

MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE, FEBRUARY 8, 1999

The University Senate met in regular session at 3:00 p.m., February 8, 1999, in the auditorium of the W. T. Young Library.

Professor Roy Moore, Chairperson of the Senate Council presided.

Members absent were: Sammy Anderson, Leon Assael, Suketu Bhavsar, Jeffrey Bieber, Brian Biermann, Anibal Biglieri, Deborah Blades, Fitzgerald Bramwell, Jayson Brittain, Geza Bruckner, Joseph Burch, Laretta Byars, Joan Callahan, James Campbell, Charles Carlson*, Edward Carter, Michael Cibull*, Jordan Cohen, Raymond Cox*, Todd Curtis, Robert Dahlstrom*, Mary Davis*, George DeBin, Susan DeCarvalho, Jeffrey Dembo, Juanita Fleming*, William Fortune, William Freehling, Richard Furst, Larry Grabau, Philip Greasley, Howard Grotch, Steven Haist, Issam Harik*, Patrick Herring, Kay Hoffman, James Holsinger, Blake Horal, Craig Infanger, Mike Inman, David Johnson, Anthony Jones, Jamshed Kanga, Alan Kaplan*, Richard Kermod*, James Knoblett*, Thomas Lester, C. Oran Little, Donald Madden*, Mark Meier, Douglas Michael*, Jason Miller, David Mohny, William O'Connor, Miles Osland, James Parker, Claire Pomeroy, Shirley Raines, Dan Reedy, Thomas Robinson, Claire Schmelzer*, Robert Schwemm, Robert Shay, Steven Skinner*, David Stockham, George Wagner, Thomas Waldhart, Retia Walker, Nick West, Charles Wethington*, Paul Willis, Carolyn Williams, Eugene Williams, Lionell Williamson, Emery Wilson, Thomas Zentall.

* Absence Explained

ACTION ITEM 2 - Action: Ad Hoc Committee on Faculty Title Series

Background:

In December 1997 the Senate Council Ad Hoc Committee on Faculty Titles Series (Co-Chaired by Professors Ann B. Amerson, Pharmacy, and Antoinette Powell, Agriculture) submitted its Final Report for consideration by the University Senate Council. The Ad Hoc Committee on Faculty Titles Series was charged with "a comprehensive review of the title series system, to identify strengths and weaknesses, and develop recommendations to simplify, clarify, improve the structure, and ultimately invigorate the spirit of the system." The committee began its work by gathering information about series at other institutions and the historical development of the Faculty Titles Series at the University of Kentucky. After reviewing the background information, the committee decided to focus its attention on the Special Title Series, Research Title Series, and the Clinical Titles Series. The Committee was later given responsibility to review the proposed Lecturer Series. To accomplish this, the committee divided into two task forces, Special Title Series and Non-Tenure Track series.

The Senate Council has since then held extensive discussions, including two sessions with the Committee Co-Chairs regarding the recommendations in the report. The Senate Council voted on November 16, 1998, to recommend approval by the full Senate of certain revisions to the current Administrative Regulations for the Special Title Series. At its meeting on 14 December, the University Senate acted on those revisions.

Also at its meeting on November 16, 1998, the Senate Council voted to submit five recommendations from the Task Force report to the full Senate for discussion only. The Senate Council agreed to consider the feedback from the discussion in determining which recommendations to forward to the full Senate for action.

Proposal: [Boldface indicates wording added; strikeouts indicate wording to be deleted]

1) All faculty in the contractual title series should be provided all of the same rights as faculty in tenure tracks within respective Colleges. These rights include are eligibility eligible for all committees except committees deciding tenure decisions for special and regular title series and shall be eligible as well as

eligibility for voting in all elections and the opportunity to participate in all other decision-making processes within the University.

Rationale: This has to be done or a second class status results because we are not providing all faculty the opportunity to participate in the governance of the University. Times have changed, and a much larger percentage of the faculty are in one of the contractual title series than in the past.

Note: If approved, an appropriate change in the Senate Rules will be drafted and brought before the University Senate.

The Chair recognized Professor Meyer for introduction of the item. Professor Meyer reviewed the background of the item and recommended approval on behalf of the Senate Council.

