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Faculty Senate meeting minutes: 12/10/2001

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TO: FACULTY SENATE
FROM: JOHN G. FLYM, SECRETARY, FACULTY SENATE
SUBJECT: MINUTES, 2001-2002 FACULTY SENATE, 10 DECEMBER 2001

Present: (Professors) Aroian, Baclawski, Barnes, Bobcean, Bruns, Flym, Giessen, Gilmore, Hall, Herman, Hope, Kane, Levine, Lowndes, Naylor, Platt, Powers-Lee, Rotella, Rupert, Shafai, Sullivan, Vaughn, Wallin, Wertheim, Willey, Wray
(Administrators) Hall, Greene, Mantella, Meservey, Onan, Pantalone, Pendergast, Putnam, Rigg, Zoloth

Absent: (Professors) Boisse, Fox, Gilbert, Kelleher, Metghalchi

Convened by Provost Hall at 11:52 a.m.

I. **Minutes.** The minutes of 29 October were approved. The minutes of 22 October were in progress and, as a courtesy, will go to the President for review before being distributed.

II. **SAC Report.** Professor Lowndes gave the following report.

1. **Meetings.**

SAC has met five times in regular session since the last Senate meeting. In addition, SAC had a meeting with the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees, a meeting with the President and the Provost concerning the search for the new Dean of the School of Law, and a meeting with the President concerning the search for the new Provost.

The meeting with the Trustees focused on three items: their commitment to the goal of attaining top-100 status as a national research university; the possibility of one or meetings between Senate faculty and the Trustees, and the possibility of the Senate Agenda Committee and Financial Affairs Committee meeting with the Trustees' Financial Affairs Committee.

2. **Dean of the School of Law Faculty Selection Committee.**

The committee is staffed and under way. The members are:

Elected from the School of Law:

Professor Daniel Givelber, Committee Chair
Professor James Rowan
Associate Dean Diane Tsoulas
Professor Lucy Williams

Appointed by SAC:

Professor Patricia Illingworth, Philosophy and Religion Department
Professor Jane Scarborough, School of Law

Professor Simon Singer*, College of Criminal Justice
Janet Smith, Trustee and Alumna
Professor Mishac Yegian, Civil and Environmental Engineering Department

Student Representatives:

Ms. Katherine Grainger, School of Law
Mr. David Gomes, School of Law

Provost Office Liaison:

Dean Jack Greene, College of Criminal Justice (non-voting)

Professor Platt will serve as the SAC Liaison to the Committee.

* Professor Singer has replaced Professor Fox who has stepped down in order to serve on the Provost Faculty Selection Committee.

3. Provost Faculty Selection Committee.

Since the last Senate meeting, the university community received the surprising announcement that Provost Hall will be stepping down. Professor Lowndes expressed appreciation for Dr. Hall's service as Provost, and for the dignity and integrity that have characterized his term as Provost. He also thanked him for, among many contributions, his initiatives involving the action and assessment plan, practice-oriented education, a very full-fledged program this year on retention, and his commitment to diversity. The Senators joined Professor Lowndes in applause.

Professor Lowndes announced that SAC has staffed the Provost Faculty Selection Committee and it will meet for the first time and receive its charge from President Freeland on December 11. Members are:

Wesley W. Marple, Jr., Committee Chair, Professor, Finance and Insurance
Gilda A. Barabino, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education
Clare Dalton, Matthews Distinguished University Professor, School of Law
Erin Dayharsh, President, Student Government Association
Harriet J. Fell, Professor, College of Computer Science
James A. Fox, Lipman Family Professor, College of Criminal Justice
David Gomes, VP Academic Affairs, Graduate Professional Students Association
Daryl A. Hellman, Professor, Economics Department
Philomena V. Mantella, Vice President for Enrollment Management
Jorge V. Jose, Matthews Distinguished University Professor, Physics Department
Albert Sacco, Jr., Snell Chair and Professor, Chemical Engineering Department
Robert R. Tillman, Associate Professor, Cooperative Education
Stephen R. Zoloth, Dean, Bouvé College of Health Sciences

Professor Lowndes will serve as the SAC Liaison to the Committee.

4. Faculty Senate *Ad Hoc* Committee on Athletics.

Members are:

Professor Gregory H. Wassall, Economics Department, Committee Chair
Professor Richard A. Katula, Communications Studies Department
Professor James J. Maroney, Accounting Group
Ian McCaw, Director of Athletics
Professor Bahram Shafai, Electrical and Computer Engineering Department
Professor Michael G. Turner, College of Criminal Justice
Professor William E. Wray, Cooperative Education

Professor Fox will serve as the SAC liaison to the Committee.

The Agenda Committee asked the Committee to address the following charge and to present its report, in hard copy and electronic form, to the Senate Agenda Committee by no later than March 15, 2002:

- A. Based on a detailed analysis of revenues (including donations) and expenses (salaries, facilities, operational expense, support service, scholarships, etc.), provide a cost-benefit analysis of all major sports programs (defined as those which provide scholarships) on a program-by-program basis.
- B. On a similar program-by-program basis, provide a detailed report on student-athletes' academic achievement, and retention and graduation rates.
- C. Based on these analyses, develop recommendations on how NU athletics programs can most effectively contribute to the University's goal of attaining top-100 status. These recommendations can include the extent to which investments or budget reallocations (within athletics) might differentially advance the status of the University and expand its name recognition among potential student applicants and, in addition, contribute to higher retention rates.

3. **Merit Raises and Equity**

The Committee on Funding Priorities has completed its deliberations and has made its report to the Budget Committee. The deliberations and the report are deemed confidential. The SAC Chair and Professors Born, Wallin, and Willey of the Financial Affairs Committee served as members of the Committee and made a presentation to it in line with the three resolutions on merit raises and equity adjustments passed at the October 29 Faculty Senate meeting. The case was bolstered by significant additional data (determined since the Financial Affairs Committee report) that further supported the need for a minimum \$6 million dollar equity adjustment for faculty salaries.

