SENATE REJECTS WAIVER OF OUT-OF-STATE FEES
Margaret Howe
Ed Dorman

Comments from the Chair

Chairperson Krenzin expressed appreciation for the enthusiastic support of Senate members and other faculty throughout the year. The high level of motivation evidenced has resulted in many positive gains for the Institution.

Executive Committee.

Senator Weigel reminded all Committee Chairpersons that end-of-year reports are to be handed to Chairperson Krenzin by April 21st.

Academic Affairs Committee.

Senators were handed a list of 37 possible areas of concern within academic affairs and were asked by Senator Schneider to rank these items on a scale of 1-5 and return them to EST 242 by April 15th.

By-Laws, Amendments, and Elections Committee.

Senator Pauline Jones introduced the new at-large senators for each college. She announced that a list of newly constituted committees would be circulated in the near future.

Committee on Committees.

Senator Ruff announced that the following persons had been selected to form the Committee to Review Current Procedures for Handling Financial Exigency and Program Changes:

- Dr. James Davis, Chairperson
- Mr. Harry Largen
- Ms. Pat Bowen
- Dr. Carl Kreisler
- Dr. Robert Nelson
- Dr. Herbert Shadowen
- Dr. Richard Troutman
- Dr. Kyle Wallace

Faculty Status and Welfare Committee.

Senator Murphy circulated to senators copies of a 53 page document entitled "Study of Individual Salaries at WKU." Copies of this document are available through the departmental senator. Faculty are invited to consult these at any time.

Fiscal Affairs Committee.

Senator Hoyt circulated a document relating to employment classification at WKU. Copies are available through the departmental senator.

ASG-Senate Reception Committee.

Senator Bowen called attention to the College Heights Herald article which reported on this reception. There were 45 people in attendance, and faculty outnumbered students 3-1. The discussions were thought to be interesting and effective, and plans are underway for a similar consultation in the fall semester. Senator Bowen thanked those faculty who attended and regretted that some were not able to be present.
Political Action Committee.

Senator Robe said that this committee is working on long range, less crisis-oriented interactions with legislators. Faculty will be kept informed concerning people who are running for office. A tentative date has been set for meeting informally with some legislators: April 22nd at 3:10 p.m., on campus.

Committee on Review and Evaluation of Units in Academic Affairs.

Senator Dorman gave a report on the progress of this committee. He stated that this evaluation is not intended to supplant, or interfere with, the Faculty Senate evaluations of administrators, and that the committee had voted to reject all of the evaluative items on pages 5-25 of the draft version produced by an ad hoc committee of the Council of Academic Deans.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

Senator Seeger read a reworded version of the resolution asking the Board of Regents to reconsider the waiver of out-of-state fees for students in nearby counties of Tennessee and Indiana. This resolution had been accepted for first reading at the last Senate meeting. He cited statistics demonstrating a decline in enrollment from the affected regions of Tennessee and Indiana.

President Zacharias responded that he was willing to ask the Board of Regents to reconsider this matter, but that their previous consideration had not been casual; it had been recognized and accepted that there would be a decline in enrollment from the affected regions. He asked Paul Cook and Harry Largen to report on the financial aspects of the matter.

Dr. Cook summarized the history of the out-of-state fee waivers. He pointed out that the waivers did not come about as a result of a reciprocity agreement with Tennessee and Indiana. He yielded to Harry Largen for a discussion of the financial consequences of retaining the waiver.

Mr. Largen explained that, whereas the Council of Higher Education had, in the past, assumed in its calculation that out-of-state students were paying fees at the resident rate, this is no longer the case; they now assume that these students are paying at the non-resident rate. As a consequence, the waiving of out-of-state fees, for these students, would impose a serious financial burden on the university. In response to a question from Senator Humphrey, Mr. Largen stated that the increase in fee rate would more than make up for the decrease in number of students from these regions.

Senator Seeger moved the acceptance of the resolution. The motion was defeated.

NEW BUSINESS.

Senator Glaser, in a first reading, asked the Senate to endorse the concept of Institutional Progress Testing, in the following form:

The Faculty Senate of Western Kentucky University recommends as a step toward documenting the quality of our institution and as a piece of essential educational research that Western adopt a program of testing to measure the progress of our students over their undergraduate careers in such basic knowledge and skills as mathematics, English, social and behavioral studies, and physical sciences. A progress testing program is of the first importance if we are ever to objectively demonstrate our educational effectiveness or take informed steps toward academic improvement.

In the ensuing discussion, questions were raised regarding the number of student
to whom the tests would be given, the role of general education and preprofessional courses in the "progress" of students, whether we should make up our own test or use a nation-wide test, whether the Graduate Record Examination should be required of all graduating seniors, whether the humanities would be adequately represented on the test, and whether the adoption of such a test might not become prescriptive of course content, resulting in faculty "teaching to the test."

Senator Robe moved that the Chairperson of the Senate write a letter of appreciation to legislators who have supported higher education. (See the second announcement below.)

Faculty Regent Report.

Regent Buckman reported to the Senate on the Price-Waterhouse Report I, and showed slides of financial tables taken from the report. He emphasized that, in the future, we will have to account strictly for what we spend, and what we get for it. He also pointed out predicted declines in enrollment for all Kentucky Universities, from the present to 1995.

