

Minutes
Kansas State University Faculty Senate Meeting
March 11, 1997 3:30 p.m. Big 12 Room, K-State Union

Present: Abbott, Anderson, Aramouni, Baker, Balk, Bissey, Brigham, Buchholz, Charney, Clegg, Conrow, DeBowes, Deger, Fenton, Feyerharm, Foster, Fritz, Glasgow, Gould, Gray, Hagmann, Hamilton, Hansen, Harbstreit, Hassan, J. Johnson, N. Johnson, Klopfenstein, Legg, Maes, Mathews, May, McNamara, Michie, Miller, Moeller, Molt, Niehoff, Ottenheimer, Pallett, Pierzynski, Poresky, Rahman, Reeck, Reeves, Royse, Shultis, Smith, Stewart, Taylor-Archer, Zschoche

Absent: Aslin, Atkinson, Barkley, Behnke, Benson, Briggs, Bussing, Chastain, Dyer, Elkins, Exdell, Fingland, Higgins, Hoag, Homolka, Jones, Krstic, Laughlin, Martin, Mosier, Peak, Raub, Ross, Ross-Murray, Schroeder, Swanson, White, Wilson, Wright

Proxies: Fjell, Kassebaum, Lamond, McCulloh, Oukrop

Guests: Mitchell Strauss, Jeff Dougan

- I. President Balk called the meeting to order.
- II. The minutes of the meeting of February 11, 1997 were approved as distributed.
- III. Senator Anderson moved to amend the agenda to place discussion of the Student Honor System at the top of the agenda. The motion was seconded and passed. Senator Harbstreit moved approval of the proposal. His motion was seconded. He then yielded to Mitchell Strauss, chair of The Provost's Task Force on Academic Honesty. Professor Strauss explained that the Provost had, in the aftermath of the incident of cheating on a Biology exam a few years ago, appointed a task force to investigate honor systems at other universities. After their research, members of the task force recommended the establishment of an honors code and of a special judicial system to support it. Jeff Dugan, chair of the Student Senate Academic Affairs Committee, pointed out that Student Senate members had decided it would affect K-State positively and passed it overwhelmingly.

Senator Reeck endorsed the notion of an honor system as a means of talking about values in a positive context, but emphasized the need to introduce a totally new culture on the campus, if it is to succeed. Bringing about such a change would have to be absolutely top priority with administrators and faculty for years to come. He would be more comfortable with a clear show of administrative support.

Senator Poresky described the document as rather vague and expressed the need for a more concrete companion piece which would delineate what constitutes cheating. He also expressed concern that allegations of cheating would be settled only if the faculty member keeps pursuing the matter, a system not as expeditious, in his opinion, as the current one. In addition, the document does not seem to allow the student to accept guilt and punishment without going through the entire judicial process.

Senator Legg referred to several sentences in the document which he finds ambiguous. He would, however, welcome a council which would take responsibility for making such serious decisions.

Professor Strauss rebutted some points by explaining that he had discussed the proposal one-on-one with top administrators and that they support it. He expressed willingness to work with faculty to clarify wording. With regard to the definition of cheating, the Honors Council would set up guidelines, but these guidelines would have to be discussed in each class with respect to various activities and projects. He stressed the importance of ongoing education of the university community on principles embodied in the code.

Senator Mathews looked at it as a bureaucratic nightmare if large numbers of students cheat. He also questioned the new position of a system administrator in a time of budget cuts in the University.

Senator Feyerharm has, in his role as assistant dean, had considerable experience dealing with incidents of cheating. He has serious reservations about setting up a new tribunal, especially if it is to be both investigative and judicial.

Senator Gray, while basically positive about the proposal, noted that much of the work establishing the program and educating new students would be done in the summer. Many teaching faculty are not paid in the summer, so should not be asked to work on this, nor would it be fair to expect students to spend the summer this way.

Several other senators referred to the potential demands on faculty time required by the document and to the cost to the University. Senator Maes urged the committee to look into specific problems arising in distance education courses.

Senator Pierzinski moved to return the document to the Academic Affairs Committee with instructions to rework it with reference to items brought up here and to administrative support. The motion was seconded and approved.

- IV. Senator Lana Oleen visited with Faculty Senate via a compressed video hook-up since much of her committee work is done during the afternoon. President Wefald picked up the costs for the compressed video hookup. Senator Oleen began by

discussing tax cut bills which are under consideration in the House of Representatives. The enthusiasm for cutting taxes is so great that she describes the state as heading toward a financial train wreck. She also mentioned the concealed weapons bill which had just passed the House and other pending legislation.

