

WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY
UNCLASSIFIED PROFESSIONAL SENATE
Minutes - March 18, 1993

The Unclassified Professional Senate convened on March 18, 1993, at 8:30 a.m. in 425 Ahlberg Hall.

Members Present: Barbara Bowman, Frankie Brown, Tom Brock, Stephen Gladhart, Noah Hart, Nancy Kraemer, Don Nance, Janet Nickel, Jill Pletcher, Cathy Razook-Ellsworth, Jim Rogers, Amy Schafer, Mike Turner, Dale Valentine, Doug Vandersee

Members Absent: Noah Hart, Bonnie Johnson, Barbara Mason

1. Approval of Prior Minutes

The minutes of the March 4, 1993, meeting were approved as submitted.

2. Heskett Center Fees

John Schuh and Howard Taylor attended the meeting to provide information on proposed fee increases for Heskett Center faculty/staff memberships necessitated by reduced SGA funding; under the proposal, the annual fee for each membership category will increase by \$20; H. Taylor pointed out that this will be the first increase in faculty/staff rates in ten years. Various senators stated they believe the increases are fair and that the membership rates will still be reasonable even after the increases. H. Taylor said the Heskett Center is also considering raising outside user fees, allowing alumni memberships, and providing more children's programs to generate additional funds.

3. Reports

A. Senate President - D. Valentine

D. Valentine reported that he and N. Kraemer met with President Armstrong on March 11 to discuss the UPS Constitution. The president requested only one minor change in the document: that the phrase "candidates for appointment as" be inserted in Article VIII, Section 3 (page 12). Because the requested revision only clarified the original statement and did not alter the meaning or intent of the section, D. Valentine and N. Kraemer agreed to and made the change in the document, after which the president signed the Constitution on March 16. Copies of the signed document will be distributed to all unclassified professionals, vice presidents, deans, and to the Classified and Faculty Senates and the Student Government Association.

B. Election Update - N. Kraemer

N. Kraemer reported that 147 of a possible 395 ballots (37% response rate) have been returned to date in the election of five positions for the 1993 Election Committee; deadline for receipt of the ballots is March 19. J. Rogers volunteered to serve as one UPS appointee to the Election Committee; the second appointee will be named at or before the April 1 meeting. The 1993 Election Committee will coordinate elections during April for the 1993-95 Senate and the 1994 Election Committee.

C. Grievance Committee Issues Update - J. Rogers and M. Turner

J. Rogers and M. Turner informed the Senate that the parties involved in the grievance issue discussed at the March 4 meeting have met and are attempting to resolve the situation. In addition, another case has arisen involving a dispute regarding non-renewal of a contract; the Grievance Committee has asked for more information on this case.

D. Valentine reminded the senators that under the newly-approved Constitution, the Grievance Committee and the Advisory and Appeals Committee fall under the purview of the Senate, and the policy issues tabled earlier now must be addressed. B. Bowman, J. Rogers, and M. Turner will draft proposals regarding these issues for Senate discussion at future meetings.

4. Outside Income Policy - M. Turner

M. Turner distributed a draft policy on outside income which he had prepared at the request of the vice presidents. Upon initial review of the draft, senators expressed concern regarding the section relating to termination for failure to report outside income; several senators felt this provision was too harsh and would not be uniformly applied to all categories of appointments. B. Bowman and M. Turner will continue work on the draft and will present future versions to the Senate for review as they become available.

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5. Support Committee Proposal - S. Gladhart

The Senate discussed the draft Support Committee proposal revised by S. Gladhart regarding appointment statuses, termination with and without cause, and consulting and outside work. N. Kraemer expressed concern that the proposed policy change to allow termination of provisional unclassified professionals without cause within a contract period with three months' notice nullifies the purpose of the contractual agreement and unfairly places provisional appointees in jeopardy. She stated that although the need for administrative flexibility is valid in uncertain fiscal circumstances, provisional employees should be not be singled out for placement at risk while other probationary employees continue to enjoy traditional protections, and she suggested that latitude to accommodate unanticipated financial circumstances could be addressed by language inserted into annual contracts dealing with those specific circumstances. After further discussion, the Senate agreed that consideration of the recommendations should continue but that final action should be not be taken until the implications of the proposed revisions have been thoroughly examined and are discussed with the new administration.

J. Nickel stated concerns regarding the lack of notice required for termination of long-term "temporary" employees on grants and other forms of soft money. The issue of categorizing differing types of appointments (soft money, part-time, limited term) all as "temporary" may be explored in the future.

6. As May Occur

M. Turner informed the Senate that the president and vice presidents are supportive of a policy banning smoking from all university buildings and are currently awaiting review by the Regents attorney. Information regarding date of implementation or potential smoking assistance programs are not yet available.

7. Meeting Schedule

The next meeting of the Unclassified Professional Senate will be held on Thursday, April 1, 1993, at 8:30 a.m. in 425 Ahlberg Hall.

Meeting adjourned 10:30 a.m.