

MINUTES  
SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
December 4, 1986  
3:15 - 4:30  
Regents Room, Morrill Hall

APPROVED 1/15/87

Members present: Carl Adams, John Adams, William Boylan, Jim Clark, Patrick Durbin, David Hamilton, Wendell Johnson, Sally Jorgensen, Gerry Klement, Ron Kubik, Ian Maitland (SCEP, for Andy Collins), Phil Shively (Chair).

Guests: Vice Presidents Roger Benjamin and Stanley Kegler.

Professor Shively introduced and welcomed Professor Maitland and noted with regret that the committee was about to lose Patrick Durbin to graduation.

1. SFC minutes of November 17; SCC/SFC minutes of November 20. The minutes were approved with the understanding that members should report promptly to the secretary any corrections needed in the 11/20 minutes.

2. Executive Session.

In closed session, Vice President Kegler briefed the Committee on the current standing in state offices of the University's biennial request. Following some discussion, Dr. Kegler left the meeting shortly before 4:00.

3. Proposals for support of sabbatical leaves.

Vice President Benjamin reported to SFC that he has assigned Assistant Vice President Robert Kvavik to pull together the numerous relatively small pots of money available in several different University budgets to support leaves (e.g., Small Grants). Professor Shively asked when the Committee could expect to see a report from Dr. Kvavik, and the vice president replied that it would be within Winter Quarter.

Dr. Benjamin said he likes the SCFA proposal, but said the deans don't like the principle of 100% funding. They see a sabbatical as a privilege more than as a right and think faculty should bear some responsibility for the costs. They might favor maximum funding of 90%. Professor Hamilton said he worried such a rule would tax some parts of the University more than others. People in the sciences, for instance, will be able to make up the 10% more easily. Dr. Benjamin said that he himself did not have any problem with the concept of full funding.

In anticipation of what the Faculty Development Committee may propose for the Faculty Senate's vote, Dr. Benjamin wants Dr. Kvavik to draw

together all the small grants for which faculty can now apply, take over the Bush fellowship program from Dr. Wallace's office, and have one office in Academic Affairs administer all leave funds.

Professor Shively recommended that the best way to proceed on this would be for the Faculty Affairs, Research, and Finance Committees each to look at the proposal when it is synthesized in Academic Affairs, and then to hold a joint meeting with Vice President Benjamin.

4. The Academic Planning Process.

Professor Hamilton commented that the process has been very stimulating; in his unit it has opened up things that wouldn't have come up otherwise.

Dr. Benjamin noted that he had just come from a meeting where he was again impressed by the tremendous level of private giving to the University. We have to use these resources wisely, he told the committee.

Vice President Benjamin said that by mid-January the University will be moving on to look at interdisciplinary plans.

He told SFC he would like to get its criticism of a model of program-based budgeting.

Vice President Benjamin had to leave the meeting at 4:20 for a meeting on the capital request.

Further SFC discussion about the biennial request.

Mr. Clark recommended that at some point some body assess how well the biennial appropriation matches with the University's intent. Professor Boylan noted that certain worthy line items in the request, such as that for providing fringe benefits for retired faculty, have no constituency. It is for that very reason, remarked Professor Shively, that the legislature has several times declined to approve that item.

Professor Shively asked that if any members intended to write comments to Vice President Kegler, they do so within a few days.

Professor Jorgensen asked whether there is any possibility of using some of the private funding Vice President Benjamin had described to help support special requests which may not be approved by the state. Professor Shively thought it unlikely that those projects would be attractive to the contributors to the capital fund drive.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30.

Meredith Poppele,  
Secretary