

1972

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Faculty Senate

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E A S T E R N I L L I N O I S U N I V E R S I T Y

FACULTY SENATE

Minutes of May 8, 1972

MEMBERS PRESENT: Doughty, Downs, Elliott, Katsimpalis, Knott, Lenihan, Johnson, McLaren, Owens, Scholes, Shuff, Trank, Smith, Whalin, Wiseman

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STUDENT OBSERVERS: Janine Hartman, Alan Grosboll, Stan Harvey

The regular meeting of the Faculty Senate was held Monday, May 8, 1972, at 12:00 noon, in the Heritage Room of the Martin Luther King, Jr., University Union. The minutes of May 1 were approved as published.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mr. Whitlow, retiring chairman, conducted the election.

Chairman:

Doughty, Shuff, and Lenihan were nominated for the office of chairman. Lenihan was elected on the second ballot to serve as chairman of the senate.

Vice Chairman:

Doughty and Shuff were nominated for the office of vice-chairman. Doughty was elected to serve as vice-chairman.

Secretary:

After Wiseman was nominated for Secretary, C. Smith moved, seconded by Shuff, that the nominations be closed and that Wiseman be elected by acclamation. The motion carried unanimously.

Katsimpalis moved, seconded by Lenihan, that the Senate thank Mr. Whitlow for his time, effort, and effective leadership in serving as chairman at the Senate during the past year. The motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ad Hoc Committee to Draft a Response to the Board of Governors Executive Officer's Report no. 209--DISCUSSION DRAFT OF A SYSTEM ROLE AND SCOPE PROGRAM

C. Smith moved, seconded by Trank, to approve the resolution drafted by the committee. The motion passed with 12 yes, 1 no, and 1 abstention. (The resolution is appended to the minutes as Appendix 1)

Nominations Committee

Trank reported that the committee has received several nominations for

the various faculty committees and will make a report next meeting.

Council on University Planning

Minutes of the last meeting of the Council were distributed. Elliott reported that the next meeting of the Council will be held on May 10, 1972.

COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were received:

1. A copy of a letter from Dr. Franklin, chairman of the Faculty Research Council, to Dr. Whitley thanking him for his service on the Council.
2. A memorandum from Mike Goetz, Student Body President, asking the chairman to appoint the faculty members to the various Student-Faculty Boards. The memorandum was referred to the nominations committee.
3. A memorandum from President Fite concerning faculty representation on the Athletic Board. He asked the Senate to respond to the Student Senate's suggestion that the Student Senate be allowed to appoint two faculty members to the board.

Downs moved, seconded by Scholes, that the Senate continue the practice of having the Senate appoint faculty members to the Athletic Board. The motion passed with 13 yes and 1 no.

4. A memorandum from President Fite concerning the possibility of establishing a University Senate. He referred to a recommendation made by the Program Review Committee that a study committee be established to look into the feasibility of a University Council and to make a report.

Shuff moved, seconded by Wiseman, that the executive committee of the Senate prepare a proposal for the formation of such a study committee and present it for action at the next senate meeting. The motion passed with 13 yes, 0 no, and 0 abstentions.

5. A copy of the Student Senate Minutes dated April 25, 1972.
6. A copy of the Minutes of the May 4 meeting of the Council on Faculty Research.
7. Received a copy of a report of the Faculty Advisory Committee to the Board of Higher Education. The meeting was held in Bloomington on 28 April 1972. The report was submitted by R. White, English department.

Mr. White attended this portion of the meeting to answer any questions about the report and to direct attention to parts 3 and 4 of the report.

Owens moved, seconded by Downs, to publish parts 3 and 4 of the report.

The motion passed unanimously. (See Appendix 2)

OLD BUSINESS

Owens moved, seconded by McLaren, that the secretary investigate the status of Agenda Item 1, Personnel Matters--Promotion. The motion passed unanimously.

Owens moved, seconded by Downs, that Agenda Item 6, Textbook Rental Plan, be removed from the agenda. The motion passed with 8 yes, 4 no, and 1 abstention.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Faculty Senate will be held in the Heritage Room of the University Union at 12 noon, Monday, May 15, 1972.

AGENDA

1. Personnel Matters--Promotion
2. Classroom Visitation
3. By-Laws
4. Improvement of College Teaching
5. Personnel Policies--AFT and University Personnel Committee

Tom Elliott
Secretary

(Appendix 1)

DRAFT RESOLUTION FOR FACULTY SENATE MAY 8, 1972

The Faculty Senate of Eastern Illinois University has been advised of the draft statement initiated and written by the Executive Officer of the Board of Governors headed "Part IV: Discussion Draft of a System Role and Scope Program," Report No. 209, April 13, 1972. The draft contains views so contrary to our perspectives that we find the analysis unacceptable.

