

1969

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Faculty Senate

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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY SENATE  
Minutes of October 6, 1969

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lahey, Read, Whitlow, Holley, Hieronymus, Tingley, Keiser, Sparks, Gover, Hattabaugh, Crane, Palmer, McCabe, Green.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Spaniol.

Correction to the minutes of September 29, 1969: In line one in Item E of Reports, the word "Administrative" should be substituted for the word "Academic."

The minutes of September 29, 1969 were approved as corrected.

At this point it was moved (Keiser) and seconded (Tingley) to remove the Calendar from the end of the Senate's minutes. It was pointed out that the Agenda is rarely and only accidentally related to the Calendar as published. The motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS:

- A. The official minutes of the Council of Administrative Officers meeting of September 25, 1969 were distributed. Mr. Crane had reported on this meeting on September 29. However, he was instructed to inquire about the accuracy of a figure quoted in relation to "commonly accepted educational expenses" which a member of the Senate believed to be erroneous.
- B. The minutes of the meeting of the Council on University Planning of October 1, 1969. Among other things, "it was the consensus of the Council that a sidewalk should be planned on one or both sides of Ninth Street south from the Laboratory School."

COMMUNICATIONS:

- A. From President Doudna, a memorandum suggesting the possibility of seeking advice from the alumni in naming the new residence hall.
- B. From Mr. Stuart L. Penn, a copy of a letter relating to evaluation by visitation. In part, the letter reads as follows:

At a staff meeting on September 23, the members of the Philosophy Department voted unanimously (6-0) to oppose the procedure and the substance of the classroom visitation policy stated in your undated memorandum which was received September 15. This memorandum had been forwarded to staff members for their consideration prior to our departmental meeting.

All of us were surprised and distressed that a matter of this significance had been adopted as policy without any opportunity for discussion by the teaching faculty, so far as we know. This procedure appears to us to be contrary to sound practice in matters of such import and also appears to be contrary to established Board policy according to which there should be faculty participation in the consideration of

policies affecting their welfare (By-Laws, Board of Governors, Sec. II, Art. V, Par. 3, p. 18, 1966).

Specific objections to the substance of the visitation policy include the views that the policy, as stated, does not specify a clear objective or guideline(s) in terms of which the evaluator should operate (although it is generally assumed that we all know what good teaching is, this is a topic that might be fruitfully discussed); that the policy of visitation is of questionable value if it is to be used as a significant instrument for determining reappointment, promotion, tenure, and possible dismissal; that the presence of the evaluator in the classroom may very well seriously distort the staff member's normal performance either by way of anticipation or apprehension; that perhaps even two visitations a year do not enable the evaluator to form a sound judgment of a typical performance; and finally, that knowledge of such officially prescribed visitations would probably discourage many qualified persons from taking positions at this University, since classroom visitation is more characteristic of the elementary school than university-level instruction.

In brief, the negative response of the staff plus my own concern about the visitation policy lead me to urge you to reconsider this policy and to consider the whole evaluation process in its broader dimensions, preferably with at least a cross-section of the teaching faculty.

- C. From Mr. Ken Midkiff, a letter requesting the Faculty Senate's endorsement of the Student Senate's proposal to raise fees \$2 to provide scholarships for socially and economically deprived minority groups. It was moved (Green) and seconded (McCabe) that the Faculty Senate commend the Student Senate for its attempt to provide scholarships for socially and economically deprived groups through a \$2 increase in fees. In the ensuing discussion it was remarked that the original motion of the Student Senate is unclear and impossible to administer. In reply, it was noted that whatever finally comes from the Board will emerge in administrable form. In response to the observation that fees were increasing too rapidly, it was stated that since many fees exist already, additions could be made for worthy projects. The fact that the students had a social conscience, it was noted, was commendable. The motion carried by a vote of eight for and five against.
- D. From Miss Kenny J. Williams, a memorandum covering a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Council of Faculties of September 8, 1969. Received and circulated.
- E. From Mr. John Buenker, President of the Eastern Illinois University Chapter of the AAUP, a letter stating that the organization's executive committee requests the Faculty Senate to "use its good offices to effect a Moratorium" on the implementation of the matter of classroom visitation of non-tenured faculty members until "the entire matter of evaluation can be given proper consideration." Discussion postponed.
- F. From Mr. Robert White, a memorandum covering copies of a proposal "to make uniform the nomination-and-election procedures for all elective faculty

councils." It was moved (Holley) and seconded (Crane) that the proposal be referred to the Nominations and Elections Committee for consideration. The motion passed unanimously.

