

Memorandum

To: Faculty and Librarians

From: J. Burke, Executive Secretary, Faculty Senate

Date: December 1, 1997

Re: Minutes, December 1, 1997 Faculty Senate Meeting

The Faculty Senate Meeting was called to order on Monday, December 1, 1997, at 3:30 PM in Pasteur 301. The following Senators were in attendance:

William Phelan, Education; Burton Segall, Civil Eng; Ross Holmstrom, Electrical Eng; Dick Kalluri, Electrical Eng; Walter Kuklinski, Electrical Eng; John McKelliget, Mechanical Eng; Robert Parkin, Mechanical Eng; Laura Punnett, Work Environment; Robert Nicolosi, Clinical Lab Science & Health; Sheila Perrault, Nursing; Joyce White, Physical Therapy; Eve Buzawa, Criminal Justice; Michael Carter, Economics; Jeannie Judge, English; Charles Ryan, English; Peter Blewett, History; Jonathan Liebowitz, History; Michael Jones, Legal Studies; Jane Freimiller, Philosophy; Joseph Waterman, Psychology; Philip Moss, RESD; Jean Pyle, RESD; Levon Chorbajian, Sociology; Albert Kowalak, Chemistry; Raymond Gumb, Computer Science; Dan S. Golomb, Earth Science; Bodo Reinisch, Earth Science; James Graham-Eagle, Mathematics; Alan Doerr, Mathematics; Gunter Kegel, Physics; Arthur Mittler, Physics; Charles Feeney, Accounting; Irwin Shapiro, Management; Riaz Khan, OMMIS; Paula Telesco, Music ; Helen Jones, Library;

Agenda

I. Announcements Senate President Nicolosi made the following announcements: (1) Resolutions from the October Senate meeting. The resolutions regarding the Graduate Certificate in Criminal Justice and the name change for the Department of Electrical Engineering have been accepted by the administration, and the administration will take the necessary steps to implement them.

(2) Resolutions from the May Senate Meeting. Regarding the resolutions from the May 1997 Senate meeting we have been informed that the three resolutions regarding degree and certificate programs have been accepted and that the administration will take the necessary steps to implement them. Regarding the Master of Arts Degree in the Economic and Social Development of Regions we have been informed that the University Board of Trustees will act on this request at its December 1997 meeting. If approved, the proposal will be forwarded to the Board of Higher Education for review and approval. The administration will keep the Senate informed regarding the progress of this degree program. Regarding the resolution from the Research and Development Committee concerning Teaching Assistants, their number and distribution and the procedures for determining such, we have been informed that this matter is currently under review by the Provost, the Chancellor and the Council of Deans. The Provost will report back to the Faculty Senate on the results of these deliberations. Finally concerning the resolution from the Undergraduate Policy Committee, the Graduate Policy Committee and the Academic Resources Committee protesting the destruction of the collection housed on the fifth floor of the O'Leary Library, the Chancellor has stated that he is in full

agreement that library materials are an essential part of education, and acknowledges the concerns expressed in this resolution.

(3) Graduate School Open House. There will be an open house for prospective students on Wednesday, January 21 and Thursday, January 22 from 3:00PM to 7:00PM in Durgan Hall. Please advise students who you think may be interested. (4) Library Liaison Report. Professor Nicolosi called the Senate's attention to copies of a report from Professor Espinosa, which were distributed at the attendance table. (5) Senate Reception. As indicated on the meeting agenda today's meeting will adjourn promptly at 4:30PM and will be followed by a reception in the faculty Lounge in Alumni Hall. Please join us and take this opportunity to view the new Faculty Senate Office and Conference Room. (6) Recent Comments made by James Carlin. As you are all aware in a recent speech Mr. Carlin has made statements which attack public higher education. Copies of a response passed by the Amherst Faculty Senate were distributed at the attendance table. The Inter-campus Council will meet on Wednesday, December 3rd. The meeting will be devoted to the formulation of a response to Mr. Carlin's comments. The Senate will be kept informed of the actions recommended by the Inter-campus Council. Senate President Nicolosi suggested that in the interim the UMASS Lowell Senate endorse the Motion passed by the Amherst Campus Faculty Senate at its meeting on November 20th by passing the following resolution:

RESOLUTION The Faculty Senate of the University of Massachusetts Lowell supports the following motion passed at the November 20th meeting of the Faculty Senate of the University of Massachusetts Amherst: "That the Faculty Senate deplores and rejects the remarks concerning academic tenure recently made by the Chairman of the Board of Higher Education, James Carlin. The Senate finds Mr. Carlin's characterization of academic tenure ill-informed, inaccurate, irresponsible, and inappropriate for an individual entrusted with leadership in higher education in this Commonwealth.

Faculty members at this university are subject to a level of review prior to appointment that is the most rigorous of any in the state's public sector. Following their initial appointment they undergo years of continuous review prior to being considered for an award of tenure. As individuals, tenured and nontenured, and as departments and programs, they are under continuous review, by university and national evaluation groups."

