

Academic Senate Minutes January 11, 1995

Call to Order:

A quorum was announced and the meeting was called to order at 4:04.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

A request was made for corrections to the minutes of the December meeting. None were offered and a motion was made to accept them. The motion was seconded and passed.

Senate Executive Committee Report:

The Chair announced that the SEC has not met since the last Senate meeting. He also announced that he has met with student government in order to encourage student senate representatives to participate more in senate and committee meetings and that he expected them to do so. He further announced that he would ask the SEC to begin the process to move Senate elections to the spring so the incoming Chair could begin the year in office.

The Chair then turned the podium over to Bill Jenkins to report on GER Committee activities on behalf of the SEC. Bill Jenkins referred to the Senate resolution of last spring establishing a number of goals for the GER review and establishing the GER Committee to review them. He announced that the committee spent the fall term in a process of self education and in developing an understanding of the task they were charged with. This accomplished he indicated that the committee would begin actual work in the winter term and would be sending to the faculty a pamphlet explaining GER concerns. The committee wants each department to allow a representative of the GER to meet with it in order to discuss the department's GER concerns. The committee wants to reach out to the departments to encourage them to view GER goals as being departmentally related and to determine the extent to which GER goals can be shared by the majors. The committee believes that those goals can be shared and augmented by the majors and it will ask the departments how they can help meet the goals. The committee can then correlate GER developments within the context of the connection between the GER and the majors.

He offered the following metaphor as indicative of the relationship between the majors and the GER. The major is like one's home where one can exercise substantial control of the structure and use of the facilities. The GER is like the neighborhood where the home is found where we need to work together to insure overall quality in order to avoid having a "bad" neighborhood reduce the property value of the homes found there.

Finally, he announced that the GER Committee had not discussed the semester conversion issue prior to the President's raising the issue with them but that they did ask that the issue be resolved prior to the final GER revisions in order to avoid having to duplicate the effort in the short term.

Duane Rost commented that the President said that the issue did come from the GER.

Bill Jenkins reemphasized that it did not.

A comment from the floor clarified the issue by indicating that the President originated the issue and the GER Committee responded with a request to tie it to the GER revisions.

The Chair resumed the podium and announced that the next Senate meeting will be Feb. 1 and that agenda items for that meeting need to be forwarded to himself or the Secretary by Jan. 20. He also announced that a statewide organization of Senate Chairs is being established to allow for academic representation in dealing with statewide higher educational issues and the first meeting would be held at the University of Cincinnati on Feb. 1.

Senate Committee Reports:

The Chair made reference to reports from the University Curriculum Committee appended to the agenda and asked for any comments. There were none and the report was accepted.

Unfinished Business:

None.

New Business:

Ron Tabak indicated concern for the manner in which the issue of semester conversion has been raised and offered a prepared statement which is attached a Appendix A.

The Chair responded by stating that the President has asked to meet with the SEC and the GER Committee on the issue and that the President has not bypassed the Senate on the conversion issue.

Tabak asked if the issue has been decided in the SEC and the Chair said it has not.

A comment from the floor suggested that we seem to have bypassed the "it" and gone directly to the "how" and "when."

The Chair said that the SEC would discuss that issue.

In other new business Peter Kasvinsky announced that the Academic Research Committee would review all grant requests under the pending state grants for the acquisition of facilities for research purposes. This is to insure that all grants submitted from YSU fit with our mission and goals statements and within our resources. The deadline for submittal of the grants requests is Feb. 1. The committee wants to forward competitive requests and to emphasize the desirability of submitting collaborative requests with other educational institutions. Anyone interested in submitting a request can contact Dr. Kasvinsky or Beth Kushner for assistance.

Finally, the Chair suggested that committees should not wait until the Spring to make their reports.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was made at 4:29. It was seconded and passed without opposition.

ACADEMIC SENATE ATTENDANCE SHEET - January 11, 1995

Arts and Sciences

At Large

Departmental

Departmental

AFB Samuel Floyd Barger
FB Frederick Blue
PEB Paul Dalbec
TD Tom Dobbstein
HE Hugh Earnhart
WJ William Jenkins
TM Thomas Maraffa
NR Nathan Richey
CS Christopher Sweeney

JS John Usis, Biology
TC Ted Chrobak, C&IS
JS James Schramer, English
DS David Stephens, Geography
MB Martin Berger, History
GP Gabriel Palmer-Fernandez, P&R
PS Paul Sracic, Pol. & Soc. Science
MS Mark Shutes, Soc. & Anth.

