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Agenda and Minutes of the Meeting of December 11, 1978

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WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY SENATE

AGENDA

Meeting Notice: December 11, 1978, 126 Clinton Hall, 3:30 p.m.

Order of Business:

- I. Calling of the Meeting to Order
- II. Informal Proposals and Statements
- III. Approval of the Minutes for the meeting of October 23, 1978
(Vol. XV, No. 5).
- IV. New Business: Resolution regarding status of Commons -
(Agenda Committee Resolution) Attachment A.

Discussion regarding K.U. motion
re: faculty salaries

Discussion regarding Student Senate Bill
RO24-110878 - (Bill to be forwarded to
University Academic Standards and Practices
Committee) Attachment B.

Document 6

WHEREAS, the size of the Wichita State University campus and the teaching loads, schedules, and other commitments of members of the University community often restrict, and in some cases preclude, opportunities for their informal communication, and

WHEREAS, such opportunities for informal communication are especially conducive to the exchange of information, to the discussion of matters of common concern, and, perhaps most importantly, to a climate of collegiality fundamental to University community morale and institutional health, and

WHEREAS, such opportunities for informal communication have in the past been provided by the availability of centrally-located and well-appointed dining rooms on the campus and are now severely limited by the absence of any such dining room following the closing of the Commons Room in the Campus Activities Center: therefore

RESOLVED, that the University Senate ask the President to convene appropriate persons for the purpose of determining or establishing a well-appointed, central dining room where members of the University community may gather and be served through the morning and the lunchtime hours and further

RESOLVED, that this dining room be made available no later than the beginning of the 1979 spring semester.

SENATE BILL: R024-110878

TITLE: University Policy regarding Academic Minors

SPONSORS: Verne Harnish, John Bomgardner, Eric Melgren

WHEREAS the present policies regarding the placement of minors on one's transcript are incoherent and inconsistent, and

BELIEVING that it should ultimately be up to the individual student to decide whether earned minors are placed on his or her transcript and,

FURTHER BELIEVING that any minor placed on a transcript can only enhance the transcript and,

RECOGNIZING that only the individual University departments have the expertise to decide what will constitute a minor in their department,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Student Senate of Wichita State University recommend an overall University policy stating that the University will continue to allow the individual departments on campus to decide what constitutes a minor in their particular department and once the requirements are published,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University Policy allow any student who completes the stated requirements for a minor have the choice of having that minor placed on his or her transcript.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that this resolution be passed on to the University Senate Agenda Committee, the Deans' Council, and Dr. John Breazeale.

END
OF
ATTACHMENTS
TO
AGENDA

December 11, '78

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Corrected 1/22/79

WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY

Minutes of the Meeting of December 11, 1978, (Vol. XV, No. 6).

Members Present: Adamson, Blazicek, Boeckman, Breazeale, Brewer, Childs, Chopra, Dreifort, Duell, Gladhart, Greenberg, Hay, Ingmire, Irish, Kane, Kasten, Kukral, Maddox, Mathis, McBride, Meabon, Melgren, Miller, Millett, J. Myers, Nees, Parker, Perel, Poe, Rhatigan, Rodgers, Solomon, Scriven, Shawver, Soles, Thomas, Tasch, Terrell, Thomann, Throckmorton, Tilford. *Add Kenyon*

Members Absent: Ahlberg, Bardo, Benningfield, Chaffee, Christ, Gosman, Graham, Jakowatz, ~~Kasten~~ ^{BOTH Present}, Kenyon, Magelli, May, McFarland, M. Myers, Nance, Rodenberg, Sharp, Shimerda, Terwilliger, Unruh, Wilde.

Guests: Bobbye Humphrey, Carol Konek, Jay Fulton, Carla A. Lee.

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Perel called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

II. INFORMAL PROPOSALS & STATEMENTS

President Perel stated that, at the last meeting of RICC, a decision was made that Pittsburg State University can send a representative of their bargaining unit to the regular RICC meetings but the representative cannot speak unless he receives permission from RICC.

President Perel also stated that the last Senate Presidents Meeting was held in conjunction with the University Presidents Meeting. He indicated that he raised for discussion the situation of having a large number of administrative and non-teaching personnel in the universities in proportion to the number of teaching personnel. He pointed out that, at Wichita State, there was one administrative person who did not know what he was to do and who was calling department chairpersons to see if he could assist in whatever was needed by them. President Perel said that he received no satisfaction from the University Presidents at this meeting.

President Perel reported that no University Senate Meetings had been held recently, since there was no apparent business to present at the meetings. He urged Senators to submit items for consideration for future agendas.

President Perel announced that the next Senate meeting would be held on January 22, 1979, and the Welfare Committee will report at that time on a grievance procedure for faculty members.

