

REGULAR MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE

DECEMBER 2, 1996

MINUTES

Senators excused were: Steve Bennett, Anna Bryan, David Ermann, John Gallagher, Steven Helmling, William Idsardi, Jeffrey Jordan, Leslie Reidel, Leonard Schwartz, Carolyn Thoroughgood, J. Herbert Waite

Senators absent were: Shawn Phillips, Roland Smith

I. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was approved as modified by moving the election to the beginning of the meeting, and as amended by means of a modification of the agenda distributed by campus mail.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The Minutes of the November 4, 1996 meeting were approved as distributed.

III. REMARKS BY PROVOST SCHIAVELLI

There were no remarks.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Palley announced that there would be no January meeting of the Senate, and that the February meeting would take place on the second Monday, February 10. She also announced that the Senate Committee on Committees and Nominations had constituted a new General Education Committee, to be chaired by Professor Carol Hoffeecker. She conveyed a request from Professor Hoffeecker for input from Senate members.

Ballots for election of someone to fill a one semester position on the Committee on Committees and Nominations were filled out and collected. Jon Olson was elected.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR CHALLENGE

The following three announcements were accepted, after clarification concerning the role of Computer Science 105 under Item 1:

1. Revision of the Bachelor of Electrical Engineering (BEE)
2. Revision of the Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering (BME)
3. Revision of the Master of Instruction

V. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. The recommendation of the Committee on Graduate Studies with the concurrence of the Coordinating Committee on Education, to extend the provisional status of the Ph.D. Program in Art Conservation was approved as stated in the resolution below:

WHEREAS, the Ph.D. Program in Art Conservation Research will have students complete dissertations in this academic year, and

WHEREAS, the 1995 external review of this program indicated the importance of such dissertations before making the provisional program permanent, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the provisional status of the Ph.D. in Art Conservation Research be extended to the Fall of 1997, and be it further

RESOLVED, that in the Fall of 1997, the Committee on Graduate Studies will reconsider the issue

of permanent status and forward its recommendation to the Coordinating Committee on Education for action by the Faculty Senate during the 1997-98 academic year.

- B. The recommendation of the Committee on Undergraduate Studies to amend the Undergraduate Catalog by inserting a new policy on academic dismissal was approved as in the resolution stated below:

WHEREAS, the University policy currently states that "Academic probation or dismissal may result when a student index for any semester drops below 1.25, or when the quality point deficit is more than 12.99 points," and

WHEREAS, it is difficult to justify dropping students from the University based on one term's performance if their cumulative GPA is 2.0 or better, and

WHEREAS, the practice of dropping students based on a one term index only has not been followed for years in any of the colleges, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the policy for academic dismissal located in the Undergraduate Catalog, under "Scholastic Standing," Probation, paragraph 4, page 16, be revised as follows: [Underlined words are to be deleted]

Probation: When a baccalaureate degree candidate has a cumulative grade-point index below 2.0, the Committee on Undergraduate Records and Certification places the student on Academic Probation if the quality-point deficit is 12.99 or less. Upon the recommendation of the appropriate college dean, the committee may place a student on probation if the index for any semester is 1.25 or less, even if the cumulative index is above a 2.0.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

that page 17 of the Undergraduate Catalog, under Procedure for Readmission of Undergraduate Students Dismissed for Academic Deficiency be revised as follows: [Underlined words are to be deleted]

Undergraduates may be dismissed for academic deficiency when their index for any semester is less than 1.25 or when the quality-point deficit is more than 12.99 points.....

Robert Taggart, Chairperson of the Committee on Undergraduate Studies, explained that the policy being recommended was the policy currently being used by the administrators of the undergraduate colleges.

- C. A "Sense of the Senate Resolution" concerning current searches, introduced by Professor Victor Martuza, Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Diversity and Affirmative Action, was returned to the committee after debate. In his presentation of the resolution, Chairperson Martuza noted the total absence of minority incumbents among major academic administrators and the limited pool of minority candidates in the pool when the search is internal to the University.

Salient points raised in the discussion of the resolution were questions of precedent for such a resolution; information that there has been an increase in the percent of African-Americans in the EEO category of Executive/Administrative while the percent of African-Americans among faculty has actually declined; suggestions from several Senators that it would be unfortunate to redo

the searches for the Deans of the new colleges at this point in their development; a suggestion that the three resolutions be acted upon separately; a request for clarification as to whether the resolution actually calls for external searches in every future search, and whether "external searches" as understood by the committee could include internal candidates (the answer to both questions was yes). A motion to return the resolution as stated below to the Faculty Senate Committee on Diversity and Affirmative Action was adopted by a vote of 31 to 17 with 4 abstentions:

- WHEREAS, the University of Delaware has recently reaffirmed its commitment to its long-standing Affirmative Action Policy, and
- WHEREAS, the University of Delaware has never had a minority college dean and internal searches tend to restrict the pool of highly qualified minority candidates, and
- WHEREAS, financial exigency has not been given as the reason for adopting internal search procedures at this time, be it therefore
- RESOLVED, that the current internal searches for the two Dean positions for the two new merged colleges be used to identify interim appointments only, and be it further
- RESOLVED, that national searches be initiated no later than September 1, 1997 to identify the best leadership for the new colleges. and be it further
- RESOLVED, that extraordinary efforts be instituted to identify and encourage applications from outstanding internal and external minority candidates in all present and future search efforts for both administrators and faculty.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Dilley
Secretary
University Faculty Senate

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