

Call to Order

A special session of the Senate XVII was called to order by Chair Dietle at 3:31. John Barnum substituted for Corban Goble, Doug Mooney for Barry Brunson, M. B. Lucuas for Lou-Ann Crouther, Betty Fulwood for Louella Fong, Ed Yaeger for Chris Hamilton, and Carol Graham for Zubair Mohamed. Absent without alternates were Reza Ahsan, Matthew Dettman, Ed Dorman, Charles Hays, Barbara Kacer, David Kelsey, Terry Leeper, Glenn Lohr, Bill Meadors, Rudy Prins, David Stiles, Samanta Thapa, Bart White, Eileen Williams, and James Worthington.

Reasons for calling a special session (Robert Dietle)

A recent addition to the agenda of the Board of Regents meeting on 2-25-93 deals with a 4-year extension of football coach Harbaugh's. Since neither the budget committee nor the Board of Regents have discussed the football program this raises some concern. Questions dealing with the issue of whether football should be continued and/or at what level have not been addressed. Judging from the reaction of coach Harbaugh to Vice President Haynes' statement concerning to move to non-scholarship football, it seems that those questions also were not addressed between President Meredith and coach Harbaugh. The issue at stake is the level of football which WKU should support. The football program has not met the requirements set up for its continuation and the question should be openly discussed again.

The meeting was called to give the Faculty Senate the possibility to express its opinion which can then be forwarded to the Board of Regents at their meeting tomorrow.

General Business

President Meredith assured Chair Dietle that offering coach Harbaugh a 4-year extension of his contract had no implication that football will continue to exist for the next 4 years at Western. It is not clear whether the contract specifies what coach Harbaugh would do in case that football is abolished. It is not clear why a discussed 2-year extension is now a 4-year extension.

Senator Bussey made the following motion:

The WKU faculty Senate urges the WKU board of regents to adopt a non-grant-in-aid program in football as soon as possible.

Bob Pusinelli pointed out that for the \$490000 allocated to football, only about \$139000 are "real" money. The remaining money accounts for the tuition and housing of the football players.

Several Senators agreed that the motion was more a symbolic move, indicating that some serious changes are necessary, rather than a fiscal move which would save a lot of money. Moving to grant-in-aid football should not cause problems with minority enrollment, since some of the money can be used to attract more and better students.

The motion passed on a show of hands (20 to 13).

Senator Ziegler made the following motion:

The WKU Faculty Senate urges the WKU board of regents to bold off making decisions with a potentially long-term impact on the budget without the budget being worked out to a large extent.

The motion passed on a show of hand (21 to 8).

Announcements

The meeting of the Board of Regents is on 2-25-94 at 2:00. The academic and the budget/finance committee of the Board will meet at 1:00 and 1:15, respectively. All these meetings are held in the Regents Room and attendance by faculty would underscore our interest in their actions.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:22.

Respectfully submitted by Uta Ziegler