

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

Regular session -- December 12, 1983 -- 3:30 p.m., Conoco Auditorium,
Doris W. Neustadt Wing, Bizzell Memorial Library

The Faculty Senate was called to order by Dr. Tom Love, Senate Chair-Elect, in the absence of the Senate Chair.

Present:

Atherton	Gollahalli	Karriker	Mills	Sonleitner
Beesley	Goodman	Kleine	Murphy	Stevens
Benham	Grant	Knapp	Nicewander	Tharp
Black	Green	Kutner	Pflaum	Uno
Bredeson	Gross	Larson	Sandefur	Whiteley
Canter	Harrington	Lehr	Schmitz	Whitmore
Christian	Hauser	Levy	Seaberg	
Conner	Hayes	Lis	Smith	
Cozad	Hengst	Love	Nuttall	
Davis	Howard	Magrath		

Liaison, AAUP:	Turkington		
GSA representatives:	Baldwin		
Provost's Office representative:		Ray	
PSA representatives:	Boehme	Corcos	Powers
Liaison, Women's Caucus:	Cleaver		

Absent:

Catlin	DuMont	Ford	Hawley	Reynolds
PSA representatives:	Guyer		Skierkowski	
UOSA representatives:	Albert		Stanhope	Rodriguez
Liaison, ABP:	Butler			

Guests: Lieut. Col. Dale Campbell, Jr., Professor of Military Science; Colonel George Glass, Professor of Air Science; and Captain S. A. Merriken, Professor of Naval Science.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Senate Journal for the regular session on October 3, 1983, was approved with the following change:

Page 5, last paragraph (attendance requirements), changed to read as follows:

"In commenting on the negative aspects of the situation, Professor Kutner urged that University groups prepare and distribute schedules of meetings for the entire academic year.

"In the Senate Chair's opinion, there will be occasions when the faculty will be away from the campus in connection with long-term interests of the University. Such absences should be regarded as more than straight absences. Professor Ford added, "There isn't a policy that is nice, fair, and equitable for everybody. This is about the best that we can do."

ANNOUNCEMENT: Publication by University of Massachusetts of EEC/Senate Committee report on Affirmative Action

The Senate Office has been informed of the publication, with permission, of the entire text of the EEC/Faculty Senate ad hoc Committee report on Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity on pages 89-97 of the May-October, 1983, issue of IntegratEducation, School of Education, University of Massachusetts at Amherst. (Please see pages 13-16 of the Senate Journal for January 17, 1983.)

ACTION TAKEN BY PRESIDENT WILLIAM S. BANOWSKY:

Report of Senate/UOSA ad hoc Committee on Instructional Improvement and Teacher Evaluation: On November 23, President William S. Banowsky acknowledged receipt, without comment, of the Senate/UOSA ad hoc Committee report on Instructional Improvement and Teacher Evaluation. (Please see the Senate Journal for November 14, 1983).

ACTION TAKEN BY THE SENATE SECRETARY:

Message of condolence to the family of the late Professor Rex Inman: The Senate Secretary on November 14 dispatched the following message of condolence and sympathy to Mrs. Rex Inman and family:

"In accordance with the wishes of the Faculty Senate expressed unanimously at its session on November 14, I should like to express to you and your family our sincerest sympathy on the recent loss of your beloved husband and father, Dr. Rex Inman, School of Meteorology.

"Dr. Inman earned the respect of his colleagues in the Senate through his sincerity and his selfless devotion to the task of effectively representing the faculty of the College of Geosciences.

"We knew him as a responsible, mature, and cooperative participant in the deliberations of the Faculty Senate on this campus and also of the Senate Committee on Faculty Compensation.

"We shall miss him very much."

(Please see the Senate Journal for November 14, 1983.)

At the invitation of the Senate Executive Committee, Lieutenant Colonel Dale Campbell, Jr., Professor of Military Science, addressed the Senate.

In his informal, 14-minute remarks, Professor Campbell presented an update on ROTC activities and programs and requested faculty assistance with the military programs on campus.

He noted that the Army program is now in its 65th year on this campus and that, to his knowledge, ten general officers had, at some time during their military careers, been on the Military Science faculty at this University.

He discussed at length the scholarships and the subsistence allowances now available. The Norman campus is the only one in the state that gives students the choice of four branches of military service -- Army, Navy, Marines, and Air Force.

He and his staff counsel students regarding not only their military programs but also their personal and other academic matters. He asked the faculty to reciprocate by identifying students who need financial assistance and who are interested in any of one of the military programs for careers with either the active duty forces or the reserve components.

REPORT OF SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Professor Tom Love, Senate Chair-Elect, reported on the following items.

(1) Committee meeting with Provost J.R. Morris - December 8: The budget crisis continues to be the overriding topic. The discussions have not revealed any new information.

The admissions requirement proposal is still in the hands of the State Regents. According to reports, OSU has submitted two proposals -- one approved by the OSU faculty that is similar to the OU proposal except for the foreign-language requirement (2 years, OU; 1 year, OSU) and another approved by the OSU Deans that excludes the foreign-language requirement.

