

Academic Events Committee

November 17, 1976

PRESENT: Turk, Slavin, Barger, Hedrick, Reid

A discussion opened on the possibility of improving the quality of commencement speakers. Hedrick: avoid introducing members of the Board of Trustees. Limit address to 10-15 minutes. Those consulted favored a social hour. Question not resolved was whether social hour might not be ignored by parents of graduates anxious to attend their own and/or friends' social affairs.

Barger: grads could be asked. Turk: social tea favored, rather than a more formal repast. Reid: favored introduction of Board. Barger: there seems to be a general positive response to recognize retirees; favored tea; critical of usual commencement address.

Discussion turned to 1) recognition of faculty; 2) making commencement more personal as by reception; 3) encourage a major address of academic concern.

Barger: develop recognition of retired faculty. Experiment with receptions, but ask students beforehand. Present concern with type of speakers to president.

Moved: 1) list names of retirees and introduce them (carried). 2) Motion that parents of graduates who opt to come tabled until Barger obtains information on numbers and funding of affairs. Aim for spring commencement. Barger to report to committee at its next meeting. 3) Commencement address recommended that it be limited to 15 minutes. (carried).

Slavin: possibility of faculty colloquia. Question is possibility of reserving an hour in week for such purpose. To be examined at later date.

Respectfully submitted,

Morris Slavin
Secretary pro-tem