Volume X

Agenda and Minutes of the Meeting of October 14, 1996

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WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE
AGENDA

Room 126 CH 3:30 p.m.

Meeting Notice: Monday, October 14, 1996

Order of Business:

I. Calling of the Meeting to Order

II. Informal Statements and Proposals
   A. Race Against Hunger Report
   B. Presentation from United Way Campaign
   C. Distinguished Scholarship Invitational
      Jennifer Chapman, Admissions Counselor
   D. Other

III. Approval of Minutes

IV. President's Report

V. Committee Reports

VI. Old Business

VII. New Business
   A. Honors Program Update - A.J. Mandt, Director
      (see 9/23/96 attachment to agenda)
   B. Program Discontinuance: Respiratory Therapy Program

VIII. As May Arise

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Donna Hawley, President 5724 Box 41
JoLynne Campbell, Past President 3146 Box 43
Sue Bair, Vice President 3340 Box 16
Jean Eaglesfield, Secretary 3591 Box 68
Walter Horn, President-Elect 3410 Box 44

ELECTED BY SENATE
   Sandra Houts 3280 Box 25
   Elmer Hoyer 3415 Box 44

APPOINTED BY PRESIDENT
   Donald Byrum 3551 Box 67
FACULTY SENATE

Wichita State University

Minutes of the Meeting of October 14, 1996

MEMBERS PRESENT: Alagic, Armstrong, Bair, Bajaj, Baxter, Benson, Burk, Byrum, Campbell, Celestin, Coats, Coffman, DeSilva, Detjens, Dreifort, Eaglesfield, Goldsteen, Hawley, Horn, Kraft, Kukral, Lescoe-Long, Mandt, Murphey, Palmiotto, Papanicolaou, Parker, Patton, Riordan, Saalmann, Schommer, Sharp, Skinner, Sutterlin, Swan, Talia, Terrell, Toops, Wahlbeck, Wang, Yenne, York

MEMBERS ABSENT: Berry-Bravo, Brooks, Chambers, Davis, Deyoe, Gythiel, Hemans, Houts, Hoyer, Leavitt, Matson, Miller, Stone

GUESTS: L Murphy

SUMMARY OF ACTION:

1. Passed resolution on program discontinuance

I. CALL OF THE MEETING TO ORDER: President Hawley called the meeting to order at 3:35 pm.

II. INFORMAL STATEMENTS AND PROPOSALS

A. United Way of the Plains. President Hawley introduced Sam Akao, of the WSU Steering Committee for the United Way, who in turn introduced Ken Shannon, the General Chair of the 1996 United Way of the Plains campaign. Mr. Shannon, a WSU graduate, described the importance of this activity, that United Way is very efficient with the care of their funds, and that the goal is $12,600. He described several projects supported by United Way. Sam Akao requested faculty to help publicize this campaign. He also described the informational material that had been handed out to the Senators.

B. Race Against Hunger. Senator Eaglesfield read statistics showing the great increase in food and money raised as well as participation in the event. She noted that Senator Murphey walked from 3 to 4 am and that Senator Houts was the faculty/staff member who raised the most in donations. She thanked three people who were key leaders in the event: Holly Green, Jane Eshelman, and Bobbi Dreiling.

Senator Murphey expressed concern that the "Waiver of Liability" form that all race participants are required to sign is too broad in focus and he agreed to work with Secretary Dreiling to create "informed consent" type of form for the future.

C. Distinguished Scholarship Invitational. President Hawley introduced Jennifer Chapman, Admissions Counselor, who described the program that would take place October 26. Ms. Chapman asked for
faculty to volunteer to be alternates for that day. She stated that there was a record high number of invitations sent to students this year.

D. Other Items.

1. Senator DeSilva announced, on behalf of Senator Saalmann, that members of the Swiss ambassadorial staff would be visiting WSU, Friday, October 18. Those interested in language and/or area studies programs were urged to contact Senator Saalmann in the Modern and Classical Languages Department and attend this program.

2. Senator DeSilva announced that on October 11 there had been a meeting of a new group, the Long Range Planning Task Force. This task force, convened by Mayor Knight, replaces the WI/SE Group. Senator DeSilva urged anyone who would be interested in volunteering to work on the issues of partnership between the university and county to contact Mayor Knight's office. Senator DeSilva is a member of the Task Force.

3. Senator Schommer stated that she had been asked by her colleagues to report to the Senate about new arrangements in Central Services for copying charges for supplemental materials. She stated that the cost of copies not sold would be charged to departments. She noted that faculty do not have control on the number of copies sold. She requested the Senate Executive Committee to consult with Central Services so that these charges would not be passed back to departments. President Hawley stated that the Executive Committee would investigate the matter.

4. Senator Murphey added to his comments at a previous meeting about the commercialization of campus functions. This concern came, he said, in reaction to having received an advertisement from Commerce Bank that had been sent to all faculty. He noted that in previous years the Campus Credit Union had an office in the CAC; now Commerce Bank has a branch in the CAC.

   Dorothy Billings also expressed concern on this matter. She stated that she had called the Board of Regents office and the state Attorney General's office on this matter and ascertained that it was likely that having the Commerce Bank advertisement on the verso of WSU identification cards would be found to be illegal.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of September 23 were discussed. Senator Swan noted that page 3, fourth paragraph, last sentence should be amended by adding "could opt to move into the tenure track." Senator Coats moved, and Senator Horn seconded a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. The motion passed and minutes were approved as corrected.