Senator Greenberg said that he had previously requested the Senate to adopt the AAUP statement on faculty involvement in university budgetary matters. He indicated that no action had been taken at that time and urged action at the present time.

Senator Dreifort, Chairperson of the Ad Hoc Committee on Committee Structure, reported that his committee considered this matter. He stated the Committee feels that:

- (1) the faculty has had input to the budgetary procedure and does not need another committee for the same purpose; the Senate should be the place for these types of discussions.
- (2) the place for impact on the university budget is at the departmental and college level.

- (3) few people in the faculty structure have expertise in budgetary matters.
- (4) both the President and the Vice-President have reported repeatedly to the Senate on budgetary matters.

Senator Dreifort concluded by stating the Ad Hoc Committee is opposed to the formulation of a new committee to examine budgetary matters.

Senator Duell questioned the propriety of a discussion of this type which included a committee report during the informal proposals and statements.

President Perel replied that this seemed to be the most appropriate place in the agenda for this type of discussion. He indicated that the Agenda Committee still was going to ~~consider~~ Senator Greenberg's request.

consider

Senator Dreifort asked what the implications were of State Senator Gaar's assistant being on campus recently.

Senator Breazeale replied that State Senator Gaar is interested in the size and structure of all state universities. While on campus, his group examined classrooms and offices and also distributed a questionnaire on space usage to a randomly selected group of faculty members. Senator Breazeale indicated that the university had no control over the investigation being conducted by State Senator Gaar.

President Perel pointed out that a questionnaire had been distributed to some faculty members regarding collective bargaining. He stated that this questionnaire had come from Kansas State University and not from our own University Senate.

Senator Breazeale pointed out that, following his inquiry, he found this questionnaire was part of a doctoral study being conducted at Kansas State University and was not a product of the state government.

Senator Tasch asked whether State Senator Gaar's assistant went to all state universities.

Senator Breazeale replied that was the case. He also noted that, on this campus, Senator Gaar's assistant found several classrooms empty when the University schedule showed them to be in use.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES The minutes of the meeting of October 23, 1978 were approved as published.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

President Perel introduced Senator Throckmorton to present the resolution from the Senate Agenda Committee relating to the closing of the University Commons. Senator Throckmorton gave the following statement, after which she moved acceptance of the resolution. The motion was seconded.

You have before you a copy of the Commons resolution. Some of our colleagues may, indeed, consider such business coming before the Senate trivial. But there are others who do not, many with long memories in this place. This resolution speaks to their concerns, and I speak for them today.

My memories, too, are long, and I would like to share with you enough of them to put this resolution in historical perspective. As history, my account might well begin with "Once upon a time." Or "When I joined the University in 1954." However, on third thought, I choose instead to borrow from Professor Kelley Sowards that elegant phrase, "In the olden days," and thus begin my formal remarks.

In the olden days members of the University community met for coffee, conviviality, and cafeteria fare in a clean, well-lighted, naturally ventilated room in Wilner, the Pine Room. Daily, between 10 and 11, and then again at high noon, we moved cross campus like swallows to the south. In the Pine Room secretaries supped with chairmen (they were chairmen, then), rank supped with rank, and rank with file. There at least one football coach confronted, without apology, his Monday morning quarterbacks. There, on occasion, one might sit beside the President!

In later days we gathered in the Kansas Room. It was with feelings akin to ecstasy that I discovered there amenities undreamed of in the cafeterias of the public institutions where I had matriculated or taught. In the Kansas Room, floors carpeted, tables clothed in gold and graced with flowers, we were served. There, once, I dined with a dean! (Separate checks, of course.)

Such amenities characterized the Commons Room. Time might pass unconscionably while we waited to be served, prices might rise while we waited, but by and large we fared hospitably and well. There all kind of folk conferred and caucused, deans and demi-deans conspired, and old acquaintances and friends and enemies kept abreast.

No need to chronicle here the dismal consequences of the recent closing of the Commons. They are symbolized by the brown bags we see our friends and colleagues carry--when and if we see our friends and colleagues now. Perhaps the past is lost, is lost to us forever. Perhaps, as Thomas Wolfe observed, "You can't go home again," except, of course, for lunch.

Yet think on this. In the cafeteria, in the Cellar, at Hardees, or behind closed office doors you may be able to feed some of the people all of the time, or all of the people some of the time. But people, even University people, and especially University people, are simply not sustained by bread alone.

Senator Greenberg pointed out that the Senate should recognize Dr. Billings and the AAUP for reserving the Kansas Room in the CAC for the past several weeks for coffee and informal discussion.

Senator Melgren indicated that he has learned from discussion with officials of the CAC that it is the intention of the CAC to re-open the Commons Room at the beginning of the spring semester but it will be done without having waitresses available for service. He further indicated that he supported the resolution.