(2) OCFO meeting - November 17: Professors Anthony S. Lis, Senate Secretary, and Elizabeth Yamashita, Director, School of Journalism and Mass Communication, represented the Norman campus at the November 17, 1983, meeting of the Oklahoma Conference of Faculty Organizations (representing faculty-governance systems at private and public institutions of higher education in Oklahoma). The meeting at Central State University, Edmond, was attended by 40-plus faculty members from 17 institutions.

The morning session featured the address, "Public Perception of Higher Education," by Mr. Jenkin Lloyd Jones, publisher of the Tulsa Tribune. Dr. William S. Banowsky, President of the University of Oklahoma, delivered the luncheon address, "Budget Concerns in Higher Education."

The afternoon session was devoted to group discussions of faculty handbooks, grade inflation, student evaluations of faculty, and division of faculty-administration responsibilities.

The April, 1984, OCFO meeting will be held on the campus of South Oklahoma City Community College. Interested faculty members are requested to contact the Senate Secretary (5-6789) for subsequent details.

ELECTION OF FACULTY REPLACEMENTS: University groups.

Voting by written ballot, the Senate elected the following faculty replacements for vacancies on the University groups designated below:

Campus Planning Council (Norman): Donna Young (Architecture)
to complete the unexpired portion
of the term of Wayland Bowser
(1981-84).

Research Council (Norman): Roger Frech (Chemistry)
to complete the unexpired portion of the
term of Andy Magid (1982-85).

ELECTION OF REPLACEMENT: Senate Committee on Faculty Compensation.

Voting by written ballot, the Senate elected Lex Holmes (Economics) to complete the unexpired portion of the 1983-86 term of the late Rex Inman on the Senate standing Committee on Faculty Compensation.

PROPOSED REVISION: University policy on transfer credit.

Background information: On September 12, 1983, Professor Harry Benham (Economics) submitted the following proposal for revising the University policy regarding transfer credit from other state institutions in Oklahoma:

A student may take a course, fail it, retake that course, and then transfer that course to Oklahoma University. A student may also take a course at one institution, fail it, take it at another institution, and then transfer that course to Oklahoma University.

However, if a student takes a course at Oklahoma University, fails it, and then retakes it at another institution, that course will not transfer to Oklahoma University without the approval of the Oklahoma University department offering the course.

Problems: (1) Student A would be allowed to transfer a course and Student B would not although they took the identical course.
Inconsistent!

(2) Oklahoma University departments are put in a position of saying "yes" or "no" to transfer credit without guidelines.
Arbitrary!

Proposal(s): (1) Remove the requirement for departmental approval of transfer credit for courses failed at Oklahoma University.

(2) Provide guidelines and criteria for department's decision making to ensure against arbitrary decisions.

(3) Prohibit transfer of credit to Oklahoma University of any course failed once and retaken, regardless of where it was first failed.

The above proposal was referred to the Academic Regulations Committee for review and appropriate recommendations.

On October 3, 1983, Dr. Milford Messer, University Registrar and Chair of the Committee on Academic Regulations, submitted to the Faculty Senate the following report of that Committee:

The Committee on Academic Regulations met on September 20 to discuss the proposals to revise the University policy on transfer credit submitted by Dr. Harry Benham to the Faculty Senate. The Committee reviewed the current University policy on grades which states: "A student presenting credit from another institution for a course which he or she previously failed in the University of Oklahoma shall not receive credit for a course except through validation by the department in which the course was failed." The Committee chose not to take action to eliminate the current policy and does not recommend the adoption of Dr. Benham's first proposal to eliminate the policy since the only valid review of a repeated course is with the department which offers the corresponding course. In addition, it is not feasible to adopt Dr. Benham's third proposal because it violates the State Regents' articulation policy for transferring students. The Committee does recommend the following general guidelines for departmental review of repeated courses:

1. An examination may be used by the department to validate the competence of a student in any course which was failed at the University of Oklahoma and repeated at another institution of higher education. Failure of the examination would require the student to repeat the course at the University of Oklahoma.
2. A student who is seeking to use a transfer course to satisfy the requirements for a course which was failed at the University of Oklahoma when the course is one in a sequence may be permitted to take the next course in the sequence. If the student satisfactorily completes the course, the transfer course will be considered valid to meet degree requirements.
3. Departments may adopt other validation methods for repeated courses since the nature of the course content will vary within departments.

The Senate Secretary, in turn, distributed copies of both items to all members of the Senate on October 31, 1983.

Time did not permit consideration of this question at the Senate meeting on November 14, 1983.

Senate Action: Professor Benham moved that the University policy on transfer credit be modified to accept courses taken at other state institutions to make up for courses failed at the University of Oklahoma regardless of where the makeup credit was obtained and that those courses be accepted here at face value. The motion was immediately seconded.

Professor Benham next commented, "I am not too enthusiastic about the Committee's suggestion about the examination. Who will make up and administer the test and decide the guidelines for grading it? I would not be in favor of that resolution of this problem."