With respect to specific items in the Regents' budget, she reported that the Senate Ways and Means Committee seems receptive to the "tuition shortfall" request. The \$7.5 million technology enhancement proposal has support from many legislators, including some who are not enthusiastic about the overall Regents' budget. In response to the question what faculty could do to get our message to the Legislature, she encouraged faculty to contact them as Kansas citizens who are more interested in the overall long-term welfare of the state than in short term tax cuts.

Senator Oleen concluded by expressing her hope that the tax cutters realize the importance of maintaining what is good in Kansas.

V. Announcements

1. As requested by Faculty Senate, a letter will be sent to Representative John Edmonds. Drafts of the letter are being reviewed. All Faculty Senate Presidents in the Kansas Regents institutions will sign the letter. A copy will be attached to the minutes of this Faculty Senate meeting (unless not finalized when these minutes are distributed).
2. Gretchen Holden, Director of Disabled Student Services in K-State's Educational and Personal Development Programs, wrote to me requesting a correction in the Faculty Senate minutes of February 11, 1997. I apologize for the misinformation and want to make the correction in this announcement. At the last Faculty Senate meeting, I announced "Both the Board of Regents and KSU have estimated the cost of tearing down Denison will be less than the cost of bringing it into compliance with ADA regulations." Gretchen Holden noted that she has been involved with ADA and compliance issues at K-State, and this announcement surprised her because "there are no major compliance issues at Denison." Tom Rawson, Vice President for Administration and Finance, concurs and wrote to me "it is probably more correct to say it would cost more to bring Denison Hall up to current standards than to raze it." Bringing Denison up to current standards would involve modernizing restrooms, installing fire/smoke detectors and notification systems, installing standpipes and fire department connections, renovating existing classrooms, and partially upgrading the heating, venting, and air conditioning systems. Providing total access to the building would require installing an elevator. Even without installing an elevator, the estimates are above the \$475,000 it would take to raze the building.

3. The Executive Committee spent time in considerable discussion of the task force report on an undergraduate instruction writing initiative. Committee members concurred with the idea to ask Academic Affairs to establish an ad hoc committee to work with the task force report and make recommendations on how to proceed from here. I have contacted Steve Harbstreit, chair of Academic Affairs, on this matter.
4. The Kansas Board of Regents has published a pamphlet on precollege curriculum requirements for Regents universities. Copies of this pamphlet are available at this meeting.
5. Brice Hobrock, Dean of the Library System, will be invited to address the Faculty Senate at the April meeting regarding his ideas and planning regarding the new library.
6. The Kansas Senate Ways and Means Subcommittee on Regents Systemwide Issues has taken no action on the Governor's budget recommendation of \$7.5 million for equipment. K-State administrators think the \$7.5 million will not survive the legislature's final decisions on the higher education budget for FY 1998. (Senator Oleen thought prospects for passage looked promising since legislators saw accountability would be easily determined.)

VI. Standing Committee Reports

A. *Academic Affairs Committee – Steve Harbstreit*

1. Senator Harbstreit moved approval of Course and Curriculum Changes approved by the Graduate Council February 4, 1997. Senator Klopfenstein seconded. The motion passed.
2. Senator Harbstreit moved approval of General Education courses approved by the Task Force at meetings January 23 and February 3, 1997. Senator Klopfenstein seconded. The motion passed.
3. Senator Harbstreit moved one-time approval of intersession courses for Continuing Education. Senator Gould seconded. The motion passed.
4. Senator Harbstreit moved approval of changes to the December 1996 Graduation List. Senator Gould seconded. The motion passed.
5. Senator Harbstreit moved approval of the report "Assessing the Outcomes of General Education at Kansas State University" prepared by the General Education Assessment Task Force. Senator Ottenheimer seconded the motion. It was approved.

B. *Faculty Affairs Committee – Fadi Aramouni*

There is nothing currently requiring action.

C. Faculty Senate Committee on University Planning – Sue Maes

There is nothing currently requiring action.

She reported that Ken Klabunde would like the names of possible members of the committee.

VII. Old Business

Senate resumed discussion of the report from the Ad Hoc Committee on Regents' Initiative on Curriculum and Instruction and the Executive Committee's recommendation that a task force be named to develop a plan for implementation of the report. Senator Conrow referred to the Task Force on the Writing Initiative and asked whether Faculty Senate had ever approved it. Senator Legg pointed that we had a year ago.

Senator Gould, a member of the Ad Hoc Committee, said that the authors wanted a committee formed to investigate this in detail and make specific proposals.

Senator Conrow's immediate concerns are the establishment of another set of bureaucracies and especially that people not specifically trained in writing would be overseeing the proposals. Senator Hamilton echoed her concerns about how courses and programs would be selected under these guidelines.

