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Agenda and Minutes of the Meeting of February 13, 1978

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WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY SENATE

AGENDA

Meeting Notice: February 13, 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 January 30, 1978
(Vol. XIV, No. 8)
- IV. Orders of the Day: None
- V. Unfinished Business: None
- VI. Committee Reports: None

- VII. New Business: A showing of a WSU Promotional Film

A Recommendation for Publication of Names of Nominees for Tenure and Promotion. A motion to this effect unanimously passed by the University Tenure, Promotion and Academic Freedom Committee (TPAFC) reads: "Deans and directors of all colleges and other major units will transmit a list of all nominees to be reviewed for tenure and/or promotion to the chairperson of the University Tenure, Promotion and Academic Freedom Committee *concurrently* with the initial *official* notification to the nominees. The chairperson of the TPAFC will arrange suitable publication."--Robert McCroskey, for the TPAFC.

Recalled & submitted
on 2/27/78 with a
new revised report.

See Agenda of 2/27/78.

VIII. Adjournment

Recommendations of the Task Force on Academic Advising--Alfred Crawford, for the Task Force (Attachment A).

UNIVERSITY SENATE

WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY

Minutes of the Meeting of February 13, 1978. (Vol. XIV, No. 9).

Members Present: Adamson, Benningfield, Borresen, Breazeale, Brewer, Chaffee, Christ, Duell, Gladhart, Graham, Gridley, Hammond, Harnsberger, Hay, Houston, Hoyer, Jakowatz, D. Knight, J. Knight, Kukral, Mathis, Matson, May, McBride, McFarland, G. Miller, R. Miller, Millett, Myers, Nance, Perel, Rodenberg, Salyer, Shanmugam, Sharp, Terrell, Thomann, Throckmorton, Tilford, B. Welsbacher, R. Welsbacher, Zoller, President Dreifort.

Members Absent: Ahlberg, Blazicek, Bugg, Chopra, Herman, Huston, Kane, Kasten, Konek, Lang, Magelli, Mays, Palmer, Rhatigan, Sowards, Terwilliger, Zacharias.

Guests: A.E. Crawford.

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Dreifort called the meeting to order at 3:37 p.m.

II. INFORMAL PROPOSALS & STATEMENTS

Senator Terrell observed that this was Emory Lindquist's last year at WSU and that he felt the Senate should do something to recognize the former University President and Rhodes Scholar.

Senator Zoller asked if the Senate would act on Senator Terrell's suggestion and President Dreifort indicated that he would bring the matter up in the next Agenda Committee meeting and return to the Senate with suggestions.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of January 30, 1978 (Vol. XIV, No. 8) were approved with one change, the insertion of the word "Senate" ahead of "Presidents" in the third paragraph from the bottom of page 4. This makes the second half of line two of the paragraph read "but the Council of Senate Presidents...."

VII. NEW BUSINESS

The first item of new business was a showing of a WSU Promotional Film made by the Media Resources Center. The film is shown frequently to a variety of audiences. Following the film there was an opportunity for comments but none were forthcoming.

The second item of business was a recommendation for the publication of the names of nominees for tenure and promotion. The proposal came from the Tenure, Promotion and Academic Freedom Committee (TPAFC) and Paul Ackerman spoke on behalf of the committee.

Mr. Ackerman indicated that the recommendation came as a result of the partial publication of nominees' names earlier this year in the Sunflower. The incomplete state of that list together with its inaccuracies led some candidates to feel it was unfair. The TPAFC felt that if the names are to be published it should be done in a complete way and handled by the TPAFC with the names of nominees being sent from the deans to the committee chairperson and then released.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE TPAFC RECOMMENDATION

Mr. Ackerman then moved the acceptance of the recommendation and Senator K. Graham seconded the motion.

Senator Zoller inquired as to what sort of publication was envisioned.

Mr. Ackerman, consulting with Vice President Breazeale, responded that publication was planned in the Sunflower.

Senator Millett suggested that the WSU News was a more appropriate vehicle, responsibly edited and directed to the faculty. The Sunflower, she said, could also take the copy used by the WSU News.

Senator Terrell asked which list was to be published, since various lists exist at different stages of the tenure and promotion process.

Mr. Ackerman said it was the list at the beginning of the process at the department level, and Senator Benningfield clarified that it would be the list of actual nominees to come to a vote in a department.

Senator Zoller questioned the value of publishing such a list, suggesting that it could be potentially embarrassing to those named on the first list especially when that was compared with the names on the list of successful candidates that we do publish.

Mr. Ackerman noted that Senator Zoller's reservations represented the common historical position on the issue. But he added that students felt that the publication of names would facilitate student input in the process once they knew who was up for tenure and promotion evaluation. Further, the TPAFC felt the need of a system to provide either the complete disclosure of names or to prevent partial disclosures.

Senator Terrell asked if the change involved modifying the actual procedures for preparing dossiers and would it help the TPAFC.

Mr. Ackerman said any information the committee can get is helpful.

Senator Zoller wondered whether, by the time a person came up for tenure or promotion, he would not already have taken advantage of student input on teaching, and he feared lest publication of names might lead to an open letter-writing campaign in which the candidate producing the most letters might have an advantage over someone with a well-documented case in his dossier.

Senator K. Graham said he saw the intent of the publication as one to gain a broader input. Timing, he observed, was the key issue. Publication of names should come at the time when the department chairperson notifies the dean of the candidates and the dean formally writes to each candidate. That is the time the dossiers are being prepared and the moment to solicit additional information. In his own case he could think of faculty from other departments who may have been helpful in logopedics. He might well wish to contribute a letter regarding such a person but, without publication of the candidates' names he might not know the individual was up for tenure or promotion.

Senator Knight said the intent was not to deny any faculty member's long term record, but only to supplement that with a chance for student input. There would probably not be any deluge of letters.

Senator Duell inquired whether the TPAFC had released the names this year.

Mr. Ackerman said they had not, and Senator Duell observed that it was much better to have an official TPAFC list than some unofficially publicized list. Therefore she supported the recommendation.

Senator Terrell said he feels from his experience that the students already have much input in the process.

Senator Knight said that now only students taught by a faculty member are consulted, but others, for example advisees, might wish to contribute too.

Senator Benningfield asked how negative comments would get into the record.

Senator Zoller said he felt a candidate should not be asked to submit negative information. He agreed with Senator Duell. If publication were necessary then it must be done accurately.

Senator Welsbacher agreed on this last point and on the issue of timing. He added that the reason Liberal Arts did not act after the informal list was published this year was that it would have seemed to invite new input after several levels of the process had occurred.

Senator Terrell said that apparently no one had consulted the untenured on this issue to ask if they wished their names published. Until that was done he could not support the recommendation.

Senator K. Graham asked whether or not Senator Terrell had been the one last year who proposed the publication of names.

Senator Zoller said that Senator Terrell had proposed the publication of the names of the successful candidates as was now done.

VOTE

Senator Millett called for the previous question. This was approved and the motion to accept the TPAFC recommendation passed on a voice vote. *(However, this was defeated by faculty action at the meeting of March 6, 1978.)*

REPORT OF
TASK FORCE
ON ACADEMIC
ADVISING

The final piece of new business--a report from a Task Force on Academic Advising was recalled by President Dreifort with the consent of the house. The attachment to the present agenda had been supplanted by a newer and considerably modified report from the task force.

REPORT
WITHDRAWN

President Dreifort said he would take the matter back to the Agenda Committee to determine the best course of action on the updated report.

VIII.
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:17 p.m.