
**MINUTES
FACULTY SENATE
September 17, 1996**

The Faculty Senate convened at 3:30 p.m. in the Conference Room, Blume Conference Center, Hankamer School of Business, with Chair Jeter Basden presiding.

Present: D. Adams, L. Adams, Baird, Barker, Basden, Buddo, Chinn, Conyers, Davis, Edwards, Farris, Fox, Garner, Gordon, Hillman, Jensen, K. Johnson, P. Johnson, Knudson, Longfellow, Losey, McGee, Miller, Pippin, Robinson, Rolf, Stone, Wallace, Wiley, Willis, Yelderman, Youngdale

Absent:Guest: President Robert B. Sloan, Jr.

I. Distribution of Senate Notebook materials

Senators received the following materials for inclusion in their Senate notebooks: Senate meeting dates, Senate Constitution and Bylaws, and Division of Academic Affairs Goals for 1996-97.

II. Invocation

The invocation was led by A. J. "Chip" Conyers.

III. Introduction and Welcome to New Senators

Chair Basden welcomed **new senators Chinn, Davis, Knudson, Losey, Miller, and Yelderman.**

A. Appointments to Executive Committee

The Senate Executive Committee for 1996-97 was introduced:
Chair Basden; Vice Chair - Chair-Elect Buddo; Secretary K. Johnson; Publicity Officer Losey; and appointed members Hillman, Knudson, and Stone.

B. Appointment of Parliamentarian

Bob Baird was appointed Parliamentarian.

IV. Approval of June 17 Minutes

The minutes of the June 17 meeting were approved as distributed.

V. Remarks by President Sloan

President Sloan addressed the Senate about a variety of issues of common concern. A time of dialogue followed.

VI. Items from Council of Deans/Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

A. Division of Academic Affairs Goals for 1996-97

A handout was provided to each senator, outlining the Division of Academic Affairs' goals for 1996-97. (A copy is attached to the file copy of the minutes.) Any comments or questions can be addressed to Dr. Schmeltekopf or may be brought before the Senate in the future.

B. Response report to SACS' recommendations

Chair Basden indicated that the response report to SACS' recommendations has been completed.

C. Status of Faculty Handbook

Senator Hillman reviewed portions of the handbook during the summer; the handbook materials went to the provost's office and then to the president's office for review. The original deadline for completing the handbook was not met, but efforts are continuing to ensure harmony between the PPM and the faculty handbook.

VII. Committee/Liaison Reports

A. Faculty Committee on Academic Freedom, Responsibility, and Environment - Dan McGee, Chair

Chair McGee reported on two items:

(1) The committee has received a request to look into the Siebens Foundation issue. The committee will await further developments regarding the research grant before deciding what action, if any, the committee should take.

(2) Questions have been raised about the procedure used in the past for faculty evaluation of administrators and the extent to which faculty might have input into the process. Senate Chair Basden indicated that an administrator's evaluation process is being formulated by Clif Williams' office. McGee asked Basden to look into this matter and obtain more information for the Senate.

B. Faculty Committee on Enrollment Management - Howard Rolf, Chair

Chair Rolf reported that data on Fall 1996 admissions show an increase in the number of Challenge Program students admitted to the university. In addition, approximately one-third of entering freshmen did not meet the university's admissions requirements.

C. Faculty Committee on Physical Facilities - Joe Yelderman, Chair

The committee has not met yet this year. Yelderman asked Basden to check into the need for Yelderman to meet with the administration's Project Priorities Committee on a regular basis.

D. Faculty Committee on Student Life and Services - Patricia Wallace, Chair

Chair Wallace is in the process of polling former members of this committee to see if there is unfinished or new business, and plans to meet with the student body president in the near future.

E. Liaison to Staff Council

Senate Chair Basden stated that he will appoint a senator to serve as senate liaison to the Staff Council. This position involves attending Staff Council Executive Committee meetings from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of every month and acting as a liaison between the Staff Council and the Faculty Senate on matters of mutual interest to the two bodies.

VIII. Other Items or Announcements

Chair Basden announced that copies of President Sloan's letter to prospective faculty members were available to senators at the close of the senate meeting, and it was clarified that this letter is hand-delivered by Dr. Schmeltkopf to candidates who come to campus for interviews. (A copy is attached to the file copy of the minutes.)

More comments were made and questions were raised about the hiring issue. Some schools/departments may have more difficulty than others in finding qualified applicants who also meet the "religious requirements". Further concerns were expressed about the hiring requirements, President Sloan's position, and the apparent existence of different interpretations and applications of the hiring policy in different departments of the university.

Senators were reminded of the President's Faculty Forum to be held on Thursday, September 26, and were encouraged to attend.

All business having been completed, Senate Chair Basden declared the meeting adjourned at 5:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Johnson, Secretary