Senator Dreifort stated that he had discussed with the President last year the establishment of a faculty club. No definitive action was taken at that time and he suggested that the Senate may want to continue this discussion at this time.

President Perel observed that university faculty members frequently want their own clubs but also frequently do not want to pay for support of these clubs.

President Perel reported that he had discussed the issue with Mr. Roger Lowe who had indicated that the Commons was losing money at a rate of \$100 per day.

VOTE

The motion on approval of the resolution calling for the establishment of a central dining room on campus was passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION
RE: FACULTY
SALARIES

As the next item of business, President Perel read a resolution from the Kansas University Senate as follows:

On behalf of the faculty at the University of Kansas, we express our appreciation to the Kansas Board of Regents for their support of faculty salaries during the past several years. This year the rate of inflation has increased substantially. It would be most unfortunate if that increase in the rate of inflation were to undo the work of the Regents in past years. Accordingly, we support a request for faculty salary increases for the coming fiscal year at least commensurate with the rate of inflation.

President Perel presented a brief summary regarding this resolution and indicated that Kansas State University Senate had supported the resolution while both Emporia and Ft. Hays had requested an increase in fringe benefits for faculty members as an alternative. President Perel also pointed out that discussions with Vice-President Breazeale had indicated that adoption of this resolution could interfere or be inconsistent with the formula budgeting procedure.

MOTION

Senator Greenberg remarked that he supported the principle of the resolution but did not support the resolution as stated. He then moved that we prepare our own resolution on this subject.

Senator Terrell seconded the motion.

Senator Melgren spoke in support of the motion.

Senator Thomann discussed the results of a questionnaire that had been circulated among the members of the Engineering faculty. He also spoke

in support of the motion.

Senator Breazeale discussed the formula budgeting procedure and gave reasons for the Regents support of the formula budgeting procedure. He indicated that a motion of this type could be considered to be incompatible with the formula budgeting procedure.

Senator Terrell spoke in favor of the motion and indicated that, with a 6% increase in salary and a 9% increase in inflation, there would be little opportunity for merit raises. He also pointed out that fringe benefits at Wichita State University are relatively low. He contended that faculty will tend to spend more time looking for other sources of income rather than seeking merit increases.

VOTE

The motion for WSU to prepare a resolution on the subject of faculty salary increases was passed unanimously.

MOTION

Senator Adamson moved that Senator Greenberg write the appropriate resolution.

VOTE

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

As the next item of business, President Perel presented the resolution from the Student Senate regarding academic minors and stated that the Agenda Committee had voted to refer it to the Academic Standards and Practices Committee.

Senator Miller asked whether there would actually be occasions when a student would not want a minor on the transcript.

Mr. Harnish, a sponsor of the resolution, replied that the resolution had been initially aimed at the policy of the College of Engineering. He noted that some students wanted minors to be shown on their transcript without regard to the Engineering policy.

Senator Greenberg asked if there are other colleges that do not permit minors.

It was indicated that the College of Business Administration also has this policy.

Senator Shawver observed that there appears to be a real ambiguity regarding the awarding of minors.

Senator Miller pointed out that it is imperative that the granting department retain control over the awarding of minors.

Senator Duell asked what the situation would be if the student chooses not to have a minor shown on the transcript and returns at a later year and asks to have the minor placed on the transcript. No answer was forthcoming.

Senator Breazeale stated that the issue was, when a student is majoring in one college and minoring in another college, whether the major college should be able to dictate the existence or non-existence of a minor.

Dr. Konek pointed out that, in her discussions with Dr. Gosman, he felt that it was redundant to offer a math minor in engineering when the appropriate number of hours for a mathematics minor were included in the engineering major.

Senator Rhatigan briefly discussed the situation that precipitated the Student Senate resolution and requested that the Senate discuss the academic minor as a total issue.

President Perel stated that, in his opinion, there were three possibilities: 1) the practice could be left as it is, 2) it could be left to individual colleges, 3) there could be a University policy which would apply to all.

Senator Nees asked whether or not Engineering will give minors and said he felt it should be clarified.

Senator Rodgers, indicating that he was speaking for himself and not the College of Engineering, reviewed his interpretation of the considerations of the Engineering faculty as related to the awarding of minors.

Senator Melgren pointed out that it was the concern of the students that, when a department gives requirements for a minor and a student completes the stated requirements, the dean of another college should not be allowed to rule that the minor could not be awarded.

President Perel re-emphasized that the entire subject of academic minors would be considered by the University Academic Standards and Practices Committee.

MOTION

Senator Terrell moved that the Academic Standards and Practices Committee be directed to consider the matter of minors in detail, and followed that immediately by a motion to adjourn.

VOTE
V. ADJOURNMENT

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously and the Senate was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Roger N. Kasten, Senate Secretary
Lucille Brodie, Recording Secretary