



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
TWIN CITIES

All University Senate Consultative Committee

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DRAFT

MINUTES

FACULTY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

August 6, 1980

Chairman Marcia Eaton convened a meeting of the Faculty Consultative Committee at 11:50 a.m. on Wednesday, August 6, 1980 in Room 608 of Coffman Memorial Union. Other members present were Russell Hobbie, Douglas Pratt, Vera Schletzer, Donald Spring and Allan Ward.

1. Commission of Inquiry. Marcia Eaton reported on efforts to create a commission of inquiry regarding the Rajender consent decree. Professor Peter Robinson, responding to Eaton's request that he serve on such a commission, had said that he would be very reluctant to participate unless it was a labor which could produce results. All present agreed the FCC should suspend its efforts on the matter and see if circumstances in the fall warrant another attempt to form the proposed commission.

2. State budget crisis/ University response. There was some preparatory discussion for the SCC/UCBRBR meeting scheduled for 1:00 p.m. on August 6 at which President Magrath was to describe the implications for the University of the shortfall in state revenues with the resultant cutback in funds for already budgeted '80-'81 monies to all state agencies and the University, and to discuss and request advice on the University's response to an anticipated loss of perhaps five to ten million dollars. The spectre of a tuition surcharge to dramatize the University's need for its full funding had been raised within the administration. Donald Spring remarked that, in terms of public relations, the Budget Executive is in the logical position to inform the president of possible alternatives for coping with a drop in revenues and to serve as a buffer between the President and public reaction.

Douglas Pratt asked if anyone could predict what effect an increase in tuition would have on enrollment. Before backing or proposing such a move, he said, the faculty should be given all necessary facts and figures to

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judge whether that means could solve the fiscal problem. Russell Hobbie suggested partial divestment of stock (South African-related, for instance) and its conversion to operating capital to serve as a budgetary cushion. Spring recalled that President Magrath had two or three years ago suggested the same move as a way of dramatizing the University's need for operating funds.

Spring and Pratt emphasized that the University must engage in a financial exercise, not a philosophic discussion. From what source will the University gain five to ten million dollars to pay its bills this fall?

3. Vice Presidential Search. There was brief discussion of the final stage of the search for a new Vice President for Finance. SCC members able to attend the first two interviews (August 4 and 6) but not the last and the evaluation session are requested to send their comments on the first two candidates in writing to Donald Spring who will chair the August 22 evaluation session. The members present spent some time offering assessments of the first candidate.

Spring stressed the need for this vice president to be a strong individual who stands up to other vice presidents when their demands are quixotic or inappropriate, and who can stand up to the Regents and other powerful lobbyists as well. Pratt agreed and added that the individual must be uniformly strong, applying the same standards to all petitioners.

4. Holding SCC meetings on outstate campuses. Spring recalled that the SCC was to discuss this year whether to schedule one or two outstate campus visits annually, and he recommended a four-year rotation schedule for visiting Crookston, Duluth, Morris and Waseca.

5. St. Paul campus solicitations. Eaton reported Professor Robert Holt's request that the SCC discuss the practice on the St. Paul campus of the administration seeking employee contributions for landscaping. Hobbie spoke for including the subject in an SCC or FCC conversation with the President.

The meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Meredith B. Poppele
Meredith B. Poppele,
Secretary



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Received 6/27/80
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June 24, 1980

Chairman Richard Purple
Faculty Consultative Committee
University of Minnesota
5-255 Millard Hall

Dear Professor Purple:

Bob Brasted showed me a copy of the Draft Minutes for the May 15, 1980, Consultative Committee meeting in which the discussion of the Chemistry hiring was reported. I respond to a question raised in that report;... (and is it true that they did not immediately inform Central Administration of the appointments in the pipeline?); The facts are very simple and I give them to you so that you may set the record straight.

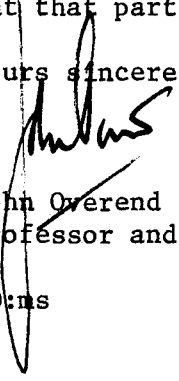
I learned of the terms of the Consent Decree from the Minneapolis Tribune on Saturday morning, April 19. I was aware that appointment documents for Livinghouse, Fristad, Barbara and Barany were being prepared by Miss Olson in the Chemistry Department since we had just established the lines in the draft of the printed budget but, I must admit, I was confident that the Consent Decree would be prospective and I did not anticipate any real problems. However, on Monday, April 21, following the appearance of the account in the Saturday Tribune I discussed the problem with Professor Swofford, the Associate Chairman of the Department, and we decided that, just to play it safe, I should make sure that Dean Staehle was aware that four appointments were coming through. That Monday afternoon I walked over to the Dean's office and talked with Dean Storvick (Dean Staehle was out of town). I told Dean Storvick that the four appointments were coming through, that I did not anticipate any problem but, just to play it safe, I believed that Academic Affairs should be notified. He agreed with me and said that he would carry the message forward.

The first inkling I had that there was any problem was at 1:30 on the afternoon of April 25. Two weeks previously, I had requested a meeting with Academic Vice Presidents Keller and Linck to discuss the future development of NMR facilities to be shared by Health Sciences, IT and CBS. To my surprise, it turned out that a number of other people had been invited, and the subject of the meeting was to consider the question of whether the four hires in Chemistry would be appointed by Central Administration.

In summary, I learned of the Consent Decree on Saturday, April 19 from the Minneapolis Tribune, I informed the Dean's office on Monday, April 21 of the

four appointments to be made and it was not until Friday, the 25th that I learned from Central Administration that difficulties could be expected. I trust this information will allow the Consultative Committee to straighten out that part of the record.

Yours sincerely,



John Overend
Professor and Chairman

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

MORRIS CAMPUS

July 3, 1980

To: Marcia Eaton

From: W. D. Spring *Don*

Subject: Draft Change

Here is my suggested revision. I, too, will find no quarrel with any changes you reject or any that you add.

Since the publication of the University's intention to file a consent decree in the Rajender case, accusations and counter-accusations have emerged both in public and in private concerning actions taken or not taken by members of the Central Administration, the Chemistry Department, or the Institute of Technology. In addition, speculations and rumors about ramifications and related problems have been aired. In an effort to lay these charges and counter-charges to rest, and in order to identify mistakes that can be avoided in the future, the Faculty Consultative Committee requests that you form a Commission of Inquiry. We do not ask you to re-try the case, but to study the trial transcript, the Consent Decree, and other materials which have circulated since the publication of the Consent Decree. Your report should describe in brief what happened in this long process and how individuals, units, or offices within the University Community could have or could not have acted differently to avoid difficulties which arose. You probably should provide an opportunity for such individuals, units, or offices to speak to the Commission. Vice President Hasselmo has promised his fullest cooperation and will give you whatever help he or his office can provide. You can count, as well, upon the full support of the Faculty Consultative Committee, to which you should report. After you have made a preliminary survey of the size and complexity of the task, you should meet with the Chair of FCC to determine a schedule for completion of your report.

WDS:dh