Professor Christian suggested that transfer credit be accepted from accredited institutions only. Professor Benham accepted the friendly amendment and commented that transfers should be approved for any courses that would normally transfer to the University of Oklahoma.

Without further discussion, the Senate approved the proposal with a few dissenting votes. In final form, the proposal reads as follows:

That the University policy on transfer credit be modified to accept courses taken at accredited universities and colleges to make up for courses failed at the University of Oklahoma, regardless of where the make-up credit was obtained, and that such courses be accepted by the University of Oklahoma at face value.

SENATE RESOLUTION: Senate ad hoc Committee on "furlough" implementation.

Professor Grant, a member of the Budget Council, recalled that, when President Banowsky had appeared before the special session of the Senate this fall, he stated that the Budget Council would be handling the issue of implementing the "furlough" plan. Accordingly, the Budget Council undertook to survey the faculty and the staff on campus for their views and reactions.

Professor Grant reported at length on the results of the questionnaire survey of the faculty. Approximately 850 questionnaires were distributed. The 624 returns received in time for tabulation and analysis indicated a response rate of about 73 percent.

He called attention to the following responses to the question of "furlough implementation": 19% felt that no classes, 13% felt that some classes, and 67% felt that all classes should be cancelled on furlough days.

Noting that 32 percent of the faculty had indicated that they are actively looking for another position and that 59 percent would be looking for a position elsewhere, he commented, "We are not a happy faculty and the health of our institution is being impaired." He added that only 8 percent of the faculty felt confident about the future.

Mr. Robert Martin (OCCE) reported on the results of the staff survey. Over 1700 questionnaires had been returned. Over half of the administrative officers had participated in the survey; 30-45 percent of each classification returned the questionnaire. The only significant difference between the faculty and staff surveys is the fact that a majority of the staff would prefer not to close the University on furlough days.

Prof. Gross then moved Senate approval of the following resolution.

 Since it must be made clear to the people of Oklahoma that what is at issue in the budget crisis is the quality of the educational and research services performed by the University of Oklahoma and since it should also be expected that the teaching and research functions of the University will be severely affected by reductions in staff and faculty wages and salaries, the Faculty Senate (Norman campus), therefore,

(1) supports the position of an overwhelming majority of the faculty responding to the Budget Council survey; i.e., that teaching and research activity should be interrupted on some or all of the furlough days;

(2) instructs the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate to appoint an ad hoc committee of faculty members to prepare alternative furlough plans (e.g., a call for individual faculty members to abstain

from teaching and/or research on an individual basis on a day of their choosing; a single day on which all teaching and research activity would be interrupted; several days in succession on which no teaching or research would be conducted); and

(3) urges that a special meeting of the General Faculty be called in January, 1984, to choose among the various furlough plans to be put forward by the ad hoc committee.

During the lengthy debate, the following Senate members contributed their comments, reactions, suggestions, and criticisms: Professors Beesley, Benham, Christian, Cozad, Fitch, Hauser, Grant, Gross, Harrington, Hengst, Howard, Karriker, Kleine, Love, Mills, Nuttall, Pflaum, Schmitz, Smith, Stevens, Tharp, and Whiteley.

Those favoring the resolution felt that the public and the legislators need to be made aware of the nature and the extent of the budget crisis at this University. Others cautioned against inviting a probable backlash, "penalizing" students, and taking an arbitrary uncompromising stand.

Professor Cozad, reporting on conversations with colleagues, indicated that faculty members expect the Faculty Senate to take some kind of action in this matter. "Even though the task is difficult, the Senate needs to make a decision and take a position in this matter. Not to do so would be to abdicate our responsibility in representing the faculty."

Professor Love stated that OSU faculty members, at a recent HFACO meeting, had indicated to him that a special meeting had been held recently on the Stillwater campus and that there is great faculty concern albeit the public notice is kept in low key.

To move the debate along, Professor Smith moved the deletion of the words "some or" in item (1) of the resolution as follows: "...i.e., that teaching and research activity should be interrupted on ~~some or~~ all of the furlough days." In a voice vote, the Senate rejected the proposed deletion.

With two dissenting votes, the Senate next approved the resolution in its original form.

Professor Tharp next moved that the sense of the Senate be conveyed in another resolution that all employees except those under \$10,000 annual wage shall proportionately bear the burden of the furloughs. Professor Grant urged the Senate "to leave that alone." He saw this matter as a very complicated one that would involve a relatively small amount of money and could also raise the question of legality.

Professor Canter cautioned against becoming involved in grants and other external funds. In his opinion, any salary cuts for such personnel would be objected to by the sources of such external funds.

The Senate subsequently rejected the motion in a tally of 18 to 21 votes.

ADJOURNMENT

The Faculty Senate adjourned at 5:30 p.m. The next regular session of the Senate will be held at 3:30 p.m., on Monday, January 16, 1984, in the Conoco Auditorium, Doris W. Neustadt Wing, Bizzell Memorial Library.

Respectfully submitted,

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