AH Allen Hunter, Chemistry
TP Tod Porter, Economics
HC Herv'e Corb'e, For. Lang. & Lit.
CS Charles Singler, Geology
JB John Buoni, Mathematics
RT Ron Tabak, Physics & Ast.
JM James Morrison, Psychology
JD Joan DiGiulio, Social Work

Business Administration

At Large

At Large

Departmental

HC Hiyang Chen
RK Rama Krishnan
CS Clement Psenicka

JD James Daly
RK Ram Kasuganti
ES Eugene Sekaras

RR Ray Ross, Accounting
TR Tom Rakestraw, Management
TD Terry Deiderick, Marketing

Education

At Large

Departmental

Departmental

PG Phil Ginnetti
SR Susan Rippberger

JGW Janet Gill-Wigel, Counseling
DR David Ruggles, Ed. Adm.
NS Nancy Sweeney, Spec. Ed.

NS Nancie Shillington, E&M
ET Edward Tokar, Foundations
JD James Douglas, Sec. Ed.

Engineering

At Large

Departmental

Departmental

SG Steve Gardner
DR Duane Rost

RJ Richard Jones, Chem. Eng.
SS Samuel Skarote, Elec. Eng.
MZ Mansour Zenouzi, Eng. Tech.

JA Javad Alam, Cibil & Env.
MC Martin Cala, Ind. & Sys.
JR Jeff Ray, Mech. Eng.

Fine and Performing Arts

At Large

At Large

Departmental

NA Nancy Andrew
JM John Murphy
DR David Robinson

DH Dennis Henneman
SN Steve Nolan
JT John Turk

GK Genevra Kornbluth, Art
DF Darla Funk, Music
JL James LaLumia, Comm.

Health and Human Services

At Large

Departmental

Departmental

RC Robert Campbell
DM Diane McDougal
JN John Neville
PS Pamela Schuster

JB Janet Boehm, Allied Health
MS Marion Scott, Health Sci.
MB Mary Beaubien, Human Ecol.

RD Richard Dillak, Crim. Jus.
JW Jennie Wood, Nursing
FB Frank Bosso, HPES

Administration

BB Barbara Brothers
DS David Sweetkind
SC Shirley Carpenter
GM Gordon Mapley

DD David Decker
FT Frank Tarantine
RD Raymond Dye
AO Alfred Owens II
CJ Clara Jennings
JY John Yemma
DG David Genaway
HY Harold Yiannaki

JS James Scanlon
SA Cynthia Anderson
PK Peter Kasvinsky

Students

At Large

School/College

School/College

DT Dennis Gartland
CR Chad Ring
JS John Stilliana
RS Ryan Spencer
JC Jennifer Campbell
KW Cathy Wess

JN Joseph Nohra, Education
BO Brian O'Neil, Business
TB Todd Beckett, A&S
LAH LeeAnn Henry, Grad. School

LR Leslie Raines, Perf. Arts
DP Don Prue, HHS
ND Nizar Diab, Eng.
CH Christopher Heasley, Pres.
SM Sherry Merritt, VP

**Y.S.U. Academic Senate
January 11, 1995
Ron Tabak, Physics & Astronomy**

According to the *Charter of the Academic Senate*, "In recognition of the essential role of the faculty in the development of policies concerning the academic functions and activities of the University, it is appropriate for the Senate to have primary responsibility for the development of new policies, or changes in existing policies, integral and essential to the academic functions and activities of the University." It is my belief that President Cochran is violating our Charter by forcing us to change to the semester system.

At the December 1994 Senate meeting, he stated that "some on campus would like the President to simply decide but that he thinks that it is an issue that should be determined through broad involvement...." What does President Cochran mean by "broad involvement?" In his "Open Letter to the University Community" dated December 6, 1994, this apparently means "several faculty members," "several individuals," "several members," and "several administrators." The word *several* means "more than two or three, but not many." Where is this "broad involvement" Dr. Cochran is talking about? He goes on in his letter to state, "If some feel the time is not right, I would be interested in hearing when another date would be more feasible and why we should delay the conversion process into the future." In other words, YSU is going to change no matter what the faculty, the students, or the Senate wants! This is reinforced by yesterday's meeting of the Arts & Sciences DAC. Should we change? was never discussed, only when and how.

This exactly what the president did when he reorganized the various schools and moved departments. How much input did the Senate have then? None! Zero! The president wants a report from this body by March 1, 1995 that "rubber stamps" his already-made decision. If we permit him to do this again, what then is our purpose? Why do we even need an academic senate?

Some of Dr. Cochran's reasons do not hold water. For example, he states that "Cleveland State and Cuyahoga Community College are in the conversion process, leaving YSU as the only Northeast Ohio University on the quarter system." Well, I talked to the registrar at Cleveland State yesterday and was informed that CCC will remain on the quarter system. He said that this will cause CSU to reconsider the change and that they might well remain on the quarter system. Note that this means that 9 out of 13 state universities are currently on the quarter system, a substantial majority.

No matter what your opinion is on quarter/semester conversion, I ask that you join with me in discussing ALL aspects of a change. To do any less will be to effectively destroy this body that we serve.