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Minutes

Faculty Senate

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### October 29, 1991

Faculty Senate

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FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

October 29, 1991

Volume XXI, Number 11

The meeting was called to order by Chair David Carpenter at 2:09 p.m. in the BOG Room, Booth Library.

Present: Bill Addison, David Carpenter, John Craft, Marietta Deming, Jean Dennee, Laurent Gosselin, Robert Jorstad, Linda Leal, Ed Marlow, John Miller, Hal Nordin, Bill Phillips, Gary Wallace, Anne Zahlan  
Absent: Craig Eckert

Visitors: Emily Bryson, Dave Kinsey, Jamie Riley (*Daily Eastern News*), WEIU TV

The minutes of the 22 October 1991 meeting were approved (Craft/Dennee) unanimously with the time the meeting was called to order corrected to 2:10. [The date of the minutes corrected and approved should read 15 October.]

**I. Communications and Actions**

A. Interview Schedules for candidates for Acting Associate VPAA *Some discomfort having been expressed about the "one-day notice to rearrange our calendars" (Dennee) and the resulting impossibility for some senators to participate, discussion focused on improving the means for the Senate to "be involved as a group" (Gosselin) in future interviews. Sentiment was voiced for asking candidates for important administrative posts to attend regular Senate meetings (Jorstad), but the logistical difficulties of implementing this plan were acknowledged. Senate representatives on the Search Committee, Marietta Deming and Hal Nordin, reassured senators that they were satisfied that correct procedures had been followed and that the finalists were the best qualified of the applicants. Having expressed full confidence in Nordin and Deming, senators nonetheless emphasized the need for adequate notice (Marlow) of future interviews.*

B. Request for replacement for Nancy Marlow on University Personnel Committee (from 11/4 to 11/12) *Given UPI requirements that UPC members be elected rather than appointed, previous election results were reviewed and, on the basis of votes received in 1987, Ed Brankey was asked to replace Nancy Marlow for the period indicated. Professor Brankey having agreed to serve, Chair Carpenter informed UPC Chair Judy James to this effect. Senators emphasized the need for more candidates for UPC (and other) posts in order to assure the availability of elected alternates when vacancies occur.*

C. Note from Dr. Rives re: Retiring faculty members interested in teaching *President Rives called attention to the notice placed in the University Newsletter advising those wishing to teach after retirement to consult with him well in advance.*

D. Letter of 23 October 1991 from Emily Watts, University of Illinois (Urbana-Champaign) *Faculty Senate Senators Carpenter and Zahlan reported to the Senate on the meeting of Faculty Senate representatives of Illinois public universities held in Urbana on 10 October. Originally convened to plan a joint meeting with Governor Edgar protesting the inequitable treatment of public university faculties as compared with other state employees (particularly in the areas of health and pension benefits), the discussions revealed the need to make common cause over a broader range of issues--"to provide a voice for faculty across the systems." As confirmed in Prof. Watts letter, the group will meet twice again during this academic year.*

E. Memo of 23 October 1991 from Ken Hadwiger re: Request that Senate reject "Code of Ethics" for all but administrators *Considering the proposed code to be "intended primarily as a diversion of the Senate's attention from more important things," Professor Hadwiger cites additional reasons why "it should be summarily dismissed," including the Code's potential use "to impede the flow and consideration of controversial ideas (the domain of education)."*

F. Memo of 23 October 1991 from Lewis Coon (with attached copy of the *Illinois State Report*) Professor Coon calls attention to a report of the procedure of consultation implemented at BOR institutions as part of the evaluation procedures of university presidents and the system chancellor. The procedure provides for input from many campus groups including the Academic Senate and generally for "open campus access for faculty, staff and students."

G. Memo of 25 October 1991 from Senator Eckert (with attached draft resolution proposed by another faculty member calling for development and implementation of "a code of ethics . . . directed to and applicable only for administrators at EIU."

H. Letter of 27 October 1991 from Bob Barger re: Recognition of Senate's efforts re: "proposed University ethics statement . . ." *Expressing appreciation for Professor Barger's "commendation" of Senate efforts and for his expressed and demonstrated openness to suggestions for revising the draft Code," the Senate requested Chair Carpenter to reply to Professor Barger's letter. Noting Barger's recommendation that "the Senate, along with other interested bodies, be afforded a chance to comment again on the results of our redrafting before any implementation . . . takes place," the Senate authorized the Chair to remind the President of the required 90-day consultation period before implementation of any such major planning proposal. Discussion centered on confusion as to who can "pass" such a measure and on the necessity for the Senate to keep options open, including the option of holding a "campus-wide vote" on the Ethics Code issue (Gosselin/Wallace/Marlow et al). The absence of faculty representation on the committee to draft a university Code continues to be perceived by senators as a "strange oversight" (Marlow).*

I. Letter of 28 October 1991 from Jack Bleicher re: Constitutions of Faculty Senates at BGU institutions *The Acting Vice Chancellor for Administration and Fiscal Affairs having agreed to forward current copies of BGU faculty constitutions to Chair Carpenter, the Senate plans to consult these documents and consider making the language of Article III more specific (to avoid future confusion about consultation requirements).*

J. Note (undated) from Bob Whittenbarger re: 10/23/91 article in the *St Louis Post-Dispatch* *The article outlines possible changes in store for higher education in Missouri if "Proposition B" passes, including "refocusing the missions" of state universities and "barring colleges from spending any of the [proposed] new money on administration."*