6. **Resolutions.**

President Freeland signed as informational the three Financial Affairs Committee resolutions passed by the Senate on October 29. The resolution to approve the restructuring of the Department of Art and Architecture was approved by the President and by the Board of Trustees.

7. **Next Senate Meeting:** January 7 in 308 SN.

III. **Provost's Report.**

Provost Hall informed the Senate that his decision to resign was made in order to get back to some things that he had put on hold, and not by anything occurring within the University. He had assumed his current role as Provost because he felt called to do so, but he now believed he was being called to engage in issues as a faculty member. The issues being grappled with are the right issues, and the University is on the right track. He then reported the following.

- A. The practice-oriented education learning community has fifteen faculty participating. They have been meeting all quarter, and their individual and collective work is impressive. A report will be issued either in the spring or fall quarter.
- B. The budget process is moving forward. The CFP submitted its report to the Budget Committee, chaired by Provost Hall and Vice President Mucciolo, which is taking seriously the CFP report and the Senate resolutions. The Budget Committee expects to be able to make its presentation to the Senate in early or mid-January.

IV. **Question and Discussion Time.**

- A. Professor Vaughn asked why the Bursar's Office changed its name to Customer Service Center. Provost Hall explained that a committee of faculty, administrators, and students had been struggling for some time with the concept of one-stop shopping for students in the nonacademic areas of transcripts, financial aid, and bursar matters. It was agreed that the organizational shift should provide students with better service. Vice President Mantella noted that the scope of offerings to students has been expanded, and office hours have been extended, all of which provide greater access to a greater range of students. She added that several titles had been suggested, but this one was the choice of students.
- B. Professor Herman asked if there were a connection between the new Ad Hoc Committee on Athletics and the NCAA office. Professor Lowndes responded that there is no intended connection. Professor Lowndes pointed out that the new committee's primary charge is a cost-benefit analysis, while academic performance and accreditation provide the focus for the Standing Committee on Athletics. Professor Herman suggested that the NCAA compliance officer serve as a liaison to the new committee.
- C. Professor Baclawski noted that the Lane Health Center no longer gives students medical excuses and asked why the change in guidelines, and how faculty should respond. Provost Hall replied that the change was intended to deter students from routinely demanding excuse notes for minor ailments. Executive Vice Provost Pantalone added that faculty should expect students to attend class unless they are demonstrably sick.

Professor Herman suggested that the language on absence and medical excuse in the *Academic Operations Manual* be revisited.

- V. **Enrollment and Admissions Policy Committee Report.** Professor Rupert moved the following resolution, and the motion was seconded.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate approve the recommendation of the 2001-2002 Enrollment and Admissions Policy Committee to allow

students a maximum of 11 quarters/8 semesters of financial aid for any pattern of attendance approved by their academic unit.

Professor Rupert explained that the charge to the committee had been to look at financial aid as it affects students going through their course of enrollment. The committee found that that students who do not follow the traditional enrollment pattern—three quarters of freshman year and two quarters every year after that—are significantly impacted in terms of financial aid. If, after freshman year, students decide to go three quarters instead of two, their financial aid is cut across the three quarters, and they do not get the aid they were promised with the five-year package. Therefore, the committee recommends that students be allowed to take eleven quarters, or eight terms after the semester conversion.

Professor Herman favored the resolution, noting that the current pattern has had a particularly negative effect on Division C students in Arts and Sciences. Professor Rupert responded that the committee's recommendation would improve retention, especially for Division C students.

Vice President Mantella explained that the University has budgeted annually for a certain amount of financial aid. If a number of students beyond expectation accelerate their programs and go without Coop, the budget is exceeded and needs to be adjusted accordingly. Financial aid should not be the deciding factor because it is calibrated to the pattern. Students get a five-year award, but not if they go into a Division C pattern. What is at issue is how to motivate behavior in or out of the classroom. We do not have a four-year track or a five-year track, so a student may accelerate for a year and not have Coop, which makes calibration difficult. The amount spread over three terms instead of two constitutes a loss to the student. We are trying to give students a five-year aid commitment on which they can rely. She emphasized that it is more valuable for the families of students to know the tuition model will not change and that the student can plan on coming here for eleven quarters during which University will not reduce financial aid.

Provost Hall noted that this issue had been floating around for some time, but Vice President Mantella put it into the context of improved retention. He expressed his appreciation to her and to the committee for their work.

There being no objection, the Senate moved to a vote.

Vote: PASSED, 32-0-0.

- VI. **Proposed Addition to Conflict of Interest and Commitment Policy.** Professor Herman moved the following resolution, and the motion was seconded.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate approve the following addition to the Conflict of Interest and Commitment Policy:

III.D.5.b.6) Receipt by you or any member of your family of a single gift or multiple gifts with a cumulative value in excess of \$100 from a current or prospective University vendor, service provider, student or any third party who is seeking some benefit from the University? (Gifts include, but are not limited to, meals, entertainment, travel, and tickets to sporting and other events. Examination copies of

textbooks and similar materials given to faculty are not considered gifts.)

Professor Herman explained that most federal agencies are incorporating this category for faculty involvement with vendors to comply with NSF and NIH funding requirements.

In response to questions about types of gifts and how to obtain relevant information about such benefits, Professor Herman noted that each dean reviews the information and decides whether to pursue an issue with a faculty member.

There being no objection, the Senate moved to a vote.

Vote: PASSED, 32-0-2.

Adjourned at 12:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John G. Flym, Secretary
Faculty Senate