

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

October 12, 1989

Chair White called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. The minutes of the September 14 meeting were accepted with corrections. The following senators were absent without observers: Sandra Ardrey, Gordon Jones, Daniel Myers, Cynthia Trumbo, Jo Ann Verner.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee: The president has asked the chair to recommend ten names from the Senate of which five will be chosen to serve on the Western 2000 committee. This committee will look at the future of the university. Interested senators may contact the chair. The president contacted the chair following the last article in the Courier Journal about his first year at Western and felt that the chair's comments were not representative of the faculty. Hence, along with concurrence of the Senate Executive Committee, a proposal will be coming to the Senate body regarding the establishment of an Ad Hoc Committee to study the faculty climate on campus. In the future, the Faculty Status and Welfare Committee will be forwarding the Ad Hoc Committee proposal. The President's draft of the department head/chair has a short response time period so it will be discussed today. The Senate membership and committee composition is not complete yet pending one more election.

By-Laws, Amendments, & Elections Committee: Senator Yungbluth reported that Steven White is a new senator from the Department of Accounting for the at-large position in the College of Business Administration and a member of the By-Laws, Amendments, and Elections Committee. Susan Gore was elected in the Department of Library Public Services as senator and will also serve on the Communications Committee and Executive Committee. One election remains to be conducted and that is in the Department of Educational Leadership. A corrected Faculty Regent's eligibility list is out. To date Eugene Evans has been nominated and the last date for receiving nominations is October 17. The Faculty Regent's election will be November 2 in the dean's offices. Absentee ballots will be available on October 23 and due back by October 30. A university I.D. is required to vote and senators are to post reminders of the voting date.

Academic Affairs Committee: A question on the Economic Development Center was presented. If a professor is involved heavily in consulting and the teaching load is affected will a replacement be available to cover the teaching? Dr. House who oversees the center said the teaching load would be covered with a replacement person.

Faculty Status & Welfare Committee: Senator Rasdall reported that the faculty salary study is underway. A hearing on health insurance will be available during late November or early December. Bids are being received from carriers.

Professional Responsibilities & Concerns Committee: Senator Wesolowski reported that the committee will meet a week from today on October 19. A discussion of these topics will occur: review of administration units beyond the department level, policies and procedures for faculty grievances, procedures for faculty evaluation, limitation of enrollment size, and elected versus department administrators. This is an open meeting for all senators.

Faculty Regent's Report: Regent Evans reported that he attended a conference on September 17 and 18 with other board members. This workshop was sponsored by the Council on Higher Education. One topic of discussion was on academic quality. Admission standards were discussed as one way to raise academic quality. An assessment program of universities by the Council was discussed. Kentucky Senator Ed O'Daniel reported that expenditures for the first year of the next biennium would exceed revenues by 216 million dollars. If revenues are not raised, higher education will not get much. At the Faculty Regent's advisory meeting with the Council on Higher Education staff, a discussion centered on remedial work involved on campuses. This issue will be addressed in the near future. In a recent statement by the governor, he wants the community colleges to receive increased funding. The Council on Higher Education had planned within the next two bienniums to bring community colleges up to parity. The council staff thought that the governor would make an effort to increase funding for higher education. The council staff was not going to recommend any additional requests by universities for faculty salaries.

New Business

1. The Resolution on the Formation of an Ad Hoc Committee was tabled until the next meeting.
2. The Resolution on the Head/Chair Issue was presented. A response to the President's Draft is due by October 16. The Senate Executive Committee has proposed this resolution for consideration by the Senate body. In the past, the Senate has supported the concept of department chairs as presented by the Ad Hoc University Committee on Implementation. A motion to accept the resolution on one reading was made and seconded. A brief history of the department head/chair issue was presented by Senator Hackney. Two amendments to the resolution were made but defeated. The original resolution was approved by a vote of 38 in favor and one opposed.
3. The Resolution on Faculty Salaries was presented for the first reading. Motion made and seconded.

Announcement

The December meeting of the Senate has been changed from December 14 to December 7 because of final exam week.

The meeting adjourned at 5 p.m.