K. Letter from Chair Carpenter to CAA Chair Ken Sutton, communicating the Senate vote [22 October:9-0-4] requesting restoration of the currently recognized exceptions to the requirement that students attend "all classes as scheduled." *Senator Addison reported that his informal discussions with CAA members revealed that the qualifications were deleted because, in the view of Council members, they raised too many questions.*

L. Expressions of faculty concern relayed by Senator Wallace re: Class attendance policy *Continued discussion of university absence policy and perceived problems in implementation since the retirement of Dean Johnson led to adoption by the Senate of the following motion (Craft/Gosselin; 12-1-1):*

Since the retirement of the Assistant Dean of Students, Jim Johnson, the University has abdicated responsibility for implementing a coherent attendance policy. Furthermore, at the present time, faculty are not receiving appropriate feedback concerning student absences. Accurate information as to the status of students who may have officially recognized absences or who are engaged in a pattern of unexcused absences is essential for effective class management, instructor/student rapport, and systematic assessment of student performance. Therefore, the Faculty Senate urgently requests President Rives to appoint a person currently employed at the university to manage the area of class attendance. The individual selected shall be charged with evaluating student requests for excused absences, monitoring and investigating patterns of absences that have become a source of concern to course instructors, and providing appropriate follow-up communication to students and instructors.

L. Message confirming that Dennis Spice will address faculty and staff on the state of the State University Retirement System on Monday, December 2, at 1:30 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Student Union.

M. Proposed letter to Illinois legislators protesting underfunding of the State Universities Retirement System, conveyed by Gary Wallace

N. Message from State Representative Mike Weaver accepting an invitation to meet with the Senate on Tuesday, December 3 at 2:30.

O. Memo from Ed Marlow, Chair of Nominations and Appointments Committee, recommending designation of Robert Wayland to serve as alternate on the University Union Advisory Board; the motion (Marlow/Leal) to appoint Professor Wayland passed unanimously.

P. **Student Senate Resolution 91-92-11** (29 October 1991; 29-1-0) conveyed by Student Senator Dave Kinsey re: support for EIU faculty in contract negotiations with the Board of Governors, as follows:  
WHEREAS the faculty at Eastern Illinois University are some of the lowest paid university professionals in the state of Illinois; and  
WHEREAS the faculty have been negotiating with the Board of Governors for a contract that would make their salary equitable to university faculty nationwide; and  
WHEREAS the students of Eastern recognize the quality of the faculty they receive their education from; so  
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY STUDENT SENATE that the students stand in support of the faculty's contract requests to the Board of Governors.

Q. Letters from Chair Carpenter to EIU Council of Faculties representatives Garret DeRuiter and Deborah Woodley inviting them to attend the Faculty Senate meeting of 5 November to report to their constituents through the Senate on the proceedings of the BGU Council of Faculties November 3-4 meeting *Chair Carpenter reported that Professor Woodley has declined to report on this or any meeting before February of 1992. (Professor DeRuiter's response to the Senate invitation had not yet been received.)*

R. Communication from Bob Saltmarsh re: State Universities Retirement System *The Senate plans to confer further with Professor Saltmarsh about the IBHE Faculty Advisory Committee actions on underfunding of SURS.*

S. Desire on the part of some faculty, staff, and students for information on "potential strikes," conveyed by John Miller *Members of the Senate considered it unrealistic to expect such information while bargaining was in progress (Zahlan/Leal/Gosselin); both sides, it was felt, hope that the "pressure of uncertainty" will be "in their favor" (Marlow). Responding to the suggestion that the administration would attempt to keep the university open and even issue grades, it was pointed out that assigning grades rests with the faculty (Gosselin) and that any attempt to assign grades other than by faculty would "jeopardize accreditation" (Nordin). It was suggested that faculty refer to UPI departmental contact persons for details on the potential strike.*

T. Communication from Athletic Director Mike Ryan to Senator Craft that Eastern is participating in an "NCAA pilot certification program" rather than as stated in the corrected minutes of the 15 October meeting in "an NCAA pilot self-study program."

## II. Old Business

### A. IMPROVED ACCESS TO EIU FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

After discussion of the recommendations and revisions proposed by Senators Phillips, Marlow, and Eckert, the Senate unanimously passed a motion (Gosselin/Dennee) adopting a revised statement of recommendations addressing inadequacies in Phase One (1991) of EIU's "Campus Master Plan," and calling for improvements in access for persons with disabilities. (The full text of the recommendations adopted by the Senate will appear with next week's minutes: copies will be sent to President Rives, Chancellor Layzell, Vice-President Williams, Vice-President Colbert, Affirmative Action Director Anderson, Acting VPAA Hill, Dean Moore, and to the officers and members of the EIU Student Senate.)

### B. RESOLUTION ON THE NOVEMBER 5 ELECTION

After extensive discussion on the appropriate role of the Faculty Senate, the following motion (Nordin/Phillips; 6-3-2) was adopted: The Eastern Illinois University Faculty Senate encourages all eligible members of the university community to consider the issues carefully and to vote in the November 5 election. When casting their ballots, we recommend that voters support education.

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

The Senate will meet at 2:00 on Tuesday, 5 November in the BOG Room in Booth Library.

TENTATIVE AGENDA ITEMS: Report on Meeting of BGU Council of Faculties; Committee Reports; IBHE Faculty Advisory Committee Response to Underfunding of SURS; Affirmative Action Recommendations; Faculty Issues and Concerns; Response to Positions Taken by Illinois Board of Higher Education; Meeting with State Senator Woodyard

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Zahlan