

## **Faculty Senate Minutes November 17, 1997**

**Senators Present:** W. Beardsley, N. Bristow, T. Cooney, C. Hale, K. Hummel-Berry, J. Kay, G. Kirchner, B. Lind, K. Maxwell, S. Sloane, R. Steiner, G. Tomlin

Minutes of the 10/27/97 Senate meeting were distributed and approved with minor changes.

**Announcements** - None

**Chair's Report:** Kirchner reported that the Diversity Committee has some concerns about the Senate charges for the Committee in the By-laws revision. The Diversity Committee is identifying some new duties/responsibilities. Their recommendations will be reported back to the Senate for consideration.

**Code Revisions.** T. Cooney referred Senate members to the Code Revisions, Addendum II which had been previously distributed by campus mail to all faculty. The Addendum lists additional changes/modifications for Chapters I and II of the Faculty Code, based on input from the faculty at the open forum meetings. Cooney indicated that materials for the rest of the chapters of the Faculty Code are in progress. Cooney indicated that Code Revision chapters will be introduced at the faculty meeting one at a time. Faculty will be able to identify specific changes which they want to discuss. Cooney did not feel that chapters I & II are likely to produce much debate and probably can be dealt with on the whole, whereas subsequent chapters are likely to have to be dealt with on a section-by-section basis.

Individual senators questioned/made suggestions for words/wording of several of the sections of the code revisions in Addendum II.

**By-laws discussion:** Kirchner distributed an update of suggested changes to the By-laws, based on the previous discussion and recommendations of the Senate.

Article II, Section 1, Membership. **M/S/P (Lind, Kay) to accept the new language for Section 1, faculty membership.**

Article II, Section 2, Responsibilities of Faculty. Several issues regarding Section 2 revisions were raised, and whether the original intention might have been somewhat changed in the rewrite. Kirchner indicated that this was not the intent and suggested that the Senate Executive Committee look at Section 2 with reference to the original by-laws and bring a draft of Section 2 back to the Senate at the next meeting.

Article III, Section 2E, Voting Procedure Alternatives. The new language is based closely on the parliamentary procedures of Sturgis and Robert's and calls for voice, written ballot or mailed ballot. Cooney recommended alternative wording to address his concern that results of a ballot could be changed if a vote is taken and then a different voting procedure is approved. The new wording states "Voting shall be by voice or by the call by two (2) members of the Faculty for a written ballot, or by mail when a majority of those present at the meeting approve such a ballot by voice or written ballot prior to the vote being taken on a substantive motion. In the case of voting by mail, the process for the distribution and collection of ballots shall correspond to the process for the election of Senators."

Kirchner indicated that the chapter from Sturgis which highlights the differences between Sturgis and Roberts will be distributed to Senate members so that a decision can be made whether to recommend that the faculty switch to Sturgis.

Article III, Section 1A, allowing the President to designate a Vice Chairperson. The President may designate the Vice Chairperson, to preside at faculty meetings, or, contingent upon the approval of the Faculty Senate, another member of the faculty to preside at faculty meetings until

such time as the President decides to resume presiding or the Senate requests that the President resume presiding.

Article III, Section 1Ba, Dean of the University shall:

be Vice Chairperson the faculty and in the absence of the President, be the presiding officer at Faculty meeting. Initial wording was reinstated.

**M/S/P (Lind, Sloane) recommend the proposed changes to the Section Article III, Section I, be approved as revised.**

Article V, Section 6B, Curriculum Committee Duties. Amend item #7 to review proposals for new majors, minors and programs. (added minors)

### **Topics for Future Meetings**

Completion of the By-laws revision.

Kirchner suggested that the placement of conflict of interest concerns and how it relates to each of the standing committees should be examined more closely because of accreditation requirements. Kirchner suggested one possibility would be that the conflict of interest statement be moved forward in the document so it applies to all committees and not just the Professional Standards Committee. Beardsley questioned what constituted conflict of interest, and whether other committees besides the PSC and FAC would indeed face a conflict of interest. Cathy Hale reported that the Professional Standards Committee had difficulty defining conflict of interest and instead specified a procedure for dealing with it, rather than trying to offer a definition.

The Senate was asked to consider if the PSC statement should be applied to all committees including the PSC. Cooney indicated that the general language of the Faculty Code, Chapter 1, part C, section 4, Professional Ethics, may already address this issue as a whole and that it not be necessary to make exactly parallel statements.

The function, charges and role of the LMAC, Student Life, & Diversity committees will also be a future topic of the Senate.

Meeting adjourned at 5:10.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert L. Steiner