Regent Buckman expressed gratitude to Representative Pete Worthington for sponsoring House Bill 411, enabling faculty (with the support of their employer) to tax shelter all their retirement funds. He suggested that the Senate thank Worthington for his efforts.

Regent Buckman also expressed appreciation of the Kiwanis Club for working in support of higher education.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

President Zacharias announced that the reorganization of the Council on Higher Education would go into effect on Saturday (April 10).

Concerned faculty may write letters of appreciation to the following legislators and others who have supported us:

- Senator Frank Miller (Route 5, Box 248, Bowling Green)
- Senator Joseph Prather (No. 1, Oakwood Drive, Vine Grove, KY 40175)
- Representative Bobby Richardson (4 Forrest Hills, Glasgow, KY 42141)
- Representative Billy Ray Smith (Route 8, Box 374, Barren River Road, Bowling Green)
- Representative Jody Richards (1022 Ridgecrest Drive, Bowling Green)
- Representative Pete Worthington (Route 1, Box 131, Ewing, KY 41039)
- Mr. James Walker (Kiwanis Club, P.O. Box 13, Bowling Green)
- President Donald Zacharias

THROUGH THE PRICE-WATERHOUSE REPORT WITH GUN AND CAMERA--Joan Krenzin

The first phase of the Price-Waterhouse study has been completed, and a report has been sent to each state-supported university and college. This phase looks at state-supported education as a whole. The second phase (now underway) will offer suggestions for achieving more efficient operation in the individual institutions.

Many aspects of this report are of interest to Western's faculty, but this article will attempt to look at only a few key items.

Probably, the concern about which we're hearing the most right now is that of unnecessary duplicative programs. This concern originated with the Council on Higher Education, but Price-Waterhouse is more specific in its definition. The report points out that 59 bachelor's programs listed with the CHE graduated no students in 1980. An additional 174 graduated between one and nine students; 90
of these are located less than an hour's drive from another, similar, state-supported program. The accompanying map (see page 5) shows the overlap of areas when a circle of 55 mile radius is drawn around each of the state universities. (UK is the one with no territory that doesn't overlap the territory of another institution.) We can take comfort in our geographical isolation only if the CHE considers that to be a determining factor in their program slashing. Don't count on it!

Graduate programs are not expected to have as many students as undergraduate programs; it is thought that there ought to be at least 15 graduate students enrolled in the program, with 5 graduating each year. Sixty-nine of the state's graduate programs do not meet these criteria, and 24 of these are within 55 miles of a similar program.

The Price-Waterhouse Report suggests consideration of several practical criteria for judging the productivity of academic programs:

1. number of program graduates,
2. student enrollment,
3. size of classes and cost of core courses,
4. cost per program graduate,
5. faculty workload,
6. program quality (including the employment experience of program graduates),
7. comparative analysis of program graduate productivity with similar programs in the region,
8. economies or improvements in quality to be achieved through program consolidation or elimination,
9. general student interest and demand trends,
10. appropriateness of the program, given the institutional mission.

In addition to these factors, Price-Waterhouse suggest that other, ameliorative, considerations should be taken into account in the decision-making process:

1. the interrelationship of different degree programs can sometimes mask the true productivity of an individual program;
2. a variety of sound educational policies exist which mandate the offering of certain programs regardless of their graduate productivity;
3. certain programs, in addition to producing graduates of their own, support other programs of instruction.

Further discussion in the report centered around the wide variation in the average costs of educating students in various fields. The non-tuition-supported cost of producing one "bachelor's degree graduate varies by up to 97 per cent depending on student enrollment, equipment needed, and special educational or certification requirements associated with the major discipline".

Harry Robe should be pleased to note that additional support has been given to his statements to legislators that the wrong schools have been selected as benchmarks. The report states, "our analysis has shown that some of these benchmark institutions have program and enrollment patterns which differ significantly from their Kentucky counterparts." The Political Action Committee has pointed out that comparing Western to schools half its size, while comparing UK to schools several times its size, has distorted the Council's view of appropriate needs and goals. Even with the distortion, however, the report states, "for both state appropriations and total institutional revenues, most Kentucky schools have lower funding
TABLE V-9
INSTITUTIONAL COVERAGE

STATE UNIVERSITIES
A. Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond
B. Kentucky State University, Frankfort
C. Morehead State University, Morehead
D. Murray State University, Murray
E. Northern Kentucky State, Covington
F. University of Kentucky, Lexington
G. University of Louisville, Louisville
H. Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green
TABLE III-8
ACTUAL AND PROJECTED NUMBER OF
'HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES AND NUMBER OF
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES ENTERING COLLEGE'

NUMBER OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

NUMBER OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES
GOING TO COLLEGE

1 Holding Power and Graduates, May, 1980, Kentucky Department of Education, Office of Research and Planning. Includes both public and private high schools; projections from 1981 to 1995 are based on the Kentucky Council on Higher Education projections.
TABLE III. 9
PROJECTED CHANGE IN AVAILABLE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES BY TRADITIONALLY ATTENDED UNIVERSITIES (FROM 1981 TO 1990)

1. Data provided by the Kentucky Council on Higher Education.
levels than the average of the benchmark schools for comparative programs."

Population studies included in the report paint a bleak picture of the future. The charts on pages 6 and 7 show how the decreasing supply of teenagers is expected to affect us.

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