

MINUTES OF MAY 11, 1992 MEETING

Senators not in attendance were: Robert Knecht, Peter Lomtevas, Michelle Provost-Craig, Alfred Wedel

Senators excused were: Costel Denson, Alexander Doberenz, Reed Geiger, James Hawk, Patricia Haynor, Douglas Miller, Henry Nyce, Betty Paulanka, Larry Peterson, John Pikulski, Leslie Reidel, Daniel Rich, David P. Roselle, Carolyn Thoroughgood

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Taggart announced that William Gerhlein's name was inadvertently omitted from the list of new members to be confirmed at the May 4 meeting and should be added as a member of the Committee on Promotions and Tenure. He reiterated notice for the Open Hearing on the Master of Instruction Program in Economic Education. Finally, he thanked all retiring Senators.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Item H. Recommendation from the Committee on Instructional, Computing and Research Support Services (R. Wilson, Chairperson), setting forth a Policy for Responsible Computing at the University of Delaware. After a friendly amendment to change the language of the second resolution from "will modify" to "may modify," the Senators questioned the relation between the proposed Policy and the Guidelines, especially insofar as the Resolution refers to judicial procedures that are not included in the Policy, but are in the Guidelines which are not submitted for approval by the Senate. The Senate approved the Committee's first two resolutions as follows:

WHEREAS, the Committee on Instructional, Computing and Research Support Services began work on this task in 1989, and

WHEREAS, the Committee has interacted with various faculty, student, administrative and professional staff groups, and

WHEREAS, the University must be diligent to protect itself from liability from computer misuse, and

WHEREAS, the responsible use of computer utilization is essential within the University community and the selected misuse of computers is contrary to the mission of the University, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Policy for Responsible Computing at the University be adopted by the University Faculty Senate and that the Policy be inserted in the Faculty Handbook in

Section III, page III-Z-3, paragraph Z.1., (moving the present paragraph Z.1., "Acquisition of Computer Hardware, Software, or Associated Computing Services" to Z.2.) and be it further

RESOLVED, that each unit of the University may modify the Guidelines for Implementing the Policy for Responsible Computing at the University of Delaware to meet their individual unit needs, and be it further

The Senate referred the third resolution treating the issue of judicial policy back to the Committee.

RESOLVED, that the judicial processes outlined within the policy and the guidelines will be followed.

Item I. Report and recommendations from the Greek Life Task Force (D. Sperry, Chairperson). The Faculty Senate discussed the virtues of eliminating pledging and the amount of transition time the resolution proposes, and passed the following resolution:

#### RESOLUTION 1

WHEREAS, that students seeking membership in Greek organizations will benefit by terminating the pledging process, and

WHEREAS, the faculty of the University of Delaware have the responsibility for student welfare, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that The Official Student Handbook of the University of Delaware be modified by the 1994-1995 academic year to limit the pledging period of all officially recognized student organizations to not more than four weeks, and be it further

RESOLVED, that The Official Student Handbook of the University of Delaware be modified by the 1997-1998 academic year to state that organizations having a pledging process or pledge status for prospective members will be denied official recognition, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the national Greek organizations with local chapters at the University of Delaware and those seeking official status for local chapters be informed of this impending permanent change at the University of Delaware.

The second resolution set minimum grade point and other requirements for

membership in a Greek organization. The Faculty Senate passed the following resolution:

## RESOLUTION 2

and WHEREAS, the first priority of students must be academic matters,

WHEREAS, students also have an obligation for responsible social conduct, and

WHEREAS, Greek organizations will benefit from more stringent membership requirements, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the University Faculty Senate requests the Panhellenic, Interfraternity, and National Pan Hellenic Councils adopt new minimum criteria for students seeking to join local chapters of Greek organizations, and be it further

RESOLVED, that students seeking to join local chapters of Greek organizations must have completed successfully 12 credit hours at the University of Delaware, and be it further

of RESOLVED, that students seeking to join local chapters of Greek organizations must also have a minimum cumulative index 2.33 (C+), and be it further

RESOLVED, that students seeking to join local chapters of Greek organizations must also be free of all current judicial sanctions imposed by the University's student judicial system, and be it further

RESOLVED, that these minimum criteria be in effect at the start of the 1993-1994 academic year.

The third resolution proposed a monitoring system for Greek organizations. The Faculty Senate discussed at length the mechanism of this monitoring, what aspects of Greek life will be monitored, who is responsible for it, and providing for a meaningful basis of comparison between students in the Greek system and others. After three friendly amendments changing language, adding a provision for a mechanism of comparison and a proviso requiring the Committee to report its system back to the Senate, and after passage of an amendment shifting the responsibility for designing such a system from the Dean of Students to an Ad Hoc Senate Committee named specifically for this purpose, the Senate passed the following resolutions, (with changes):

## RESOLUTION 3

WHEREAS, the University of Delaware should have a comprehensive  
disciplinary system for monitoring the academic performance,  
problems, and conduct of all students, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Committee on Committees and Nominations appoint  
an Ad Hoc Task Force that will design a system of record  
keeping that will allow, among other things, an accurate  
and impartial measure of each Greek organization's  
collective profile and the collective profile of the  
general student composition for a statistically  
significant basis of comparison, and that a draft  
collective profile be reported back to the Faculty Senate  
for approval and implementation, and be it further, and  
be it further

RESOLVED, that the Administration provide sufficient resources to  
enable the Office of the Dean of Students to establish  
and maintain such a record system once established and  
approved by the Faculty Senate.

