

# FACULTY SENATE MEETING

May 9, 2000

Cashion 303

MINUTES

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**Present:** Abbott-Kirk, Adams, Auld, Baird, Beck, Bowery, Buddo, Cox, Curtis, Farris, Gilchrest, M. Sanford (for Genrich), Jensen, K. Johnson, P. Johnson, Johnston, Longfellow, Losey, McGee, Riley, Sparkman, Stone, Supplee Weaver, Williams, Yelderman, Young

**Absent:** Carini, Davis, Dunn, Garland, Wilson

**Also present:** T. Hanks, M. Jacobson, L. McManness, J. Patton (newly elected Senators)

## I. Call to Order & Announcements.

The meeting began at 3:35. Baird introduced Kathy Sparkman, who will be completing the unexpired term of B. Hair, Senator from the Libraries.

## II. Consideration of Agenda

The printed agenda was distributed and approved by consent.

## III. Consideration of April Minutes

The minutes from the April meeting (distributed electronically prior to the meeting) were approved by consent.

## IV. New Business

A. Recognition of New Senators.

Baird welcomed the newly-elected Senators who were in attendance.

B. Recognition of Senators whose terms are expiring.

Baird expressed appreciation to those leaving the Senate (Buddo, Genrich, Jensen, P. Johnson, D. Johnston, McGee, and Supplee). Losey also expressed Senators' appreciation to Baird, for his role as Senate Chair in 1999-2000 and noted Baird's effective leadership. He presented to Baird, on behalf of senators, a plaque expressing the Senate's gratitude.

#### C. Report from Senate Nominating Committee

The following names were placed in nomination by the Senate Nominating Committee at the April minutes:

Chair: Jay Losey

Chair-Elect: David Longfellow

Publicity: Buddy Gilchrest

Secretary: Chuck Weaver

The slate of officers was approved.

#### D. Report from University Committee on Committees

A few final appointments have not yet been made. Longfellow moved that the Senate Executive Committee be given authority to approve these final additions when they are made. Motion was seconded by Losey and passed.

### **V. Old Business**

#### A. Description of Senate in Faculty Handbook.

Baird has met with the university General Counsel and discussed this matter, but it is unclear whether the problem will be resolved by the July deadline (for printing in the revised Faculty Handbook).

### **VI. Committee/Liaison Reports**

#### A. Faculty Committee on Academic Freedom, Responsibility, and Environment (J. Losey, Chair).

The Senate discussed issues surrounding the terminal contract given to a member of the Religion Department. The terminal contract was issued even after the department voted unanimously to continue tenure-track appointment. The department has written to the administration asking that the case be reconsidered, and both the department and Senate

hoped for a favorable response.

The Senate also discussed the state of the Polanyi Center and its evaluation. Senators raised the following questions:

~will the committee's report be made public?

~ will the committee actually visit the university and/or interview faculty?

~ who is financing the Polanyi Center?

Senators could not answer these questions.

B. Faculty Committee on Enrollment Management (D. Johnston, Chair).

The University set an enrollment of 2750 as a goal; actual admissions may be closer to 2800. The number of deposits paid is up 4%, and the number of students enrolled in the challenge program shows a significant decrease (from 260 to 200).

C. Faculty Committee on Physical Facilities (J. Yelderman, Chair).

The Board of Regents has approved the "concept" of the new Science building, and given preliminary approval for fundraising. Actual construction figures were not discussed.

D. Faculty Committee on Student Life and Services (R. Wilson, Chair). No report.

E. Athletic Council (M. Dunn, Liaison). No report.

F. Staff Council (J. Abbott-Kirk, Liaison).

Based upon recent staff council meetings, the relationship between faculty and staff is not good. The Senate will explore possibilities of engaging the Staff Council in conversations to see if relations can be improved.

G. Benefits and Personnel Committee (F. Curtis, Liaison). No Report.

## **VII. Additional Business**

The Senate briefly discussed the usefulness of various small group

meetings with the President. After discussion, consensus was to continue the meetings, and perhaps to increase their frequency.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:45.

Respectfully submitted,

*Chuck Weaver*

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