Senator Mathews would want to know what new resources will be committed by the Provost before approving the plan.

Senator Michie agreed with concerns Senator Shultis expressed in the Executive Committee about the number of overlays being placed on graduation requirements. With each new set it becomes more difficult to develop a suitable course of study for the students. She then moved to send it back to Academic Affairs for further refinement. Senator Gould seconded the motion. It was passed.

VIII. New Business

President Balk announced the appointment of Carol Klopfenstein as the second Ombudsperson. He reported the appointment of Bob Poresky, former Chair of the Grievance Board, Ruth Dyer, present Chair, Rich Gallagher and Carol Klopfenstein, Ombudspersons, to a task force to research the role of the Ombudsperson and problems related to the position. Senator Poresky will chair the committee.

The Faculty Affairs Committee had recommended the establishment of such a task force at its February 11 meeting, according to Senator Aramouni. The Committee was concerned that it was not consulted in the naming of the task force and passed a resolution at its last meeting advocating having the task force report to Faculty Affairs. President Balk agreed that any recommendations could come to the Executive committee through Faculty Affairs.

Senator Legg encouraged broadening the charge to include collecting all Faculty Senate minutes references to the issue since 1994 and reporting back to Senate.

Senator Shultis moved to add a Faculty Affairs Committee nominee to the task force and to have the group report to Faculty Affairs. The motion was seconded and approved.

IX. For the Good of the University

- A. Senator Reeck returned to the discussion of the razing of Denison Hall. Acknowledging the Facilities report that tearing the building down would be cheaper than upgrading it, he asked how the University intends to deal with the loss of classroom space. Senator Michie added that she had been informed without prior consultation that one of her classes had been rescheduled. She also asked whether Student Health would actually be elsewhere by the start of the fall semester. Senator Hansen indicated that the hospital administrator and the architect are trying to make those arrangements.
- B. Senator Michie thanked the students for their lobbying efforts with the legislature.
- C. Senator Hansen distributed copies of the draft "Course Information Program Proposal" which has been approved by Student Senate and will be discussed in Faculty Affairs. He encouraged senators to study the document and discuss it with constituents during the coming month. He invited feedback via calls to the Student Government office or by e-mail: tchan@ksu.edu.
- D. Senator Charney addressed the Senate about the death of Assistant Dean William Jahnke.

"On 7 March 1997, the University and, in particular, the College of Architecture, Planning and Design lost a great and loyal friend. After several long months of illness, hospitalization, recuperation, and rehospitization, former Assistant Dean William (Bill) Jahnke passed away last Friday afternoon. During the nearly thirty years Dean Jahnke worked for K-State, he laid the foundation for so much of what we do and how we do it in the College. His responsibilities were wide-ranging and

his influence far-reaching: for many years he oversaw student admissions and records, graduation checks as well as the actual commencement ceremonies, the College's physical plant and facilities, the coordination of renovation efforts, the scheduling of classroom use, the acquisition and maintenance of vital audio-visual equipment, and so much more. Only in the months and years to come, I think, will we in the College begin to appreciate fully just how much, through his dedication and generosity, Dean Jahnke secured for our College, just how much he fought for our College. As an educator, Dean Jahnke developed a course on architectural photography and fashioned a photo lab out of equipment he donated from his personal possessions. Long before "active learning" and "experiential context" became buzzwords in the modern pedagogical lexicon, Dean Jahnke engaged students in the environmental systems courses he taught by rolling out one ingenious homemade contraption or another that demonstrated in a very real and immediate way some important physical principle crucial to the shaping of the built environment. I have never met a student who has not held some degree of respect and genuine affection for the man. Dean Jahnke will be remembered fondly by what now certainly must number into the thousands of students. Some will remember him for his sailing adventures (or misadventures), others will remember him for the white lab coat he habitually wore, and still others will remember him for the multiple pairs of glasses he always carried. Presumably, because the demands of his job often required that he see larger things and read smaller things all at the same time, Dean Jahnke often resorted to wearing two pairs of glasses at the same time – one for seeing and one for reading – while a third pair of glasses sat in the breast pocket of his lab coat. When I was a student, I asked my faculty mentor why it was that one of his colleagues was always referred to as "dean" despite the fact that he had long since ceased to serve in that capacity. My professor responded, "It's a sign of abiding respect for all that he has accomplished; once dean, always dean." Things were different back then. Once I had been introduced to "Dean Jahnke," it was in that same manner that I always continued to refer to him; and to this day, I choose to do so still. A memorial service for Dean Jahnke is scheduled for 11:00 am this Saturday, 15 March 1997, at the Irwin-Parkview Funeral Home."

X. The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

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