Professor Tagavi said that he had serious reservations about this proposal. He wanted to know what the rationale was for the exclusion in the original form and what the impact would be upon the distribution of Senate seats. This rule seems very broad; it applies to half time and less than half-time people.

The Chair said that contractual was defined in the Administrative Regulations as full-time.

Professor Tagavi made a motion to recommit the proposal to the Senate Council so it would consider the previous rationale, give an impact of distribution of Senate seats among colleges and redefine the two definitions that were just passed which do not include the whole series of faculty.

Joe Anthony (LCC) said he felt that the intent was to include more people in important committees, and that inclusion of those faculty would not cause decisions to be made that would destroy the University. He opposed the amendment.

Jim Applegate (Communications and Information Studies) said that he would argue against recommitting because the Senate Council discussed the issues at length in terms of the impact upon decision making processes and have the data in terms of the distribution of contractual faculty across the different colleges. He said the Council felt like it would not significantly dilute the ability of the tenure track faculty to have impact and the argument held sway in the Council after much debate and discussion. If they erred, they would err on the side of inclusiveness in terms of the contractual full-time faculty.

Brad Canon (Political Science) asked what the disabilities were for the two contractual title series--the Clinical and Research faculty. Professor Meyer answered that they could not vote in elections and serve on various committees. In some units in the Medical Center, they do serve on committees. One of the rationales was that when they were comfortable with those types of faculty serving on those committees, some various units have altered their procedures to do that.

John Thelin (Education) said that either you were equal or you are not. The fact that there is any exclusion says there is some type of second class citizenship. If they are committed to equality, why are there reservations about not having these people also vote on tenure decisions. Even the advocates have some reservations.

Hans Gesund (Engineering) said that in the Minutes of the December 14, 1998 meeting on page 16, Item E.2 it says "The two generic title series be created as umbrellas for all current title series. The Committee recommends..Contractual Faculty Lines to include Clinical Title Series, Research Title Series, Lecturer, and Adjunct Faculty Series." As he understands it, lecturers are part-time and adjunct faculty certainly are part time. Now the part timers are included in voting and eligible for Senate membership. He does not think that was the intention to include people who have practically no connection to the University. They should not be serving in the Senate and voting on whom should be Senate members. He supported Professor Tagavi's proposal to send it back to the Senate Council.

Loys Mather (Agriculture) said that in the larger part of the Senate Rules voting depends upon whether people are full-time or not. They are dealing with a change in the rules. This is a statement of principle, and the rule change would come later.

The motion to recommit the proposal to the Senate Council failed in a show of hands; 15 for and 35 opposed.

Dave Durant (English) said he was opposed to sending the proposal back to the Senate Council and made the motion to add the word "full-time" to the proposal.

The amendment to add "full-time" passed in a voice vote.

Professor Tagavi said that he would like to hear the quantitative numbers.

Joachim Knuf stated that they had dealt with the issue of voting eligibility at the last meeting. He proposed in Item 1 to change the language to say "shall be entitled to vote and participate in all other decision-making processes within the University" and change the "deciding tenure decisions" to "making tenure decisions."

The amendment to change the wording passed in a unanimous voice vote.

Professor Tagavi asked to see the impact of the numbers.

Phyllis Nash (Medical Center) said she did a report since the majority of the Research and all the Clinical Title Series positions are in the Medical Center by college and by department. With any one unit, there was no unit that would even be close to a simple majority. It did not appear with the current numbers there would be a significant impact by allowing Research and Clinical Title Series to vote. The numbers are not large enough that they could sway an election.

Professor Tagavi said he wanted to know the impact of the new rule on the redistribution of College Senate seats.

Lee Meyer said that this does not yet affect that. Doug Michael, at the request of the Senate Council, is working on a rule to talk about reapportionment, and that will come before the full Senate. This allows elections but does not change the number of senators from different colleges. For example, Extension Title Series faculty are eligible to vote but the numbers of Extension Faculty in the College of Agriculture does not count towards the number of representatives the College has in the Senate.

The proposal as amended passed in a voice vote.

The Chair recognized Jim Applegate for an American Association of Higher Education Report.

Professor Applegate made the following remarks.

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.