The Senate is aware that Phase III of the Master Plan for Higher Education calls for Eastern to emphasize the development of undergraduate programs rather than to assign a high priority to graduate curricula. However, the tenor of the draft statement goes much further than merely emphasizing the undergraduate role of the University; it equates that role with vocational training, remedial instruction and a compromise with academic excellence. For example, the draft calls for "pragmatic and immediate educational objectives," "non-classroom type programs such as counseling, placement...", experimental teaching on a "remedial basis;" and for preparation to make a contribution to "the solution of societal problems." Academic achievement is to be replaced by assessing "student progress" without "relying upon predetermined standards." Therefore the intent of Part IV is to assign to senior institutions the status and philosophy of the junior college. The junior college was created to be "service type," "pragmatic," to meet the "training needs of today's world" to serve the "legitimate educational" and "genuine" needs of students, and to promote especially "creative and experimental teaching... on a remedial basis." Only a small percentage of junior college students would continue at a four-year institution toward a bachelor's degree. The large investments of both local communities and the state in their junior colleges should be used to the fullest.

Primarily, the mission of higher education has been to give direction to the community; Part IV purports that we take direction from the community instead. To follow accordingly is to yield the professional character of our endeavor to political pressure, as if we are insensitive to social and economic trends and problems. We are quite aware "of the nature of the mix of students served" at Eastern. The academic committees of each campus review policies, procedures, programs, in terms of opportunities peculiar to each campus, and make changes over the long period so as to ensure careful consideration and an orderly democratic process. But program changes should not become system-wide.

Almost all of our students have career goals which call for a rigorous academic program with well defined standards which assure that they will be adequately prepared to take a useful and satisfying place in society. Many of our students are of high ability to whom we have a responsibility because they are primarily from our geographical area, and Eastern has traditionally been depended upon to serve their needs at minimal cost. From these more able people will come most of the doctors, lawyers, engineers, dentists, teachers, and other professional people who will serve society. To reshape Eastern to permit more and more students to acquire degrees regardless of the students' ability and apart from "relying upon predetermined standards" traditional to higher education would leave Eastern crippled academically and doom many of our future students to low-level niches in our economy and society instead of allowing them to prepare for the professional careers that would be more rewarding both to the individuals and society.

Therefore because the Faculty Senate supports a more broadly defined and substantial concept of the meaning and function of higher education than is implied in Part IV, and because it believes that the various university communities can contribute significantly in helping to define the future of the institutions, it requests that no further action be taken by the Board of Governors or its Executive Officer until such contributions are obtained.

(Appendix 2)

To: Faculty Senate From: R. White, English

5 May 1972

Subject: Report on FAC/BHE

The Faculty Advisory Committee to the Board of Higher Education met in Bloomington on 28 April 1972.

3. The Chandler Report--The Commission on the Financing of Higher Education--concerning which I reported to the Senate in March, is still under discussion. The chief effect of the Report is to assume higher tuition and to increase aid programs wherever needed, with ISSC aid extended (consistent with the new state constitution) to all citizens of the state of all ages who want further or renewed education, and with all aid to be determined by need. The question being raised by the FAC is whether such a program will not become simply another form of public welfare, with aid applicants being motivated more by economic than by academic concerns. (For example, "good standing" is rapidly losing meaning; at Chicago State this term there are students simultaneously on the honors list and probation.) Another FAC concern is whether or not the ISSC might become the focal point for all institutional budget-planning: If tuition continues to rise, institutions will either have to lower costs somehow (at the cost of standards), or cater to students who can qualify for ISSC aid. Indeed, I am specifically instructed by FAC to request faculty opinion at Eastern as to whether, and if so, how, faculty might argue against the seemingly inevitable high increase in tuition. I shall appreciate the Senate's bringing this to faculty attention. I welcome any comment from faculty at Eastern, and will carry it on to the FAC.

4. Considerable discussion developed from a recent BHE questionnaire apparently sent all institutional presidents about current sabbatical leave practices. There is reason to fear that Illinois may go the way of New York, and abolish the practice of sabbatical leave. Again, I am instructed to request from faculty at Eastern any rationale for continuing (or for abandoning) sabbatical leave programs. Again, I welcome comment, and will forward all received to the FAC.