting on March 30, 1978.

Senate Action: Professor Davis state that she had received requests from several faculty members for Senate consideration of this matter.

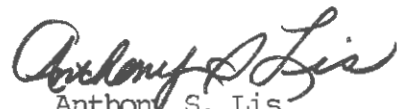
During the ensuing discussion, Professor Davis moved that the Senate officers prepare and forward to the University Regents an appropriate communication expressing the grave concern of the Senate and its displeasure with the Regents' compromise solution that "usurps the traditional prerogatives of the faculty in such matters" and also urging the Regents to reconsider this matter at their April 13 meeting.

Without dissent, the Senate approved the motion.

ADJOURNMENT

The Senate adjourned at 5:10 p.m. The next regular session of the Faculty Senate will be held at 3:30 p.m., on Monday, April 10, 1978, in Dale Hall 218.

Respectfully submitted,



Anthony S. Lis
Professor of
Business Communication
Secretary, Faculty Senate