

Meeting of the Academic Events Committee -- February 22, 1978, 4 P.M.

Floyd Barger presiding.

Present: Barger, Curry, Hedrick, Hulsoppie, Reid, Slavin, Szirmay.

Absent: Brownlee, Byo, Foldvary, Roderick

The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson, F. Barger, who introduced two new student members of the Committee, Nina Rossi (a transfer student from Goucher College) and Richard Curry, a representative from Student Government.

The chair announced first that Barbara Scott of the Alumni Relations Office would like to arrange a specific meeting with the Committee to consider our position on the honors convocation.

Under Old Business, Barger reminded the Committee that last fall he had accepted the position as Committee Chairperson with the idea that someone new would be elected early in the following year. However, there were no volunteers willing to serve as chairperson of the Committee. Consequently, Slavin suggested that Barger reconsider serving as Chairperson if no volunteer would come forward. As a result of this it was agreed that any discussion of a new chairperson would have to be moved to the end of the agenda.

It was then reported that Hedrick and Slavin had met with Barbara Scott since the Committee's last meeting to study item #3 on the Agenda--the receptions for graduates and their parents following the formal graduation exercises. These receptions would be held following the formal graduation exercises in each of the schools involved. Hedrick reported that Barbara Scott felt that there were many positive things that came from such a

reception prompting the belief that such a practice should be continued. Barbara Scott also had reported to the committee members that she felt catering should be continued by Gladieux. She reported that last year the planners had prepared for about 6,000 people while 4,000 had attended. She also reported that no funds would be available for cookies, etc. (The cost for the punch alone last year was \$800.00) Barger then asked if funds would be available this year. Hedrick reported that the cost should be assumed by the various schools or colleges which could receive funds from their various departments.

Additionally, it was reported that people attending these receptions would be directed to the departments of each of the schools where the graduates would receive their diplomas. It was believed that the new Arts and Sciences facility would help to alleviate the situation of the previous year.

Suggestions were made in the discussion that followed:

- 1) Slavin said that location of departments must be made clear to those attending the graduation/receptions.
- 2) In reply to Slavin's question to find out if funds were available for cookies, etc., Barger said we could contact the various deans to see if they could supply funds.
- 3) Slavin proposed that Hedrick send a letter to the various deans inquiring about the availability of funds.

The next item on the agenda that was discussed (item #5) was that concerning the method of honoring retirees. Hedrick reported

that of the questionnaires that had been distributed, there were 58 replies. A breakdown of the replies indicated that 56 of this sample believed that some recognition should be given to retirees while only two (2) responded negatively. Thirty-six (36) believed that this recognition should be given at commencement while 14 disagreed and two (2) made no response. Twenty-seven (27) believed that this recognition should be given at a formal dinner while 19 said it shouldn't and 12 failed to respond. Forty-eight (48) of the sample believed that some document should be presented to the retiree while eight (8) thought this was unnecessary and two (2) chose not to respond. Hedrick reported further that most responses came back with the added comment that the questioners should talk with the people who are retiring.

Barger suggested that a letter should be sent out to retirees giving them the option of either being recognized or not being recognized. Also the question was raised as to how this would be included in the graduation exercises.

In the discussion that ensued Barger, Slavin and Hedrick related that no one knows who really plans the commencement exercises except that Barbara Scott is responsible for its implementation.

At this point Barger summarized the results of the questionnaire and the discussion of it. It was concluded:

- 1) that names of retirees should be included in the commencement bulletin
- 2) that some recognition of these retirees be given by the president (perhaps verbal during the commencement exercises)

- 3) that at some point the retiree be presented with a framed document (at graduation, within his own department or wherever seems most suitable)
- 4) that a letter be sent to each of the retirees allowing them to opt out if they so desire.
- 5) that once the above steps have been completed the Committee should leave implementation of this plan to Barbara Scott.

Hulsopple made a motion that the above points summarized by Barger be adopted by the Committee. It was seconded by Slaviv and passed unanimously by all present.

Reid suggested that University Relations could photograph retirees. Hedrick suggested formally for the Committee that a form letter to retirees should be sent from Taylor Alderman's office.

Barger asked that the Committee meet again this quarter. It was agreed that the next meeting would be held at 4:00 P.M. on March 8, 1978.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Hulsopple