

FACULTY SENATE HEADS INTO EIGHTIES--Patricia Bowen

A variety of topics was discussed at the January 17 meeting of the Faculty Senate. President Zacharias commented to the group before the business meeting began. He informed the Senate that during recent meetings with our legislators and other state officials he has been encouraged by the apparent support for higher education. Mention was also made of the recent passage in the Senate of the bill to increase from four to six years the terms of Regents and of members of the Council on Higher Education. He also announced that the Board of Directors of the Kentucky Teacher Retirement System is supporting the bills to provide equity in retirement funding.

Chairman Jones announced the appointment of Senators Melville and Lucas to an ad hoc committee to design an instrument for the evaluation of the Senate by the faculty. During his report Chairman Jones also commented on recent meetings with President Zacharias concerning several issues including on-campus parking and the granting of honorary degrees by the University. Chairman Jones indicated that he had been assured by President Zacharias that there would be no administrative appointments made, excluding those within the President's office, for which proper search procedures had not been followed.

Chairman Jones reported on the recent meeting of COSFL, and outlined some of the important topics which were discussed. The COSFL constitution has been amended so that any faculty member who has been part of a local senate within the past three years will be eligible to be a member of the state group. Chairman Jones provided a current list of legislators and their addresses so that the faculty might contact representatives to voice support or concern on issues before the legislature. Each faculty senator has a copy of the list.

The Academic Affairs Committee presented for reconsideration a proposal to revise the general education requirements. After some discussion the motion to adopt the proposal failed.

Senator Pulsinelli, as part of the report for the By-Laws, Amendments and Elections Committee, moved to change the wording of the amendment to the Senate constitution, passed in November, which created the Committee on University Committees. The new wording, approved by the Senate, states that the new Committee will "nominate" rather than "appoint" members of the University to university-wide committees. This change was at the suggestion of the President so that the Committee's function would be in line with the authority granted by the Board for committee appointments. Senator Pulsinelli reminded the Senate that the departmental elections will begin February 11, and the at-large election will be held February 20 and 21. More information will be forthcoming.

The Institutional Goals and Planning Committee presented for adoption a motion concerning the issuance of honorary degrees by

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the University. (See IGP 003.1) After lengthy discussion involving several amendments to the main motion, which called for Faculty Senate approval of all honorary degrees granted by the University, the motion failed. This committee's report presented in December on the possibility of a fall break evoked no action from the Senate; no motion was made and there was no discussion of the matter.

The Faculty Status and Welfare Committee did not present a report, delaying consideration of the proposed policy on rank and promotion until February.

The report of the Hospitality Committee was that there will be a social for the Senate in February.

One of the important items brought before the Senate was the report from the Administrator Evaluations Committee. Senator Constans moved for the approval of the Committee's report which outlines the schedule and guidelines for the evaluation of "line and "staff" administrators. Also presented was a tentative instrument to be used for the evaluation of line administrators, and recommendations for study concerning the "vote of confidence" by the faculty. These materials are available from the Senators for review by the faculty. Senator Constans urged the faculty to forward their suggestions and/or comments to his committee concerning the evaluation.

Senator Hanser reported briefly that the evaluation being prepared by the Faculty Evaluation Committee may be ready soon. There are still some questions about the legality of making personnel decisions on the basis of unsigned evaluations.

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR--Tom Jones

It's been a busy month where the Congress of Senate Faculty Leaders is concerned: I spent much of the last week of the Christmas break putting the finishing touches on and getting ready for the COSFL meeting which was held in the Jefferson Room at the University of Louisville, January 12, 1980, between the hours of 1:00 P.M. and adjournment to dinner at c. 5:40.

Mary K. Tachau, U of L Faculty Senate Chair, did a fine job of providing both a light luncheon and cocktails and dinner (--the latter provided by the Senate Plans and Policies Committee), but the main order of the day was, of course, the business session.

The chair suspended the provided agenda for a time to allow Charlie Vice of the KEA to make a presentation and answer questions. He stayed with us for two hours--which we appreciated--but the informal conclusion after he left seemed to be that KEA does not currently have much to offer folk in higher education, nor are they trying very hard to get us into their organization.

