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FACULTY SENATE NEWSLETTER

SENATE GIVES APPROVAL FOR THREE MAJOR DOCUMENTS--Margaret Howe  
Sue Bryant

Reports from standing committees were the first order of business for the December meeting.

Executive Committee.

Senator Weigel announced that the following people had been appointed as members of the Political Action Committee: Senators Harry Robe (chair), Pauline Jones, Robert Hoyt, Charles Henrickson, Ed Counts and also, Dr. Emmett Burkeen, Dr. Harold Fletcher, Dr. Barry Griffin and Jack Neel.

By-laws, Amendments and Elections Committee.

Senator Pauline Jones reported that her committee had considered procedures for taking a Senate vote in any emergency situations which do not coincide with regular Senate meetings. The committee decided there was no practical alternative to calling a special Senate meeting if such a need arose.

Committee on University Committees.

Senator Ruff announced the committee membership of two new committees, the Political Action Committee and a committee for the Joint Academic Programs (Murray and Western). The members of this second committee are: Dr. Carl Chelf, Dr. Tom Coohill, Dr. Bill Traugott, Ms. Christy Sisk (student) and Dr. James Davis (Chairperson).

REPORTS FROM SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Political Action Committee.

Senator Robe stated that the temporary committee formed to produce and circulate a packet on the present financial situation at Western has completed its task and has disbanded. Eight thousand copies of a three page package were printed and assembled. Six thousand of these were distributed to students in dorms, one thousand were distributed to off campus and evening class students and the others were distributed variously to other students and to faculty. Senator Robe commented that the Political Action Committee has since discussed whether the same materials should be circulated more widely, or whether a new and more creative approach should be adopted in communicating with the public. The cost of producing and mailing materials on a large scale may be prohibitive. The Political Action Committee has identified its purposes as twofold: first, to keep faculty informed of new developments and second, to communicate faculty views to State legislators. The short term goals of the committee are to distribute information to local and state legislators and to enlist the help of the Chamber of Commerce and service clubs in disseminating information. The long term goals of the committee are to establish relationships with legislators and to involve the Faculty and the community in political and fiscal affairs.

Senator Bowen reported that donations received from faculty, students, the Women's Alliance of WKU and the Women's Political Caucus of Warren County totalled \$383.65. Printing costs were \$366.33 leaving a balance of \$17.32.

The Senate's major order of business was to consider two documents for second reading. Senator Pearson moved acceptance of the consulting documents and the motion passed. Senator Murphy moved acceptance of the Rank and Promotion document. Most discussion centered around the revised wording for paragraph I.A.2. An amendment to change the word "developing" to "drafting" passed. Questions arose regarding the date of implementation of the document. President Zacharias stated it was likely to go into effect during the 1982-83 term. He also stated there was no grandfather clause. The motion passed.

Senator Murphy moved acceptance of the Faculty Grievance Procedure for first reading. The motion passed. President Zacharias expressed his appreciation to the Faculty Status and Welfare Committee for their cooperation and diligence.

In other new business, Chair Krenzin announced ASG has requested Senate cooperation in planning a joint ASG/Senate reception by appointing a Senator to the planning committee. Senator Bowen was appointed.

Reporting on COSFL activities, Tom Jones has asked the Courier-Journal to write a series of articles on higher education in Kentucky. He is also urging other university senators to follow WKU's lead by forming political action committees. Jones announced the formation of an ad hoc committee to address the question, "Does Kentucky have the best form of Governance for universities?" Steve West from Murray attended the pre-legislative conference where alternatives to CHE were discussed.

Senator Hoyt presented the following motion for approval: "I move the Chair write a letter to President Zacharias requesting:

- 1) a joint faculty-administrator committee be appointed to determine procedures to be used to terminate faculty in case of financial exigency and
- 2) that the faculty members be nominated by the Senate Committee on Committees.

The motion was amended to include "and program change". Both the amendment and motion passed.

Faculty Regent Buckman express his appreciation for the rally efforts and petitions which were presented to the Council on Higher Education in protest of the proposed Bluegrass Plan. He reflected sadly that although the Council was well informed of Western's concerns, only one Council member (Ray Burris of Louisville) voted in Western's favor. Buckman warmly commended some individuals and groups who are actively supporting Western in this time of crisis, notably Rev. James Walker and the Kiwanis Club of Bowling Green. Dr. Zacharias added that the American National Bank of Bowling Green has also been most supportive and that officials of GM have been using their influence to strengthen Western's position.

The Faculty Senate began its first meeting of 1982 with a report from Dr. James Davis regarding happenings in Frankfort earlier in the day. The Council on Higher Education rejected the biennial budget recommendation proposed by the four regional university Presidents and approved the proposal recommended by the Council staff.

Senator Harry Robe, chair of the Political Action Committee reported his committee has met several times since the last Senate meeting. They have prepared an expanded version of their information packet plus a cover letter, all of which have been distributed to legislators. Senator Robe has received several memos and letters from the legislators thanking the committee for the information.

Senator Murphy, presenting the Faculty Grievance Procedure for second reading, moved its acceptance, and it was passed.

Tom Jones reported on his lobbying efforts in Frankfort and a proposed meeting of COSFL with Governor John Y. Brown in two weeks.

ATTENTION

It's time to get involved!

As you know, the Council on Higher Education has recommended to Governor Brown a revised Higher Education budget. Their recommendation was for a small increase in funding for the regional universities during the first year of the biennium and a smaller "formula" funding for the second year. The small increase is not the issue. The issue is the formula. If recommended by the governor and approved by the legislature, our future will be dictated by the formula which will have the effect of diminishing relative support over the years. The results will be cutbacks and the loss of faculty positions.

It is imperative that we write our legislators now in support of their goal of defeating the formula recommendation which will come to them in Governor Brown's budget for Higher Education. They need our support if they are to be effective in defeating the CHE "formula". Write our local legislators and any others you may know in other parts of the state.

Rep. Jody Richards  
Rep. Billy Ray Smith  
Sen. Frank Miller

Address your letters to:  
Capitol Annex  
Frankfort, KY 40601



**FACULTY SENATE**  
communications committee  
**NEWSLETTER**