

**Minutes  
Faculty Senate  
March 20, 1990**

**Present:** D. Andrist, P. Armitstead, W. Brown, R. Cannon, D. Hardcastle, N. Keathley, D. Kopplin, J. Lusk, L. Lyon, A. Richards, S. Rosenbaum, D. Vitanza, S. Mantooth, W. Ghee, M. Hart, T. Maness, J. Rose, A. Baker, N. Goodloe, D. Rogers, D. Swenson (for T. Featherston), J. Bennighof, H. Elzinga, J. Gordon, B. Patterson, A. Sharp.

**Absent:** M. Busch, R. Riley, D. Wivagg, L. Chonko, D. Jennings, E. Farren.

**The meeting began at 3:35 in Blume Conference Center. Dr. Maness opened with a prayer.**

**The minutes for the February 20, 1990 meeting were approved as distributed.**

**Reports:**

- A. Dr. Patterson will report on the Council of Deans at the next meeting of the Senate on April 17.**
- B. The Newsletter will be out before the April meeting and will include a call for nominations for the Senate**
- C. The President's final Faculty Forum will happen on April 25 at 3:30 in conjunction with the AAUP's final meeting of the year at which Dr. Reynolds traditionally makes his state of the University remarks.**
- D. The committee on Committees is near the end of its work. (Paul Armitstead is the Senate representative on this committee, a committee appointed by the Senate.)**

**The Lecturers Representation Committee (chaired by Dr. Elzinga):**

**The committee proposed revisions to the Senate constitution to allow lecturer representation on the Senate. The committee proposal is attached. Discussion of the committee's proposal was vigorous. The primary issue of interest was whether or not the Senate should provide a special category of membership for lecturers that would guarantee their being represented by a specific number of senators. The committee's proposal would have done this by adding four additional senators and specifying how those additional four would be chosen from among lecturers.**

Dr. Vitanza presented an alternative plan that would not increase the total number of senators but would instead remove constitutional restrictions that currently prevent lecturers from serving. This alternative would not treat lecturers any differently from other full-time faculty, but would provide for their full participation in Senate affairs.

The motion from the committee was moved and seconded. The vote was thirteen in favor and eleven against. After discussion of the number of favorable votes required to amend the constitution, Dr. Patterson ruled that the committee's motion had failed to secure enough votes to carry as a constitutional amendment.

The plan presented by Dr. Vitanza was subsequently moved and seconded. The vote on this occasion was seventeen in favor and four against. Dr. Patterson ruled this vote sufficient to amend the Senate's constitution. A copy of the proposed amendment to the constitution is attached.

Dr. Cannon requested the executive committee to bring to the next meeting a proposal to amend the constitution by a provision explicitly providing for amendment of the constitution. Such an amendment should leave no question about how the constitution may be amended.

**Merit Pay Committee (chaired by Dr. Hardcastle):**

A questionnaire was distributed to Chairs before spring break. The committee is working with Tom Bohannon (Office of Institutional Research) to design a form to send to all faculty. The committee would like to secure data confirming or infirming the idea that merit pay is a current practice of the University. Chair responses received so far reveal wide variation in the practice of merit pay within departments.

**The Senate Committee to Review the Faculty and Staff Sexual Misconduct Policy (chaired by Dr. Lusk):**

The committee would like detailed comments on the proposed policy, and especially invites written remarks to be sent to campus box #7346. Since the proposed policy would become part of the Personnel Policies Manual, it would be contractually binding upon faculty. (There was some discussion in connection with the proposed policy about how the administration may change faculty members' contracts by Personnel Policies Manual revisions.)

**Other Business:**

**A. Dr. Patterson appointed Dr. Vitanza to chair a committee to look into Dr. Leavell's request that the minimum office hour requirement for faculty members be modified in the direction of greater flexibility.**

**B. Dr. Reynolds letter to the Senate prompted a question about the tuition grant program proposed by the Senate's committee during the 1988-89 academic year arose. Some faculty were unaware that there had been such a committee or proposal and requested an account of the proposal. It was agreed that the next Senate Newsletter would provide an account of the proposal.**

**4:50 Adjourned.**