- G. From Mr. Rex Syndergaard, a memorandum which reads as follows: "The vote of the Department of History on classroom visitations is as follows: 6 favored the plan, 10 opposed the plan, 4 position qualified, not entirely for or against the plan, 2 did not vote. Voting was done by secret ballot."
- H. From Mr. Rollie Spaniol, a copy of "an act relating to research or consulting services by members of the faculty of state-supported institutions of higher learning." The act permits certain research or consultation unrelated to the university if written permission is granted by the president and if a full report is made upon completion of the job.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Two matters were raised for possible further discussion: the reaction by faculty members in case of a strike by non-academic employees and the Moratorium to protest the war in Vietnam planned for October 15. It was remarked that whether or not a faculty member crossed a picket line depended on his own conscience since the faculty was non-union. It was moved (Whitlow) and seconded (Palmer) that the matter of a Moratorium be placed on the agenda for future discussion. It was remarked that a clear public statement of what is happening in relation to this subject was needed. The motion passed by a vote of twelve for and one opposed.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

- A. It was moved (Tingley) and seconded (Read) that the present agenda items of visitation and evaluation be considered together. The motion passed by a vote of eleven in favor and two against.
- B. It was moved (Gover) and seconded (Holley) that the matters of the eleven-and-one-half month contract and of sabbatical leave be considered together. The motion passed unanimously.
- C. It was moved (Tingley) and seconded (Hattabaugh) that parking be removed from the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.
- D. It was moved (Crane) and seconded (McCabe) that the library be removed from the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.
- E. Miss Hieronymus referred the agenda item scholarships for children of deceased faculty members to an ad hoc committee composed of Senators Gover, Green, and Crane for consideration and recommendations.
- F. It was moved (Keiser) and seconded (Holley) that the Executive Committee appoint an ad hoc committee from the Senate and from the faculty at large to consider a draft of a proposed constitution for the Senate. It was remarked that a constitution was unnecessary. Another member suggested that the Senate disband. The motion passed by a vote of nine for, two against, and two present.

- G. It was moved (Keiser) and seconded (Holley) that the subject of Review Committees be considered within the context of the constitution. The motion passed by a vote of ten for and three present.
- H. The draft of the "Policy on Requests of Individuals or Organizations to Make Presentations to the Board, and for Submitting Proposals Recommending New Board Policies or the Revision of Existing Board Policies" was discussed. It was the consensus of the Senate that provisions for appeals to the Board by individual faculty members should be made as explicit and as direct as possible. There was also some question about the power of the Executive Officer to approve agenda items. It seemed incongruous to some that the individual whose major function was to carry out the policy of the Board also approved matters to be considered by it. The President of the Senate was instructed to seek additional information about the real meaning of several statements providing for "approval" by the Executive Officer.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p. m. The next scheduled meeting of the Faculty Senate is on Monday, October 13, from noon to 2 p. m. in the Heritage Room of the University Union.

#### AGENDA

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| 1. Constitution                                      | 7. Selection of President                                 |
| 2. Evaluation (visitation)                           | 8. Campus disorders, local policy                         |
| 3. Proposal for nominations and elections procedures | 9. Recognition of retiring faculty members                |
| 4. Eleven-and-one-half month contract (sabbatical)   | 10. Scholarships for children of deceased faculty members |
| 5. Presentations to Board                            | 11. Intercultural Council                                 |
| 6. Moratorium  |   |

John H. Keiser  
Secretary