

Minutes

FACULTY SENATE

October 18, 1994

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

Present: Barker, Basden, Benesh, Buddo, Cannon, Garner, Goforth, Hillman, Jensen, Johnson, King, Longfellow, Luper, Massirer, McGee, Monk, Nixon, Ortuno, Pierce, Pippin, Robinson, Rogers, Seward, Thomas, Tipton, Wallace, Whipple, Wood, and Youngdale.

Absent: Davis, Edwards, and Sanders.

Announcements to the Senate for the October 18 meeting were distributed by Cannon prior to the meeting (copy attached to file copy of the minutes).

AGENDA

1. **Invocation**
Hillman led the invocation.
2. **Minutes (September 20, 1994)**
By common consent, the September 20, 1994, Minutes were approved as distributed.
3. **Distribution of Sign-up Sheets**
Cannon distributed two sign-up sheets, as follows, asking Senators to indicate their desire to participate by signing the sheets:
 1. Lunch with Vice-President Schmeltekopf (Monday, November 14)
 2. Walk-A-Thon (Tuesday, October 25)
4. **Mission Statement**
The 10/14/94 version of the proposed Mission Statement was distributed and reviewed (copy attached to file copy of minutes). King moved that a substitute statement (also distributed for review; copy attached to file copy of minutes) with respect to ethnic and cultural diversity be offered as a suggestion to the Self-Study Committee. Rogers seconded. Motion passed.
5. **Possible presence of "observers" at Faculty Senate meetings: Staff, Student, Academic Administrators**
Cannon, on behalf of the Senate Executive Committee, recommended that the Senate invite representatives from the Staff Council, the Student Body,

and Academic Administration to be permanently invited observers of Senate meetings. The Senate would reserve the right to go into executive session, asking the observers to leave the meeting during executive sessions. After much discussion, the recommendation was voted on in three parts--one with reference to Staff Council, one with reference to the Student Body, and one with reference to Academic Administration. The recommendation failed with reference to each of the three groups.

6. Senate response to self-imposed probation of basketball program

Cannon, on behalf of the Executive Committee, recommended that a letter be sent to President Reynolds from the Senate, commending the president for the "self-imposed probation" placed on the men's basketball program (proposed letter distributed and reviewed). After discussion, the proposed letter was revised as follows:

- Add the word "men's" preceding the words "basketball program" in first sentence.
- Delete the phrase "and/or an oversight committee be established to" in second paragraph, second sentence.

The revised letter was adopted by the Senate with instructions to the chair to send to President Reynolds (copy of revised letter attached to file copy of minutes).

7. Report from Committees

1. Physical Facilities

Goforth reported that he had talked with the outgoing chair of the committee, with Dean Cooper's office, with Vice President Schmeltekopf's office, and with Ken Simons' office about the assignment of space in campus buildings. The procedure for requesting additional space is clear -- the chair of the department files a petition for more space, with justification, to the dean of the academic unit, who then reviews the petition and may forward the petition to the Vice President for Academic Affairs for a decision. It appears that there are no university-established guidelines for space allocation; decisions are reached upon review of the petitions and through negotiation processes.

2. Academic Environment

Ortuno reported that the committee had reviewed the Senate's request that the committee gather data on the number of students who have been placed on probation and/or suspension and on the procedures that govern these matters and to report their findings to the Senate (see September 20, 1994 Minutes). Instead of completing the work that the Senate requested, the committee voted to wait on the report of a Self-Study committee which is dealing with similar issues, feeling that the committee may be duplicating the efforts of the Self-Study committee.

Cannon, on behalf of the Senate Executive Committee, recommended that the Academic Environment Committee be disbanded and reconstituted. After much discussion, the recommendation passed. Though not a part of the recommendation, it was noted that the reconstituted committee should have a tenured faculty member as chair of the committee, and that the chair of the disbanded committee should be asked to serve on the reconstituted committee.

8. Faith and Learning Survey

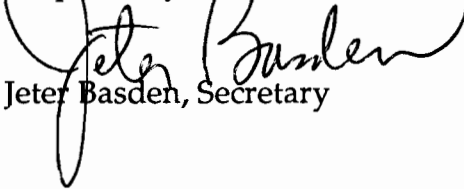
Concerns which have been expressed about the survey were discussed. Of particular note were these concerns:

- how responses are to be used
- assurance of confidentiality
- some questions seemed to be at odds with academic freedom issues
- the words Baptist, Christian, and religious seemingly used as synonyms
- survey seemed to be poorly worded

Cannon urged the Senators to encourage faculty members to respond, reminding all that it is important to complete and send back the survey, even with the noted concerns.

At 5:09 p.m., Benesh moved, Seward seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeter Basden, Secretary