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The main help Vice offered was this: he had the new list of legislators' names and addresses with him, and having been a lobbyist in Frankfort foreight years, he was able to help us assign a number value to many of the legislators' names regarding their demonstrated "friendliness" to education in general and higher education in specific. Thus we have begun to construct profiles of each General Assembly delegate and after a few more such sessions with various people will be able both to write them letters of appreciation and to ask others to, this all in an attempt to keep legislators aware that we in higher education are watching them carefully.

We got an additional such expert testimony later from Mary K's husband, Eric, who has lobbied for the insurance industry for twenty years. (Senators at WKU have been provided this list and will be given additional information in due time.)

Under Old Business, we

--ratified the constitutional amendment which will allow membership in the group for anyone who has been a member of his/her Senate within the preceding three years;

--voted not to take up the issue of the increased education course requirements, as the matter is currently fluid, since even then the committee was meeting and changing the proposal. Instead, I appointed Ken Purcell of Murray State, a vocal opponent of the measure, to keep track of changes made and to go to a meeting of the committee, thus to keep us all informed;

--had reports from Jones and Tachau on possible (rumored) CHE funding of courses, with upper division courses getting greater funding (apparently the rumor is just a rumor);

--Steve West (Murray) reported that their budget manager is in Frankfort for the duration of the Session, and that he is keeping up with educational legislation and reporting it to Steve, who then will report to us. The chair appointed him Legislative Liaison, and he is working hard at it. (He and I will be going to Frankfort within the next two weeks to try to meet with George Atkins, Steve Beshear, and a number of other legislators and committees);

--heard reports and discussed the equity in retirement funding bill. U of L and NKU reported that their Senates had passed resolutions of support for the bill, which means that all of the COSFL has so voted, with the exception of KSU, which just "hadn't gotten around to it";

--discussed a Courier Journal news article in which the Chair of the COSFL was quoted concerning the plight of higher education, the point here being that the reporter (Dick Wilson) had thought it natural when he wanted a quotation on higher education to contact the leader of that group, saying that certainly he could

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speak for faculty concerns at the State level, and therefore we could be cheered at having achieved a reasonable degree of authenticity--a fact that I dangled to Senate Council Chair Joe Krislov at U K.

Under New Business, we

--discussed bill extending regents' terms of office but took no action, though Mary K especially strongly opposes it;

--discussed up-coming educational legislation, and agreed that we could all go to Frankfort at a moment's notice if it seemed that by so doing we could influence legislation.

* * *

On the local level there's not much to report, because of the break. I suppose the biggest undertaking of the Faculty Senate for this spring will be the Administrator Evaluation (reported on elsewhere in this Newsletter), and the Promotional Guidelines Proposal which will again come to the floor at the February meeting. Elections in February will see a large number of new senators coming in, since many of us become ineligible to serve again. However, as you know, the newly elected senators will not take office now until the May meeting.

I should report that president Zacharias is submitting the two standing committee constitutional changes (Committee on Committees and the Communications Committee) favorably to the Board this Saturday, January 26. He does not want to act immediately on the Ombudsman proposal, though he will, this semester, I think he told me.

The President and I have averaged meeting for over an hour three times a month. During those sessions I take in a list of things to discuss, he has a list, and I must say that I am always encouraged by the sessions to believe that he is working very hard on our behalf. The meetings are characterized in my opinion by utter candor on both our parts, and by a willingness to cooperate. I then report on these meetings to the Executive Committee of the Senate which in turn reports to the full Senate. Communication all over the place!

BUDGETARY FACTS ABOUT INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS--Raymond Cravens

(The following article was solicited from the office of Public Service and International Programs and is intended to inform general faculty interest on an aspect of the university budget.)

