

Note: Please get agenda items for the December 5 Senate meeting to Bege Bowers, English Department, by 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 19. (Agenda must be photocopied early because of the holiday.)

ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES  
November 5, 1997

OVERVIEW:

Major topics presented/discussed: general education (p. 2); North Central reaccreditation (p. 2).  
Names of 1997-98 Senate committee chairs appear beside the committee name in the minutes.  
Policy changes: none.

CALL TO ORDER:

Jim Morrison, chair of the Academic Senate, called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

Minutes of the 8 October 1997 meeting were approved as distributed.

SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

J. Morrison noted that the Senate Executive Committee met and has updated the list of Senate committee chairs. Please contact the respective chair if you have business to bring before a committee. (Names of the chairs appear with the committee names in these minutes.)

FACULTY ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE CHANCELLOR: Duane Rost's FAC report is attached to the Senate minutes—see Appendix A.

CHARTER & BYLAWS COMMITTEE: Chair: Dale Harrison. No report.

ELECTIONS & BALLOTING COMMITTEE: Chair: Julian Madison. A committee report was attached to the 5 November Senate agenda.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS COMMITTEE: Chair: Charles Singler. No report.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE: Chair: Craig Campbell. No report.

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE: Chair: Anne York. No report.

ACADEMIC PLANNING COMMITTEE: Chair: Patricia Hauschildt. Committee member Amanda Parrock reported that the committee will distribute a survey asking for suggestions/opinions about academic issues related to semester conversion. The committee is meeting weekly.

INTEGRATED TECHNOLOGIES COMMITTEE: Chair: Susan Fisher. No report.

UNIVERSITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE: Chair: Denise Da Ros. Da Ros reported that committee members have been brought up to date on activities related to the Metro College; they plan to monitor the relation between academic standards and outreach efforts.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE: Chair: Gary Stanek. No report.

ACADEMIC RESEARCH COMMITTEE: Chair: Patricia McCarthy. No report.

STUDENT ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE: Temporary chair: Lyn Hemminger. No report.

STUDENT ACADEMIC GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE: Chair: Cynthia Anderson. No report.

HONORS COMMITTEE: Chair: George Neil. Neil reported that the committee will explore a more efficient way to evaluate honors contracts, as well as begin to plan for converting the honors program for semesters.

ACADEMIC EVENTS COMMITTEE: A chair will be elected soon. No report.

GER TASK FORCE—AD HOC COMMITTEE: Bill Jenkins, chair, reported that the committee has completed work and forwarded recommendations to the Academic Standards Committee, which will bring a proposal to the Senate. The task force's recommendations, an explanatory document, and appendices will be sent to faculty, higher-level administrators, and student government. Read the report, and be ready to act when a proposal comes to the Senate.

REPORT ON NORTH CENTRAL REACCREDITATION PROCESS: Janice Elias, coordinator of the reaccreditation process, reported that the North Central Self-study Committee has been working diligently. Sections of the draft report are being sent to individuals knowledgeable about issues in those sections. The entire report will be distributed broadly for comment before the final revision. All comments will be saved as part of the exhibits for the visiting team.

The committee is awaiting two major sources of information needed to complete the self-study:

1. Results of the Student Satisfaction Survey being administered in classes this quarter.
2. Results of the ACT Alumni Outcomes Survey (targeting 1994 graduates).

The steering committee is discussing and trying to reach consensus on the University's major strengths and concerns. There are two concerns, in particular, with which everyone can help right now:

1. Our lack of assessment information documenting student educational outcomes. Whatever you can do in your departments to move forward with your assessment programs before the May visit would be very much appreciated.
2. General education. This concern was cited by the previous visiting team, and we need to have an agreed-upon general education program. The General Education Task Force has worked very hard for a long time and completed its recommendations. Support the proposed model, even though you may not think it is perfect. It can be modified over time if necessary. Failure to establish a new general education program would likely result in a very critical report from the North Central team and a follow-up visit.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 4:27 p.m.