The Faculty Senate passed Resolution 4 which proposes a mechanism for  
the periodic review of organizations in the Greek system:

#### RESOLUTION 4

WHEREAS, all organizations benefit from long-range planning and  
periodic assessment of strengths and weaknesses, therefore  
be it

RESOLVED, that a process of periodic review of all local chapters  
of Greek organizations be established, the format and  
schedule for such reviews to be determined by  
representatives from the Office of the Dean of Students  
and the Interfraternity, Panhellenic, and National Pan  
Hellenic Councils, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the first review of the local chapter of each Greek  
organization shall be completed by the 1997-1998 academic  
year, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Office of the Dean of Students establish a  
procedure for collating and summarizing the information  
regarding local chapters so it is available to governing  
or decision-making bodies reviewing the status of Greek  
life at the University of Delaware, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Administration provide sufficient resources to  
enable the Office of the Dean of Students to undertake  
and complete such reviews on an ongoing basis.

The Faculty Senate considered Resolution 5 which requires the Dean of Students and the Vice President of Student Affairs to review and modify existing University criteria used to identify and officially recognize Greek organizations. After discussing issues of potential University liability for more liberal recognition policies and the fairness of the current procedures, the Faculty Senate passed the following resolution:

#### RESOLUTION 5

WHEREAS, the existing procedures for expanding the local Greek system encourage groups of students to exist and operate outside of reasonable rules and regulations guiding student behavior and protecting student welfare, and

WHEREAS, groups of students have a right to promote their common interest by being registered student organizations subject to reasonable, equitable, and defined limits, and

WHEREAS, the existing Greek councils representing local registered chapters must be accountable to explain their expansion decisions, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Offices of the Dean of Students and of the Vice President for Student Affairs cooperate to review and modify existing University criteria, procedures and policies used to identify registered student organizations in order to incorporate Greek-interest groups, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Offices of the Dean of Students and of the Vice President for Student Affairs, with the cooperation of the Panhellenic, Interfraternity, and National Pan Hellenic Councils, establish reasonable and fair procedures that direct the development of Greek- interest groups towards full University recognition.

Resolution 6 proposed to terminate the house monitor experiment. After the Faculty Senate discussed the reasons for terminating, the experiment's flaws, and whether another mechanism should be instituted, the resolution was amended to provide for the creation of another Ad Hoc

Senate committee to report to the Senate with a more viable house monitor proposal. After passing the amendment, the Senate approved the following resolution (with changes):

#### RESOLUTION 6

WHEREAS, the house monitor "experiment" instituted by the University Faculty Senate in the spring of 1991 is inadequate to the

tasks for which it was intended, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the University Faculty Senate terminate the house monitor "experiment" immediately and that the Committee

on

Committees and Nominations be instructed to create an Ad Hoc Task Force to report to the Senate next year with a new proposal on the house monitor concept.

After discussion of the appropriateness of specifically mentioning the Office of Women's Affairs as part of a periodic review mechanism, the Faculty Senate passed the following resolution:

#### RESOLUTION 7

WHEREAS, periodic and equitable reviews of Greek organizations will be conducted, and

WHEREAS, reviews of these organizations will allow for determining that these organizations operate in accordance with the University's goals for student development, and

WHEREAS, establishing that an organization is not willing to operate or capable of operating in accordance with the University's goals for student development could be used to deny recognition to or withdraw recognition from student organizations, and

WHEREAS, the Faculty have the responsibility to set the course of student development and to protect student welfare, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the University Faculty Senate asks the President of the University of Delaware to institute a policy of granting renewable charters to Greek organizations, and

be

it further

RESOLVED, that official recognition of Greek organizations be based on their performance determined by periodic review, and

be

it further

RESOLVED, that the University Faculty Senate Committee on Student Life and representatives from the Offices of the Dean of Students, of Women's Affairs, and of the Vice President for Student Affairs establish procedures for making recommendations to the President of the University of Delaware regarding the initial application of, or the re-application of, Greek organizations seeking charters at the University of Delaware, and be it further

RESOLVED, that this policy take effect in the 1997-1998 academic year.

The Faculty Senate approved Resolution 8:

RESOLUTION 8

WHEREAS, the changes proposed by the Greek Life Task Force are diverse and far reaching, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the University Faculty Senate establish a new task force in the academic year 1997-1998 to re-evaluate the status of Greek life at the University of Delaware and to determine the effectiveness of all of the recommendations of the 1991-1992 Greek Life Task Force and to propose their continuation, modification, or elimination.

President Taggart adjourned the meeting at 5:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Roof  
Senate Secretary

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Attachment: Annual Committee Reports