DISCUSSION

Professor Blewett suggested the following friendly amendment, which was seconded:

AMENDMENT The Senate further deplores the inappropriate application of faddish corporate management techniques and judgments to higher education which is not an undertaking analogous to business.

DISCUSSION

There was a brief discussion of the amendment.

VOTE on the amendment YES 5 NO 22 ABSTAIN 3

VOTE ON THE RESOLUTION Yes 30 NO 0 ABSTAIN 1

Following the vote Professor Shapiro suggested and it was agreed that the minutes reflect that the failure to include the friendly amendment was not do to a lack of support of its content, but rather because there will be opportunities later to formulate a more detailed response.

II. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting (Nov.3,1997)

The Minutes of the November 3rd 1997 meeting of the Faculty Senate were unanimously accepted as presented.

III. Invited Presentation General Education Task Force.

Dean Kleniewski reported on the development and recent activities of the General Education Task Force, which was formed at the request of President Bulger. The task force is Co-chaired by Dean Kleniewski and Senate President Nicolosi as a collaboration between Academic Affairs and the Faculty Senate. The list of the committee membership was distributed at the last Senate meeting. An open meeting was held in November. The task force is currently reviewing the feedback from that meeting and reviewing the achievement of current goals. Dean Kleniewski noted that if changes are recommended the recommendations will be reviewed by the appropriate Senate committees next year. In the meantime the current General Education Committee will continue to do its normal work. Dean Kleniewski asked Senators to keep an eye open for the public forums, which are scheduled for the future. She also requested that faculty work through the senators on the committee .

IV. Reports on Meetings

1. Board of Trustees Meetings. Professor Phelan commented on his report on the November subcommittee meetings of the Board of Trustees. Copies of his Report was distributed at the beginning of the meeting.

Professor Liebowitz asked whether the Board of Trustees has responded to James Carlin's recent comments. Professor Aste, President of the Faculty Union responded that many of Mr. Carlin's issues are contractual issues and that Mr. Carlin and the administration have been notified of the Union's position. Senate President Nicolosi requested that Professor Aste send the Senate a copy of that response. Professor Aste indicated that he would.

V. Senate Standing Committees

1. Academic governance. Professor Michael Jones presented the following resolution from the committee. This resolution was presented in writing at the November meeting of the Faculty Senate.

RESOLUTION The Faculty Senate recommends the following By-laws revision: Delete Section III A and subsections 1 through 2, beginning at line 23 on page 1 and ending at line 3 on page 2, and replace with:

A. The faculty exercise primary responsibility in such academic matters as curriculum, subject matter and methods of instruction, research, admissions, libraries and other

aspects of university life which are directly related to the educational process.

1. Whenever an academic program is proposed to be added, deleted, or amended substantially, it is the responsibility of the Faculty Senate to approve or disapprove such proposals and to pass its recommendations on to the Chancellor.
2. Other members of the University community, shall have the opportunity to present their views on academic matters to the Faculty Senate.

DISCUSSION

Professor Jones asked Professor Parkin to respond to questions regarding the resolution. Professor Parkin indicated that he had distributed copies of the Wellman report that related to this resolution. He indicated that the grammatical structure was taken from the Wellman report wording. Professor Parkin reminded the Senate that our current By-laws are out of step with those on the other campuses and higher education practice in general.

Professor Aste commented that the Senate should take care that changes in the By- laws do not preclude the union's ability to negotiate on behalf of the faculty. He cited article 13 which deals with retrenchment and urged the Senate to consider that changes in departments and colleges are contractual issues and that they are the prerogative of the union.

Professor Jones responded that the language of the By-laws is consistent with our role and that of the union. Professor Aste responded that the union should be mentioned in the amendment.

Professor Jones assured him that the Senate is not attempting to take any power from the union, and that the Senate respects the work of the union.

Professor Punnett pointed out that a comma after the word community in #2 needed to be removed in the typed version of the resolution presented to the Senate. This was done. See below.

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VOTE YES 31 NO 0 ABSTAIN 1

2. Undergraduate Policy Professor Mittler reported that the next meeting of the committee is scheduled for Monday, December 8th at 4:00 PM in the Faculty Senate Conference Room, Alumni 103. At the last meeting the committee discussed a proposal for a diversity requirement in the General Education requirements. The committee also discussed problems that students have transferring in credits from outside the University, and the effect new entrance requirements are having on our programs. In addition the committee considered the position of allowing credit for non course work.

3. Graduate Policy and Affair Professor Parkin reported that the next meeting of the committee has not yet been scheduled.

4. Research and Development Professor Punnett reported that the next meeting of the committee is scheduled for Monday, Dec. 8th at 1:30PM in Kitson 200. The agenda item is a discussion of the idea of non tenure track research faculty. She requested that faculty send her feedback on this issue.

5. Academic Resources Professor Pyle reported that the next meeting of the committee is scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 2nd at 8:30AM in Alumni 103.

6. Budget and Priorities . Senate President Nicolosi noted that copies of Barbara Cocanour's report were distributed at today's meeting.

Professor Blewett announced that the next meeting of the General Education Sub Committee is scheduled for Monday, Dec 8th at 3:00PM in Alumni 103.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20PM.