International projects and study-abroad programs are operationally supported from grants or program participant fees. For example,

BUDGETARY FACTS ABOUT INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

the technical assistance projects which have been conducted in conjunction with Latin American universities the last eight years have been totally funded on a non-matching basis from loan funds received by the Latin American universities or governments from the Inter-American Development Bank. All foreign travel by Western faculty as well as salary costs and other expenses are paid from project funds.

In similar manner, study-abroad programs are financially supported through program fees paid by participants. Faculty travel and expenses, promotional and printing cost, organizational travel, and other direct expenses are paid from the program fee receipts. The Western in France, the Summer Term in England, the Interdisciplinary Study Programs in Latin America, the London Theatre Tour, and other special study-abroad programs are conducted on this financial basis. The general rule is that faculty receive travel and per diem expenses but no stipends for conducting such programs. All such programs are under the sponsorship of academic units on campus and require the approval of the International Education Committee. The Office of Public Service and International programs provides administrative assistance with the myriad of operational details of logistics, promotion and organization. In 1979, 104 students and 9 faculty members participated in WKU study-abroad programs.

The international program's administrative unit is currently giving over-all direction to funded projects and programs totaling over \$220,000. These grants include the Latin American Studies Center continuation (\$37,000) funded by the U. S. Office of Education, a technical assistance project in Nicaragua (\$142,000 to date) funded by Inter-American Development Banks, the Speaker and Program Service project, "Humanity's Concern Around the World" (\$19,717) funded by a grant from the Kentucky Humanities Council, and WKU Argentine Becarios project (\$21,000) funded by the Ministry of Education, Province of Buenos Aires, through an agreement with the American Association of State Colleges and Universities. Three WKU faculty have spent one month each in Argentina under terms of the exchange agreement portion of this latter project, and two others have been approved for the Spring 1980 exchange program. The WKU-UNAN technical assistance project in Nicaragua is in the process of being reinstated and is now expected to extend through this year. Total funding for Western's consultation services thus far has amounted to \$142,000.

FEATURING THE COLLEGES

POTTER COLLEGE--SEEKING TO DEVELOP THE WHOLE INDIVIDUAL

--Richard D. Weigel

Potter College of Arts and Humanities includes the departments of Art, Communication and Theatre, English, Folk and Intercultural

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Studies, Foreign Languages, History, Journalism, Music, and Philosophy and Religion. In the fall semester of 1979 the college taught 28.1% of all student credit hours generated in the University. The student-faculty ratio was 16 to 1, a figure lowered significantly by the necessity for individual instruction in our Music Department. There are 161 full-time and 56 part-time teachers in the college.

The faculty members of Potter College have been very successful in publishing professional articles and books and in participation in regional and national conferences. Faculty research grants and special assignment time, as well as external grant funds, have clearly assisted our scholarly activities. The college members have also been quite active in presenting public service programs to the surrounding community.

There are several special programs which have had great success in furthering interest in the humanities on our campus. The Humanities Semester continues to attract students who enjoy fulfilling their general education requirements in Category B through the study of one historical period from the integrated viewpoints of four separate disciplines. Our new Interdisciplinary Composition program has been very successful in teaching English composition through combining it with other disciplines. Student interest and test results are very encouraging and one would hope that disciplines outside our college might take advantage of such combinations in the future.

Professors Boggs and Survant of our English Department received a grant from the Kentucky Humanities Council to travel to several locations in the state and "bring the arts to the people." Work is currently under way to establish a learning center to teach English to refugees from Southeast Asia. Our college also continues to enrich our campus and the community with the Fine Arts Festival, Art Gallery exhibitions, the Children's Theatre Series, other dramatic and musical presentations, and the Oral Interpretation Series.

It is the mission of Potter College to develop in our students the skills of critical analysis, discernment, and judgment in their approach to a problem, to teach them to organize their thoughts in a coherent manner and to communicate their ideas effectively both orally and in writing, and to cultivate in the individual student an appreciation for his or her cultural heritage. We seek to develop a well-rounded student who can perform well in a profession or vocation and at the same time be a person who can gain fulfillment from an understanding of the arts and who can communicate effectively with other people.

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FACULTY SENATE
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NEWSLETTER



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