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FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

February 4, 1992

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The meeting was called to order by Chair David Carpenter at 2:08 p.m. in the BOG Room, Booth Library.

Present: Bill Addison, David Carpenter, John Craft, Marietta Deming, Craig Eckert, Robert Jorstad, Linda Leal, John Miller, Bill Phillips, Mary Ellen Varble, Gary Wallace, Richard Wandling, Anne Zahlan
Absent: Ed Marlow, Hal Nordin

Visitors: Lewis Coon, Gary Foster, Laurent Gosselin, James Keane, Dave Kinsey, David Radavich, Jamie Riley (*Daily Eastern News*), Carl Walk (*Daily Eastern News*)

A motion (Phillips/Deming) to approve the January 28 minutes passed unanimously.

Given the resignation of Laurent Gosselin from the Senate, a motion (Miller/Craft) to fill the resulting vacancy by appointing the next available alternate, Richard Wandling, passed unanimously; accordingly, Professor Wandling was seated.

I. Discussion with James Keane: Higher Education in Illinois

Introducing State Representative Keane to the Senate, Chair Carpenter corrected an *Eastern News* report that Rep. Keane was the only Ph.D. serving on the IBHE Committee on Scope, Structure, and Productivity of Illinois Higher Education. Although a number of committee members hold earned doctorates, Rep. Keane has, in recent years, been one of only two Ph.D.'s in the Legislature. A member of the House Higher Education Committee who has several times been named "Higher Education Legislator of the Year," Rep. Keane first briefed the Senate on the "state of the state." Indicating that the troubles of the "federal economy" are indeed "trickling down" to Illinois, Keane singled out increasing need for prisons as a source of pressure on the state budget. Due to prison expenditures necessitated by rising drug-related crime and "Class X" incarceration provisions, as well as stepped-up state support for programs for the elderly, Illinois funding for K-12 education fell, under Governor Thompson, to 34% of cost, with corresponding cuts to higher education. Despite Governor Edgar's having brought school funding back up to more than 40%, the state is still not living up to the mandated base of support for education. Relative to other agencies, however, "higher education has come out very, very well," until the last special session. Noting that major lay-offs have not yet been required in higher education as in other sectors, and expressing doubts that state revenue would, in the near future, even keep up with inflation, Rep. Keane predicted more "cuts" in the next budget. Admitting that Illinois income tax is "low for an industrial state," he nonetheless intimated that universities could not expect more than "the opportunity to increase tuition."

Expressing the view that Eastern owes its funding to its membership in a system (the BOG) with a "great constituency," Rep. Keane responded negatively to a question (Craft) about whether moves to study the "System of Systems" might help [EIU's situation]; he emphasized that any break-up of existing boards would act to "dilute" the power of individual universities. To a question as to whether reports are true that the BOG office is not lobbying effectively in Springfield (Carpenter), Rep. Keane countered that the "BOG is doing well." Apparently surprised at

Senate discontent about discrepancies in per student funding among BOG schools (Zahlan, Miller, *et al.*), Keane suggested possible reasons for higher funding levels at Governor's State and Chicago State, and indicated that the legislature had been unable to react to Eastern's expanded enrollment. As to whether moves to downsize would provoke a legislative reduction in funds to Eastern (Addison), Keane admitted that "politics" would play a role in such decisions. As to whether the prospect of legal challenges to the failure of university facilities to meet standards mandated in the "Americans with Disabilities Act" would move the State to fund needed facilities (Phillips), Keane replied, "It's not a priority," and indicated that he would be "shocked if [EIU] received money for that purpose." Responding to the observation that "elevators are cheaper than lawsuits" (Phillips), Keane insisted that "The State does not have money; we are not keeping people in prison."

Noting that lawsuits challenging inequalities in Illinois funding for K-12 schools were expected to result in court-ordered relief for downstate schools that "could cost billions," Rep. Keane indicated that the consequent demand for funds could trigger further cuts in other areas of education. As to why, in the light of shrinking resources, the State persists in giving public dollars to private schools (Carpenter), Keane defended the practice because "the money does not go to the institution but to the students." In answer to the query, "these are underprivileged students, then?" (Carpenter), Rep. Keane answered, "No." He explained the State's "philosophy" to deem it cheaper to award a private college \$2000 to educate a student than to pay for education at a public institution, thus prompting the question: Why don't you just close the public schools down? (Deming) If, Keane was asked, the "bottom line" is, as we have been led to believe, "accommodation of the number of students," couldn't the State solve the problem by deciding that "fewer students need to be educated" (Miller). In reply, Keane reiterated the view that "it was to the state's benefit" to have strong private and public institutions."

Dismissing the alleged role of "administrative bloat" in the funding crisis, as well as the problem of discrepancy between the compensation of university administrators (including presidents who "make more than the governor of the State") and "hard-working and underpaid faculty" (Laurent Gosselin), Rep. Keane noted that a high salary commands "respect" and that he "would not want a system in which the President of the University made what a bricklayer makes with overtime." "The higher the bosses are paid," he contended, "the higher those below are paid."

In response to concern about the precarious financial status of the State Universities Retirement System (Deming), Rep. Keane asked where faculty had been when his bill to replenish SURS had been defeated. Indicating that the State was unlikely to give up the money [to be obtained by raiding SURS], he suggested that teachers and unions might be to blame for the situation, citing the example of Chicago teachers unions' "cutting a deal" whereby their pension fund was raided to provide salary increases. Indicating that faculty should expect salary cuts in the form of "an unpaid day off per week," Keane stressed that there are no

Discussion with Representative Keane (continued)

guarantees that the Illinois pension fund will pay future retirees and cited the precedent of New York City's having cut off retirement payments to its annuitants. In answer to a later question (Jorstad), Keane voiced no opposition to including university faculty in the State's early retirement plan although he did not contradict the observation (Wallace) that large-scale early retirement would increase the pressure on SURS.

