

FACULTY SENATE
Garrrett Ballroom
January 19, 1989

Senator Murphy opened the meeting. Those absent without observers were: Gabriel Buntzman, Cam Collins, John Paine, Dorsey Orice, Robert Haynes, Kenneth Kuenn, Mary Lazarus, Thomas Meredith, and John Russell.

The minutes were amended to read: "Fred Murphy presented the following motion..." rather than Paul Campbell. The minutes were approved as corrected.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Senator Murphy requested that observers sign their name next to the person for whom they are observing. Senator Murphy also asked if anyone had not received an agenda in an effort to get one to everyone. Michael Ann Williams from the Department of Modern Languages did not receive one. Senate members were urged to speak loud enough so that their comments could be easily recorded.

Senator Murphy distributed material from Mary Ellen Miller, these were from the Fritchett Committee which is trying to bring some pressure upon the legislators and the Governor to be more involved in funding education.

Senator Murphy announced that a couple of responses had been received regarding resolutions that the Senate had recently passed. Dr. Gray responded on the question of graduate faculty membership and the process of selecting that membership. He essentially said that they would hope to be able to do a number of things that we requested such as giving a clearer indication as to why persons might be turned down for graduate faculty membership. He was not especially hopeful when it came to the question of reduction of load. At the moment it does not appear to be a very likely development though they will keep it in mind.

Also, there has been some progress so far as the development of a faculty-staff committee on academic advisement is concerned. The President sent the resolution to Dr. Ronnie Sutton and requested a response from him. The President indicated that he believes it is time to formalize the process so far as the development of the advisement program is concerned. The advisory committee will provide assistance on a continuing basis as Phase III is implemented next year, and in the further refinement of Phases I and II.

The Executive Committee met with President Meredith in December just before the vacation. One concern expressed was about the very short time available for those who have final exams scheduled on Thursday and Friday of exam week. Turning the final grades into the registrar's office by noon Saturday in the Fall Semester presents a problem. The President indicated that the calendar committee will be looking at that.

There was some concern expressed that the administration

might be creating new positions in the administration. The President assured the committee that any such additions were the filling of positions which already existed, and which had not been filled in the past. For example, there is an assistant-registrar's post that is being filled; this is not a newly created position it is one that has existed, but had not been filled earlier.

Senator Murphy announced that the Executive Committee will discuss merit pay during their next meeting with President Meredith. Senator Murphy urged members who have concerns they would like to have brought up at the meeting to let members of the committee know before the meeting.

BY-LAWS, AMENDMENTS, AND ELECTIONS:

Rose Davis reported that at the request of the Military Science Department, that department will no longer be represented in the Faculty Senate. The faculty of that department will not be eligible for Senate elections. The By-Laws, Amendments, and Elections Committee will not need to have a special election for the at-large position for the College of Education.

Ballots are being prepared for departmental elections to be held the first week in February. Members of the By-Laws, Amendments, and Elections Committee will conduct the elections. At-large elections will be held the first week in March.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS:

Senator Veenker reported that the committee had met twice and were reviewing all proposals pertaining to the proposed General Education Task Force Plan.

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES:

Senator Mills reported for Senator Raddall that the committee had suggested names for the Calendar Committee and the new Advisement Committee which is being established.

FACULTY STATUS AND WELFARE:

Senator White hoped that the reprint of Mr. Tomes comments that appeared in the Senate Newsletter was helpful.

Senator White reported that the next step in this whole issue of Health Insurance is College Wide meetings in each college. Mr. Tomes will be arranging those particular meetings thru the Deans of each college. The Faculty and Staff at the library have already met with Mr. Tomes prior to the beginning of this semester. According to a report from Peggy Wright it was a very successful meeting and Mr. Tomes was helpful in answering questions. Each college will get its chance to meet with Mr. Tomes and have specific questions answered about Health Insurance.

Senator White distributed a handout he originally recieved from Gene Evans and Paul Campbell showing various faculty raises in states across the nation.

Senator Murphy announced that he had received notification from Jim Tomes indicating that the meetings with the colleges will follow this schedule: College of Business Administration, January 26 at 2:10 in College of Business Administration Auditorium; Potter College, February 6 at 2:10 in Barrett Conference Center Room 103; College of Education, February 20 at 3:00 in Tate C. Page Auditorium; Ogden College, February 21 at 3:00 in Thompson Complex Central Wing Room 129.

