

SENATE VI ELECTS OFFICERS--Margaret Howe
Ed Dorman

Comments from the Chair

Chairperson Krenzin welcomed the new senators and encouraged each of them to participate fully in dealing with faculty concerns. She offered congratulations to four senators honored on April 28 at the Potter College Reception for Authors--Senators Howe, Ruff, Uveges and Weigel.

Election of Officers of Senate VI.

For the office of chairperson, Senator Robe was nominated by Senator Klein, and Senator Krenzin by Senator Long. Senator Krenzin was re-elected.

For the office of vice chairperson, Senator Robe was nominated by Senator Grice, Senator Weigel by Senator Klein, and Senator Uveges by Senator Bowen. Senator Uveges was elected.

For the office of secretary, Senator Foster was nominated by Senator Dorman, and was elected by acclamation.

For the office of parliamentarian, Senator Pauline Jones was nominated by Senator Crisp, and was elected by acclamation.

Election of COSFL Representatives.

Chairperson Krenzin is a representative by virtue of her office. Senator Robe was elected representative by majority vote. Senators Miller and Weigel were elected alternates.

Election of Committee Chairpersons.

The committee chairpersons for Senate VI are:

- Academic Affairs.Robert Schneider
- By-Laws, Amendments and Elections .Pauline Jones
- Committee on CommitteesRichard Weigel
- Communications.Ed Dorman
- Faculty Status and Welfare.Fred Murphy
- Fiscal Affairs.Dorsey Grice
- Institutional Goals and Planning. .Emery Alford
- Professional Responsibilities and Concerns . Richard Mason

Executive Committee.

Senator Weigel reported that his committee is actively communicating with senators, and has written to President Zacharias thanking him for his efforts on behalf of higher education and congratulating him for the ensuing positive results. In his reply, President Zacharias said that "What we do here, as I know very well, is a team effort.... You, and members of the Faculty Senate, have shown extraordinary statesmanship".

Academic Affairs.

Senator Schneider expressed disappointment at the low level of response to his questionnaire intended to rate academic concerns. There were 23 responses out of a possible 90. However, it is not too late to respond.



Committee on Committees.

Nominations were submitted for the University Insurance Committee and for the Student Retention Committee. All nominations and selections are on file and may be viewed by faculty members, Senator Ruff stated.

Faculty Status and Welfare.

Senator Murphy circulated a document entitled "Analyses of Salaries at WKU." Each Senator has a copy and is to make it available to other faculty members. The analyses are based on salary data made available one month ago by this committee. Some of the results are:

- 93 full professors earn less than the highest paid assistant professor;
- 8 full professors earn less than the highest paid instructor;
- The highest paid assistant professor earns \$16,569 more than the lowest paid assistant;
- The highest paid associate professor earns \$16,594 more than the lowest paid associate professor;
- The lowest paid instructor, the lowest paid assistant professor, and the lowest paid associate professor are all. . .female.

Unfinished Business.

Chairperson Krenzin read a revised version of the recommendation on Institutional Progress Testing presented, in a first reading, by Senator Glaser at the last meeting of the Senate. The recommendation is that "Western adopt a program of testing to measure the progress of our students over their undergraduate careers in such basic knowledge and skill areas as mathematics, English, humanities, history, social and behavioral studies, and physical and biological sciences."

Senator Baldwin asked if the recommendation implied that all students must make progress in all the areas cited. The question went unanswered. Senator Schneider moved that the issue be postponed, as he felt that many points had been brought up that needed to be looked into. In response to questioning from Senator Klein, Senator Schneider maintained that there were too many questions that, at the present time, his committee was unable to answer, and that the recommendation should be postponed until the new committee felt ready to bring it up.

Vice-President Davis remarked that we are even now evaluating the progress of some students, and that there is no question but that the university must do more and more of this-- it being necessary to the quality of our programs.

Chairperson Krenzin asked for a voice vote on whether to postpone this issue or not, and the Senate voted to postpone.

New Business.

The Political Action Committee had invited five local legislators to attend and give us their views on the legislative process. However, these legislators did not manifest themselves in corporeal form, and so the Senate proceeded to the next item of business, which was the

Faculty Regent Report.

Regent Buckman reported that the new budget has been passed, and pointed out some of its salient features:

the base percentage increase in faculty salaries was 5.5% ;

the average merit increase was 1.5%;
the average adjustment was 0.5%.

He also expressed concern at the size of the deficit amassed by the athletic program. He feels that this deficit is substantial, and that it must be decreased.

In addition, the faculty regent said that the president predicts a 3% decrease in enrollment in the next year, the Price-Waterhouse Report predicts 10% in the next 8 years, and he believes that there will probably be a decrease of approximately 5-10% in the next 6 or 7 years.

Another numerical datum mentioned by Regent Buckman is that the average department head makes about \$9,000 more than the average full professor.

With respect to Institutional Progress Testing, Regent Buckman thinks that we need it: it is his opinion that many of our students have serious problems in basic skill areas, such as English, and that these problems impair their education in other areas. He would favor all seniors taking the ACT in, at least, mathematics and English. He thinks that we should not make up our own tests for this purpose, but should use commercially available standardized tests with national norms.

COSFL Report.

Senator Pauline Jones read the report, which gave figures for average faculty salary increases at various Kentucky universities. At the University of Kentucky, the average increase was 7%; at the University of Louisville, 6.2%; at Northern Kentucky State, increases ranged from 7.5% to 9%, plus fringe benefits; at Morehead, from 7.5% to 8%; at Murray, although funds were available for an average increase of 9%, the president asked the Board for only 6.2%; and at Eastern Kentucky University, there was a base increase of 5% with some merit increases of 2%.

The Senate then adjourned.

Ogden College Recognition Days for Scholars.

On April 1-2, the Ogden College Recruitment Committee held an on-campus program for 34 high-school juniors and guidance counselors from Allen County-Scottsville High School, Bowling Green Senior High, Daviess County High, Apollo High, Owensboro Catholic High, Warren Central High, and Warren East High. The activities, which were funded by the Ogden Foundation, began at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, April 1, with a reception in the Downing University Center, followed by a buffet dinner, and a program "A Glimpse of Ogden College." On Friday, after breakfast at the Downing Center, the group was given a tour of Ogden College (from 9:10 to 11:30a.m.) followed by (optional) classroom visits.

The purposes of the program were to honor the best high school juniors at the selected high schools, and to recruit for Western those whose interests lie in areas served by Ogden College. President Zacharias has mentioned this program as an example of the sort of thing we should be doing a great deal more of.

Persons seeking further information about this program should contact Dr. Earl Pearson, Chairman of the Ogden College Recruitment Committee.

House Bill 411.

Regent Buckman has discussed HB 411 with Mike Auxier of the KIRS, and obtained the following information:

HB 411 will become effective August 1, 1982. The state is attempting to obtain an IRS ruling on the matter by that date. It is generally believed that the bill will be approved, as Illinois and Alabama already have similar plans. At the moment, it is not clear whether this bill will result in retirement funds being classified as a tax sheltered annuity by the IRS or not. It is believed, in some quarters, that since the plan is employer and/or state mandated it will not affect a faculty member's other tax-sheltered plans. Only the IRS ruling can clarify this.

The cost of printing this publication by Western Kentucky University was paid for from state funds KRS 57.375.