On the question of Eastern's position within the BOG system, Rep. Keane insisted that Eastern would be far worse off if it were on its own outside the BOG, noting that he votes to fund Eastern only because that funding is tied to funding for Chicago State (an institution in his district). Admitting that the "diversity of schools" within the system has "created problems" for BOG officials, he maintained nonetheless that administrative costs would increase if each school had its own board. Additionally, according to Keane, Board of Governors Chancellor Layzell is often the only university representative, other than the U of I president, present at legislative meetings: Layzell is probably the "spokesman for all the other institutions," and the BOG a "balance wheel within the [state-wide] system." Referring to the presidents of individual universities as "beggars," and emphasizing that, in comparison with the University of Illinois, the BOG is a "fly on the wall," Keane concluded that "you" [at Eastern] are "lucky to be staying in place," and are not likely "to get a lot of sympathy over in Springfield. . ."

Opposing the suggestion that BOG members be elected rather than appointed by the Governor (Craft), Rep. Keane did seem to agree that efforts to have university alumni appointed to the BOG (Jorstad) and to have faculty representation on the Board might serve the interests of Eastern and the other universities.

II. Communications and Actions

A. Letter of 3 February from Thomas Layzell re: Denial of BOG mandating of BGU logos on items sold at Union Bookstore

B. Copy of Position Announcement/Advertisement re: Presidential Search

C. Letter of 3 February from Lewis Coon to Dr. Rives re: "Off-campus group" criticisms of Proposed Ethics Statement

D. Memo of 3 February from Gary Foster re: Support for Senate efforts to increase faculty and Eastern control of presidential search process

E. Memo of 31 January from Bob Barger re: Objections to UPI characterizations of proposed "Ethics Statement"

F. Memo of 31 January from Bob Whittenbarger re: BOG spokesperson Brazell's comments on presidential search procedures

G. Minutes of 30 January "Communications Meeting"

H. Memo of 23 January from Leo Goodman-Malamuth re: 20 February BOG Meeting at Governor's State University

III. Reports

A. VPAA SEARCH--MARIETTA DEMING: The VPAA Search Committee is "proceeding until told otherwise," and hopes that campus interviews will begin in February and that a list of finalists will be presented to the President by the end of the semester.

B. MEETING OF FACULTY LEADERS WITH CMS DIRECTOR--DAVID CARPENTER: CMS Director Schnorf indicated an increasing desire to centralize

benefits, as well as the director's preference for working with unions rather than separate entities. University salaries will not, he emphasized, be negotiated apart from benefits; by summer of '93, he indicated, CMS will have designed a new benefits package. Admitting that "Quality Care" doesn't have much credibility with legislators, Schnorf indicated that it will be phased out. In the meantime, state employees subjected to harassment by medical providers who have not received timely compensation from Quality Care can contact Lynn Clame or John Hartnett (785-8675), for case-by-case assistance. He predicted an increase in HMOs, which cost the State less, and indicated that faculty at Eastern are fortunate in having access to the HMOs that serve Urbana-Champaign. Schnorf dismissed complaints about unethical practices by HMOs (from University of Illinois Faculty Senate President Watts), noting that HMOs are like Medicaid and that such [unethical practices] often occur with Medicaid. He noted that fees charged employees for health-care "are determined by employers," and that faculty are "more expensive" [than other employees] because they are informed and "value health care more."

Schnorf does "not contemplate" that SURS will go bankrupt and thinks that [Governor] Edgar will raise the state contribution. On the topic of day-care, he noted that the State has a "statutory obligation" to provide the space for day-care facilities in all [state] buildings. Schnorf indicated that CMS is seriously considering formation of a faculty advisory committee on benefits; (anyone interested in serving on such a committee should provide Chair Carpenter with a CV as soon as possible).

C. DEAN OF LIBRARY SERVICES SEARCH--JOHN MILLER: Announcements have gone out; a new Dean should be "in place by 1 July."

IV. New Business: PROPOSED RESOLUTION ON EASTERN AND THE BOG Senate discussion of a resolution (Miller/Craft; drafted by Miller and Eckert) endorsing legislative "investigation of the efficacy of retaining the Board of Governors of State Colleges and Universities as the governing body of Eastern Illinois University" was cut short due to the late hour.

At 4:30 p.m., quorum was lost. The Senate will meet at 2:00 on Tuesday, 11 February in the BOG Room of Booth Library.

TENTATIVE AGENDA ITEMS: Council of Faculties Report; EIU Presidential Search (Including Special Elections Arrangements); Faculty Elections; Eastern and the BOG (Miller/Eckert Resolution); Governance and Morale Subcommittee Report

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Zahlan

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION: A Special Election to select a faculty representative from each college to serve on the Campus Advisory Committee for the selection of a new president for EIU will be held on February 27 and 28. Candidates must be members of the full-time tenured/tenure-track faculty (excluding chairpersons), and must be nominated by ten members of the full-time tenured/tenure-track faculty of their respective colleges. Nomination petitions (on the blue forms supplied by the Senate) should be turned in to Bill Addison, Psychology Department, by Friday, February 14, 1992, at 4:00 p.m.