

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

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

Members Present: Barbara Bowman, Frankie Brown, Tom Brock, Stephen Gladhart, Bonnie Johnson, Nancy Kraemer, Barbara Mason, Don Nance, Janet Nickel, Jill Pletcher, Cathy Razook-Ellsworth, Jim Rogers, Mike Turner, Dale Valentine,

Members Absent: Noah Hart, Amy Schafer, Doug Vandersee

1. Approval of Prior Minutes

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

2. Reports

A. Senate President - D. Valentine

1. The Legislative Education Planning Committee has referred the Classified Senate's proposal for tuition waivers for university employees back to the Board of Regents for further study and recommendation.
2. The presidents of the Classified Senate and Unclassified Professional Senate and the vice president of the Faculty Senate have jointly signed a letter sent to each of the Regents and to Stanley Koplík regarding desired qualities for the presidential appointee. (A copy of the letter is attached.)
3. D. Valentine thanked F. Brown for coordinating the recent unclassified professional seminar series. Feedback from participants has been positive. F. Brown informed the Senate that new appointees had been sent special invitations to attend the presentations.
4. Two meetings between President Armstrong and D. Valentine to discuss the UPS Constitution have been scheduled but postponed while awaiting completion of Ted Ayres' review of the document.

B. Activities Committee

C. Razook-Ellsworth and F. Brown reported that respondents to the UPS survey indicated interest in both professional development and social activities. After reviewing comments and suggestions on the surveys, the Activities Committee recommended potential professional development topics of 1) Total Quality Management (TQM), 2) budget information, 3) safety, and 4) communications skills (presentations and employee relations); suggested social events included 1) a reception for current/future Senators, 2) a pizza party at the NIAR, 3) a baseball tailgate party, or 4) a monthly social at the University Club or the Woodman Center.

The Senate recommended developing programs on TQM and budget presentations (one before budget preparation and one following legislative action), and suggested adding the safety topic to future information seminar series. For the spring semester, the Senate supported holding a reception at the Woodman Center after the senatorial elections in honor of current and newly-elected senators.

The Activities Committee will coordinate the activities and will seek additional assistance as needed.

C. Support Committee - S. Gladhart

S. Gladhart reported that the Classified Senate has proposed a combined committee of representatives from the Classified, Unclassified Professional, and Faculty Senates to consider common issues such as tuition waivers for university employees, health insurance, budget issues, etc. The Senate supported this idea and asked S. Gladhart to appoint representatives as a Support Committee subcommittee.

The Support Committee will complete its report on various personnel issues for presentation to the Senate at the next meeting.

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3. **Spring Elections - N. Kraemer**

N. Kraemer presented a proposed timetable for the spring elections to complete the selection of the 1993 Election Committee by March 22 and Senate and 1994 Election Committee elections by April 27. The Senate approved the timetable and suggested minor modifications to the proposed ballots and nomination forms. N. Hart, B. Johnson, N. Kraemer, J. Nickel, and J. Rogers will serve as the Senate subcommittee to coordinate the election of the 1993 Election Committee.

M. Turner will request that the Senate be assigned a post office box number for receipt of all UPS correspondence and communications.

4. **General Meeting**

The Spring General Meeting for Unclassified Professional Personnel will be held on Wednesday, April 21, at 3:30 p.m.; location is to be determined. Senate and 1994 Election Committee nominees will be introduced at that meeting.

5. **Task Force on Alternative Tenure Track**

The Senate considered general issues of evaluation and career development and potential development of an alternative tenure track for those with teaching responsibilities. Before deciding on a course of action regarding these issues, the Senate asked S. Gladhart and B. Mason to coordinate a meeting of "teaching" unclassified professionals to identify and discuss concerns specific to those appointment. Evaluation and career development for all unclassified professionals will be placed on the agenda for discussion at the general meeting in April.

6. **As May Occur**

1. Relative to the governor's FY'94 budget recommendation that the state contribution to unclassified retirement be increased from 8.0% to 9.0%, D. Valentine reported that state contributions for WSU's peer institutions range from 9.6% to 16.8%. In addition, WSU faculty salaries are an average of \$5,800 less than those at its peer institutions.

7. **Meeting Schedule**

The next meeting of the Unclassified Professional Senate will be held on Thursday, March 4, 1993, at 8:30 a.m. in 425 Ahlberg Hall.

Meeting adjourned 9:58 a.m.

February 15, 1993

Mrs. Shirley Palmer, Chairperson
Kansas Board of Regents
Route 5, Box 118
Fort Scott, KS 66701

Dear Chairperson Palmer,

One of the positive and essential actions taken by the presidential search committee was their meeting with the various campus constituencies to gather input on critical factors to consider in the selection of a new university president. Many used that opportunity to voice ideas, suggestions and concerns.

We believe the Board of Regents deserves similar input in making the final presidential selection decision; so it is in the spirit of cooperation and genuine concern that we offer the following.

The successful screening process has resulted in final candidates who are not identical. Each candidate has different strengths in different areas, different personalities become obvious, etc. Though all remaining candidates are qualified, no two administrations will yield the same results on the WSU campus and in the lives of members of the University community, and in the Wichita community.

We do not wish to lobby for any particular candidate. We must, however, speak to the relative weight of the qualities which will be considered in making that important final selection. It is our view that talent in working with external constituencies is important, but is of less weight than the on-campus sort of expertise mentioned above. We must seek and find a president who has demonstrated success in respecting every campus constituency and one who has a track record of participative, shared governance.

On behalf of our respective senates, we thank you for your consideration.

Dale Valentine
President
Unclassified Professional Senate

Mardi Hammond
President
Classified Senate

Keith Williamson
Vice President
Faculty Senate

cc: other Regents
Stanley Koplik