Senator Murphy announced that he is in the process of preparing a mass mailing of the material from Jim Tomes regarding the Insurance. It is to be sent out to both faculty and staff.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Senator Dorzan reported that the committee has met in order to see what they could do to reduce the general anguish that the Faculty Senate Newsletter has been producing. The committee decided the following: to divide the objective materials as separate from the viewpoints, opinions, letters to the editor, etc. by a line demarcation. The viewpoint section would be followed by a statement declaring that the articles in this section express only the opinion of that author and do not necessarily reflect opinions of either the Faculty Senate or the Communications Committee.

FACULTY REGENT'S REPORT:

Senator Evans reported that the President has notified the board that in the near future they will be furnished with copies of his report on student publications.

Recently, the Board has talked with the President concerning raises. The figure of a five percent increase still stands, on average. With an increase in health insurance, however, that figure will be reduced.

President Meredith believes in merit. But, sometimes it is difficult to determine who is contributing more. Senator Evans reported that the President believes the most important factor in merit is teaching. President Meredith is also very interested in promoting publications.

Initially the President thought of a two percent across the board increase in salary with a three percent merit increase. There were a number of department heads who believed the entire raise should be based on merit. The President hoped to be able to tell the board at the next meeting, January 25, 1989, how the raises would be allocated.

Senator Cruze asked if merit pay would carry over from merit pay from the past year.

Senator Evans responded that he would bring that up at their next meeting. He did not, however, know how that would be received because it makes the job a little more difficult.

OLD BUSINESS:

Senator Murphy stepped aside and asked Senator Paul

Campbell to preside over the resolution relating to the newsletter. Senator Campbell announced that this is the second reading of the resolution concerning the Faculty Senate Newsletter (see handout).

Senator Wright made a motion to amend the resolution (see handout).

Senator Veenker seconded the motion.

Senator Cruze stated that the second and fourth paragraphs seemed at odds against each other. Senator Mills questioned the meaning of Senate responsibility in the fourth paragraph. Senator Dorman stated that he had already discussed with the Communications Committee the context of the first paragraph. Senator Mills replied that in fact the Communications Committee had worked on the Newsletter but also allowed Senator Dorman to do the majority of the work.

Senator Wright moved to amend the amendment to the resolution to be changed from:

- 1) "Newsletter" to "Communications", and
- 4) remove "not only" and "but also....."

The amendments to the amendment were seconded by Senator Murphy.

Discussion followed.

Senator Wesolowski called for the question. The vote on the amendments to the amendment was taken. The amendments passed.

Discussion followed.

Senator Blume made a motion to postpone definitely till next Senate meeting the vote on this resolution. The motion was seconded. The vote was taken and the motion failed.

Senator Dorman stated that the Senate normally pays for the Newsletter. He himself has paid for the Newsletter simply to avoid censorship.

Vote on the amended amendment to the resolution was taken. The amended amendment passed.

The resolution was brought to discussion. Senator Wesolowski stated that he had some difficulty with the language in the resolution. Discussion followed.

The question was called for and the vote was taken. The resolution passed as amended.

NEW BUSINESS:

Senator Murphy asked Senator Veenker to present his motions on General Education. Senator Veenker stated that the Task Force Report was in the hands of the General Education Committee at the Academic Council. The General Education Committee is soliciting advice from all over campus and whatever the Senate decides on this proposal will be viewed as advice.

Senator Veenker moved that the Senate consider advising the General Education Committee at the Academic Council to consider adding these six items (see handout) to the proposed General Education Task Force Report.

Senator Veenker made the first reading of the proposal (see handout).

DISCUSSION followed.

Senator Murphy declared this first reading to end. He also announced that at the next meeting discussion would be continued and votes would be taken. Members of the faculty addressed their concerns to the Senate.

Senator Cruze moved that the Faculty Senate poll Western Kentucky University faculty in order to get an overview of their opinion concerning General Education.

DISCUSSION followed.

Senator Murphy due, to the lack of time, called for questions after the first reading. There were no objections. The motion was voted on and passed.

Senator Murphy adjourned the meeting.