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Faculty Senate meeting minutes: 04/22/2002

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TO: FACULTY SENATE
FROM: JOHN G. FLYM, SECRETARY, FACULTY SENATE
SUBJECT: MINUTES, 2001-2002 FACULTY SENATE, 22 APRIL 2002

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

Absent: (Professors) Baclawski, Boisse, Gilbert, Gilmore, Kelleher, Sullivan, Wertheim
(Administrators) Mantella, Pendergast

Convened by Provost Hall at 12:06 p.m.

I. **Minutes.**

The minutes of 15 April were approved.

II. **SAC Report.**

A. **Meetings.** Professor Lowndes reported that SAC had met once in regular session since the last meeting and would meet that afternoon with President Freeland.

B. **Next Senate meeting: 29 April in 308 SN.**

III. **Provost's Report.**

Provost Hall reported that the Law Dean Search Committee was considering six candidates and would recommend narrowing the field to three finalists in the coming week.

IV. **Question and Discussion Time.**

There were no questions.

V. **Semester Conversion Resolutions.**

Executive Vice Provost Pantalone moved Resolution #9, and the motion was seconded. Resolution #9 read as follows:

WHEREAS

Colleges, other than the School of Law, will operate on the semester system beginning fall 2003,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

In section IV.D.2.a on p. 68 of the *Faculty Handbook*, replace

Each Dean may require any member of the unit faculty to report one week before classes begin in the fall quarter and to be in actual attendance until all required grades have been properly submitted, except when an individual faculty contract provides for a specified exception.

with

Two semester (fall-spring) faculty appointments begin and faculty are expected to report on the Monday preceding the week in which fall semester classes begin and continue through the end of spring commencement.

She explained that faculty should be available for training, registration, TA events, etc. Commencement in the first year will take place on May 1, one week after exams. Commencements will take place on Saturdays as a rule, or on Sundays if the Fleet Center is unavailable. The new language allows for flexibility. Faculty who must attend conferences at the beginning of the fall semester may have colleagues stand in for them.

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

Vote on Resolution #9: PASSED, 21-0-1.

Executive Vice Provost Pantalone moved Resolution #10, and the motion was seconded. Resolution #10 read as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

All faculty members will be expected to participate in spring commencement on a rotating basis, and in their department and college year-end celebratory activities.

She reported that the schools she had contacted—Brandeis, Syracuse, MIT, BU, BC, and Tufts—do not have contractual requirements for attendance at commencement. This resolution will set parameters and not be placed in the Faculty Handbook. Provost Hall thought that, since the resolution concerns length of contract, it should be in the Handbook.

Several Senators spoke in favor of faculty showing support for graduates, particularly doctoral students, by attending graduation ceremonies and conferring degrees.

Motion. Professor Giessen moved to amend by adding, after “rotating basis,” “especially if they act as faculty advisors to graduating doctoral students”.

Discussion followed. Several Senators preferred the original wording. It was pointed out that in virtually every case the faculty advisor or someone from the unit is present for the student.

Dean Greene thought that the professional responsibilities of faculty should not require legislation. Colleges and departments should deal with the matter.

Professor Herman pointed out that it would be hurtful to a student whose advisor is not present, but, on the other hand, if all faculty were to attend there would not be enough room for them.

Professor Powers-Lee suggested earlier communication so that faculty do not make other plans when one of their students is participating in commencement.

Professor Giessen withdrew his amendment.

There being no objection, the Senate turned to a vote on the original motion.

Vote: PASSED, 28-1.

Executive Vice Provost Pantalone moved Resolution #11, and the motion was seconded. Resolution #11 read as follows:

WHEREAS

Our goal as a University is to have comparable teaching throughout the year,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

In section IV.D.2.b on p. 70 of the *Faculty Handbook*, replace

If members of this group (Teaching Faculty) accept appointment for an additional six weeks they receive an extra payment of up to a maximum of 1/6 of their base salary. If employment is for the full summer term, the payment is equal to 1/3 of base salary.

with

Faculty on academic-year appointments who accept additional appointments for a summer term will receive payment at a rate of a minimum of 1/6 of their base salary per course. Faculty are expected to deliver the course and complete necessary advising and faculty service.

Motion. Professor Barnes moved to substitute “1/5” for “1/6”, and the motion was seconded.

Motion. Professor Herman moved to amend by adding the following after “**minimum of**”: “**1/5 of their base salary for the first course, and 1/6 for each additional course**”. The motion was accepted as a friendly amendment to Professor Barnes’s amendment.

Professor Metghalchi expressed concern that there is a limit on how much faculty can make in the summer if summer consists of three rather than four months. Professor Herman pointed out that this is mandated by federal regulations rather than institutional policy.

Professor Metghalchi noted that some universities allow incentives for faculty to do consulting one day a week and to charge 25%. Professor Lowndes responded that the policy says three months now because that is the fourth quarter, so there is an automatic limitation. However, it should be possible to change the policy from three months to four under the semester system because we will have a four-month summer. Vice Provost Meservey noted that Executive Vice Provost Pantalone was already moving in that direction. A group is looking at what policies would be around additional compensation and flexibility.

Professor Vaughn favored the original resolution on the grounds that it allows extra compensation when more work is involved.

Provost Hall noted that most units pay faculty 1/9, which is the model that, in going from a quarter system to a semester system, will change from 1/9 to 1/6. While he supported the change, he was concerned about coming up with additional dollars to make it happen.

Professor Herman agreed with Provost Hall, but he pointed out that at the other end of the spectrum the summer session has been chronically underfunded, and a wide differential exists with regard to what faculty in the various colleges teach in the summer. The question is how to find a balance so as to narrow the gap between faculty of different disciplines. Will it result in fewer full-time faculty being able to teach if the proportion is higher? On the other hand, those faculty who teach should be properly compensated.

There being no objection, the Senate turned to a vote on the substitute motion.

Vote on Professor Barnes’s amendment, as amended: PASSED, 17-13.

Resolution #11, as amended, read as follows:

WHEREAS

Our goal as a University is to have comparable teaching throughout the year,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

In section IV.D.2.b on p. 70 of the *Faculty Handbook*, replace

If members of this group (Teaching Faculty) accept appointment for an additional six weeks they receive an extra payment of up to a maximum of 1/6 of their base salary. If employment is for the full summer term, the payment is equal to 1/3 of base salary.

with

Faculty on academic-year appointments who accept additional appointments for a summer term will receive payment at the rate of a minimum of 1/5 of their base salary for the first course, and 1/6 for each additional course. Faculty are expected to deliver the course and complete necessary advising and faculty service.

Vote on Resolution #11: PASSED, 20-10.

VI. Proposed University Policy on Misconduct in Scholarship and Research.

Professor Herman moved the following resolution, and the motion was seconded. The resolution read as follows.

BE IT RESOLVED That the Faculty Senate approve the proposed policy on “Misconduct in Scholarship and Research,” as approved by the University Research Council on 4 April 2002.

Professor Herman explained that allegations have become more frequent, and the Government expects all institutions that receive federal funds to have a policy, the language of which is mandated in the policy now on the floor. The policy will be in the Faculty Handbook, as are the policies on conflict of commitment, copyright, and patents.

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

Vote: PASSED, 29-0.

Adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John G. Flym, Secretary
Faculty Senate