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Faculty Senate

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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE
Proceedings of April 5, 1971

MEMBERS PRESENT: Barford, Kluge, Green, Elliott, Gover, Whitlow, Funk, Rawls, Palmer, Tingley, Lenihan, Downs, Nichols, Whalin

MEMBERS ABSENT: Lahey

Student Observers Present: Marks, Grosboll

Student Observers Absent: Brown

The Proceedings of March 29, 1971 were approved as published.

REPORTS:

- A. Mr. Kluge reported that the preparations for the elections tomorrow are completed.
- B. Mr. Tingley made a report on the status of the Presidential Selection. The number of candidates has now been reduced to three by the withdrawal of one of the final four candidates. Mr. Tingley, Mr. Phalin, Miss Campbell, and Mr. Perry made a trip last week to Morman, Oklahoma and San Jose, California to get more information about some of the candidates. Mr. Tingley thought the trip was productive. He still expects that the appointment will be made by the Board of Governors at its meeting this week.
- C. Mr. Whitlow reported that the nominations Committee still needs the name of a member and an alternate for the Who's Who Committee.
- D. Mr. Nichols submitted the following report of the ad hoc committee on Professional duties:

Suggested Senate Response to the CIO
on the Proposal for a Statement on the
Professional Duties of Faculty

In response to the CIO's request that the Faculty Senate endorse its "Professional Duties" statement, for inclusion in the Faculty Manual, the Senate considers that statement too specific in its provision, and too narrowly drawn in scope, to be appropriate for the general guidance of the faculty. Since most faculty already adhere to these recommendations, and take most of them for granted, the Senate suggests that they be communicated through established channels to new faculty in September, or to individuals as needed. Of course, it is accepted principle that professors observe the stated regulations of their institution, provided they do not contravene academic freedom.

If, indeed, there is a developing situation which requires a statement on professional ethics in the Faculty Manual, we suggest that a more balanced presentation of basic principles, emanating from the faculty themselves, would be in order. Accordingly, in lieu of the CIO proposal, the Senate offers the following statements.

A Statement on Professional Ethics for the Faculty Manual

I. The Professional Obligations of Faculty:

- A. The faculty recognizes the acceptance by the academic world of the principle

that the University has the right to make regulations for the guidance of teachers, provided such guidelines do not contravene academic freedom.

- B. While the teacher is entitled to freedom in the classroom in discussing his subject, it is improper for him to persistently intrude material which has no relation to his subject, or to fail to present the subject matter of his course as announced to his students and as approved by the faculty in their collective responsibility for the curriculum.
- C. Evaluation of students and the award of credit must be based on academic performance professionally judged and not on matters irrelevant to that performance.
- D. While in the line of duty, professors may be called upon to make professional judgements of their colleagues, it is unethical to render disrespectful and non-professional criticisms of ones colleagues to students or any other persons. There is need for faculty to assume a more positive role as guardians of academic values against unjustified assaults from its own members.

II. Protection of the Academic Rights of Faculty:

- A. While student opinions should be weighed in faculty decisions affecting faculty status, the faculty member should be duly protected from capricious and uniformed judgement by students as by anyone else.
 - (1) Students wishing to make complaints about instructors should be encouraged to go through proper channels. The complaints should be first directed to the chairman and appropriate faculty committee of the department concerned rather than directly to the administration.
 - (2) Before any credence is given to such complaints care should be taken that they are within appropriate professional norms.
 - (3) When charges are made, the accused teacher should be promptly informed, and given ample opportunity to be heard in his own defense.
 - (4) Before any charges of incompetence are seriously considered, testimony should be sought from ones fellow teachers and scholars.
- B. Scholarly competence and professional responsibility on the part of faculty are to be assumed until proven otherwise.

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It is requested that faculty members send their reactions to this report to the Secretary of the Senate.

President Doudna joined the meeting to present a proposal for the creation of a new major administrative position, University Legal Counsel. He stated that policy now required that the president consult with the faculty on the creation of new major administrative positions and that it seemed to him that the Faculty Senate was the most logical faculty group to consult. He said that the new position had been considered by the Vice Presidents at some length and that they were all strongly in agreement with the need for the position. He read from a prepared statement outlining the duties of the position and enumerating the many problems which arise at the University needing legal expertise. He left a copy of the document for use of the Senate in their

At a recent meeting of the College of Letters and Science Department Heads and Division Officers a motion was passed (19 yes, 0 no, 2 abstentions) to request that "the second paragraph of Item 3 (the item having to do with final examinations) be stricken from the proposal." A second motion was passed (13 yes, 3 no, 5 abstentions) to approve the proposal as amended for inclusion in the Faculty Manual.

Lawrence A. Ringenberg
Dean, College of Letters and Science

The meeting adjourned at 1:49 p.m. The next scheduled meeting of the Faculty Senate will be on Monday, April 12, 1971 at 12:00 noon in the Heritage Room of the University Union.

AGENDA:

1. Personnel Matters
2. Classroom Visitation
3. Registration
4. Enrollment Policy for Faculty
5. Professional Duties of Instructional Staff

Edwin Whalin
Secretary