

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of October 6, 1970

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. Present: Deans Aurand, Charignon, D'Isa, Miller, Paraska, Robinson, Scriven, Smith; also Dr. Randolph Foster and Dr. Edgar.

The minutes of the meeting of the Council on September 29 were approved as distributed.

1. The chairman asked for advice of the Council in making up the Academic Development section of the Special Subsidies, Research, and Public Services budget request for the 1971-73 biennium. The discussion produced suggestions for requests for special subsidies to support the development of honors sections of certain courses in the various schools, and for expansion of Summer School offerings.

2. Dr. Foster discussed problems arising out of the short time period available for cancellation of small sized classes. Dr. Foster emphasized the importance of follow-up by the department and school through the Registrar's office and then the Computer Center in cases of discrepancies between the size of classes shown in the 14-day roster and actual class sizes by headcount. Dean Charignon asserted that the cancellation problem would be diminished if fewer sections of courses were scheduled, and suggested we should become aware of the classes that need cancellation quarter after quarter. The Council was reminded that an Ad Hoc Subcommittee of the University Curriculum Committee had been established last Spring that was developing a record on small classes, and that the results of this committee's study would be made available to the Council. Deans Aurand and Charignon called attention to certain courses that of necessity, because of limitations on available equipment for example, would fail to meet the minimum enrollment rule, and which therefore should not need justification each quarter. Dean Scriven promised to provide each dean two copies of the tally board records at the end of each day of late registration, and also at the close of the second and fourth day of the change of registration period, in order to facilitate decisions on cancellation of classes.

Dean Miller commented on the problem of cancelled classes appearing on the report because students in such classes had failed to file drop cards in these classes. According to Dean Scriven, the results are still superior to those under the former procedure when such changes were an administrative responsibility, but he promised to study the problem and report to the Council. He also pointed out the problems raised for registration by the requirement of "special permits" used by several of the schools. Dean Miller questioned the value and usefulness of prerequisites (which are responsible for the "special permits"), pointing out that they are often shown unnecessary by the successful performance of students in classes for which they do not possess the required prerequisites. It was agreed that each Dean would request his chairmen to review carefully the course prerequisites now in effect.

3. Dean Scriven (a) expressed his willingness to meet with department chairmen in the interests of better communication on the procedures and problems of his office; and (b) distributed a report on suspensions and reinstatements by School, for the period Fall '69 - Spring '70. He moved, seconded by Charignon, that the suspension rules now in effect be retained. Motion was passed unanimously.

4. The recommendations made by Dr. Foster, in his June 1970 report on Classroom Availability and Use, on suggested distribution of classrooms projected for 1970, were discussed. Dean Paraska noted that planning of the Technical and Community College Building had been influenced by the Foster study. Dean Scriven moved, seconded by Dean D'Isa, that the study be considered valuable to the University and that Dr. Foster be asked to continue with this type of study for ongoing use under the changing conditions of the campus building program.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m. The next meeting will be held at 1:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 13 in the Conference Room of the Executive Office Building.