IV. PRESIDENTS REPORT: President Hawley noted that the Board of Regents would be meeting on the WSU campus this week.

   She also noted that the Board of Regents had drafted a Precollege Curriculum and had forwarded a copy to her. This curriculum is what is being proposed to the high schools in preparation for qualified admissions to the Regents universities. She stated that this had been sent to the Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee for study and that anyone who wanted to see a copy should contact the Senate Office.

   Finally, she reported on the recommendation from the annual report of the General Education Committee. In May, the General Education Committee's annual report recommended that the Honors Program be moved administratively to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The Senate, when accepting the Committee's annual report, referred the matter to the Senate Executive Committee to resolve over the summer. President Hawley stated that Senator Horn, after conferring with all parties involved, had resolved the matter. It had been agreed that the Honors Program would remain in Academic Affairs and perhaps the issue be revisited after the review of the General Education program in the fall of 1997.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS: None
VII. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Honors Program Update.

President Hawley introduced Senator Mandt, Director of the Honors Program, who presented an update to the Senate on the progress of the Program over the past year. He explained the tables of information that were attached to the September 23 agenda. He noted that the Program appears to be a positive recruiting device, that whenever he was able to advertise it to prospective students, enrollment went up. The table listing credit hours for fall semesters showed that there had been a dramatic turnaround between 1995 and 1996. There has not been a move from students out of traditional honors classes, such as Honors sections of English Composition, into one of the honors seminars; instead, students are taking both honors sections and the seminars. Next year, two classes will be simultaneously taking seminars, and this implies that there will probably be 1100 credit hours.

Senator Mandt also described increased participation by WSU Honors students in national and regional honors activities. This year, 7 WSU students will present student research papers at the National Collegiate Honors Council, and Honors students are planning to attend the regional conference that will be held in Texas in the spring.

Finally, Senator Mandt reported two items: first, that he had been requested by the President to investigate the feasibility of creating an honors dormitory. Second, he stated that the program would soon be sending requests to departments to develop models for senior honors projects.

Senator Murphey asked if there would be compensation to departments for faculty teaching in the Honors Program. Senator Mandt answered that in the spring, compensation would take place in a limited number of cases.

B. Program Discontinuance: Respiratory Therapy Program.

President Hawley read sections from Appendix Q of the Faculty Handbook that describe the process for a program discontinuance, namely that the Senate President is to report to the Senate of the discontinuance and the action of the college faculty, and that although no Senate action is required, the Senate may choose to record a position on the proposed program discontinuation.

She introduced Senator Campbell to summarize this particular case. Senator Campbell began by describing the chronology: On March 20, 1996, Dean Roberts proposed closure of the program to President Hughes; March 22, 1996 an article appeared in the Sunflower; late May, VPAA Patton discussed the matter with the Senate Executive Committee; in June, personnel were given terminal contracts; in July, the department chairs of the college voted on closure; and on October 4, 1996, the faculty met and voted.

She explained that there were two factors that made the case confusing, first, that the teaching personnel involved in the program were unclassified professionals and not tenured or tenure-track faculty and thus not under the authority of the Faculty Handbook, but that the program itself was a curriculum matter, which is under the authority of the handbook. VPAA Patton noted that he originally felt the Unclassified Professional Senate would be the appropriate governance body but later found that the Senate had no policy on program discontinuance and also that all matters involving the curriculum are to be addressed using Faculty Handbook policies.

There were questions about the relevancy of the subject as a discipline. Senator Campbell stated that this was a debatable topic; it seemed that opinions in the health community differ, some see a need for the program, while others do not. She noted that in this particular case, those faculty who could have made a case to support the program did not have the time to do so.

Stephen Gladhart, Assistant Dean, College of Health Professions, stated that there were several factors considered in the decision to discontinue the program. Both he and President Hawley described these: the program had been struggling for years, the number of applicants was much lower than other programs in the college, the quality of applicants were lower, industry demand—although debatable—seemed less, and the cost per student was higher than other programs in the college.
Senator Mandt stated that there were two issues: first, the merits of the decision and second, faculty rights over the curriculum. He stated that the implications here were that the faculty rights were not observed.

VPAA Patton noted that the article in the Sunflower was misleading since it implied that the discontinuance was definite at that time. Senator Dreifort added that although correct university procedures were being followed, there had a bad start. He also stated that the program discontinuance policy is adequate, having experienced a review of this by being a member of the Ad Hoc Committee for Program Review.

Stephen Gladhart explained that the program had an active advisory group from the community, some of whom were upset with the situation, and this contributed to the "bad start."

Senator Baxter moved that the Senate adopt the following resolution: "All deans should be strongly reminded of degree discontinuation policies and that appropriate procedures should be set and published for those programs which do not presently fall within the description contained in Appendix Q of the Faculty Handbook." She explained her concern that there might be programs, such as those with unclassified professionals teaching, that may not fall under the authority of the Faculty Handbook.

The motion was seconded by Senator Coats.

After discussion the resolution was changed to read: "The Faculty Senate strongly reminds all administrative officers that the published degree discontinuation policies (Appendix Q, Faculty Handbook) and appropriate procedures must be followed for all academic degree programs."

The vote was unanimous in approval.

Senator Swan moved to adjourn the meeting. Senator Horn seconded. The vote was taken and the meeting adjourned at 5:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Eaglesfield, Secretary