



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

University Senate Consultative Committee
164 Food Science and Nutrition
1334 Eckles Avenue
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
Telephone (612)373-3226

DRAFT MINUTES

FACULTY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

April 21, 1983

Intermittently, 1-1:10, 2:45-3:15
Regents Room

FCC members present: V. Fredricks, J. Howe, M. Mattson, D. Pratt,
B. Sundquist, P. Swan, J. Turner.

The FCC agreed to request the following faculty members to serve three-year terms on Senate and Assembly Committees, and to ask those indicated to serve as chairs. In the case of the All University Honors Committee, the FCC makes its recommendations to the President, who makes the appointments.

Assembly Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics:

Virginia Gray (CLA), and either Jim Fuchs (CBS) or Alan Hunter (Ag.)

To chair: Sander Latts (GC)

All University Honors:

Jonathan Wirtschafter (Med.), Sally Jorgenson (Vet. Med.)

To begin a second term and to chair: Gayle Yates (CLA).

Business and Rules:

Marcia Eaton (CLA), plus two of the following: David Giese (GC) (for a second term), Bright Dornblaser (Pub. Health), Caroline Czarnecki (Vet. Med.)

To chair: Rick Purple (Med.)

Finance:

Roberta Humphreys (IT). *

(There was some speculation as to the likely make-up of the committee for 1983-84 based upon the Senate committees which have regular representation on Finance.)

Planning:

Doug Pratt (CBS), John Borchert (CLA).

To chair: Mark Brenner (Ag.)

Swan said FCC would look to Pratt to provide the continuity (knowing contents of Cycle I and Cycle II) since a large share of the committee will be new. Turner urged Swan to discuss with Brenner the importance of the Planning Committee.

* Humphreys nomination later withdrawn.

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FCC will begin to keep a file of names of faculty who should be seriously considered in the future for Senate committee membership. Names to add to lists collected so far:

Lansine Kaba

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Meredith Poppele, SCC Exec. Ass't.,
Recorder

To : Fcc Members

April 21, 1983

From : P. Swan

Re: minutes of the 28th meeting

Business by silent vote/comment today

1. Please look at proposed motion and accompanying letter on closed meetings. We'll discuss this on April 28th in our open meeting. Please suggest only important changes. Merleth and I must get this out tomorrow (mailing, duplicating, etc.)
2. Please note V.P. Vancelon's Suggested Search Committee and my draft response. Please write comments on your draft & give to me today.
3. Please write me any comments you wish conveyed to the President this week.

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Dear Senators:

The Faculty Consultative Committee will be proposing an important change in the by-laws of the University Senate at the May 5th meeting. This letter is to draw your attention to our proposal and to request your support.

During the past two years we have tried to carry out our responsibilities for consulting with the President in open meetings (meetings at which the Press is represented). We have learned that it is impossible to get effective and candid consultation on certain issues when the meetings are open. In particular, the possibility that comments may be reported by the Press has created two problems:

- 1) Each speaker feels that his/her full views on a subject must be reiterated each time a new point is made, even though all participants are aware of the speaker's general views on the subject. The reiteration is for the benefit of the Press. The result is that meetings of the Committee with the President are composed of long speeches (sometimes monologues) rather than good exchange of information and perspective. Sessions become impossibly long and even then they cover very little of the needed conversation. Thus, consultation is neither efficient nor effective.
- 2) There are several topics that should be discussed between the President and the faculty, but which should not be immediately aired in the Press. Among these are:
 - a) politically sensitive topics related to the activities of the Legislature and its committees or the Governor and his staff;
 - b) ideas in the very early stages of development, before they are explored well enough to be discussed wisely in public conversations;
 - c) concerns that arise if the faculty believes administrative positions are not in the best interest of the University, especially when discussion of these concerns in the Press would further damage the University in the public eye;
 - d) topics related to anticipated personnel changes, potential legal issues, or other issues involving privileged information which should not be aired prematurely in the Press. When this type of information is involved the President cannot seek advice and consultation due to the presence of the Press.

We, the current FCC members, are unanimous in our belief that we cannot do the job we are elected to do under the current rules of the Senate. We have determined that the state's open meeting law does not cover groups such as the Consultative Committee which is an advisory committee and not a governing board. Therefore, we ask your support for a change in the by-laws that will allow closed meetings for some consultation with the President. In our proposed change we are providing an accountability mechanism and a way for the Senate to review the practice of closed meetings after three years. Please telephone any one of us to talk about our proposal.

Sincerely,

Enc.

PBS:mbp

Patricia B. Swan, Chr. (3-1194)

FACULTY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

AMENDMENT TO SENATE BY-LAWS

MOTION: That the By-laws (Article II, General Rules for Committees of the University Senate, Sec. 6) be amended as follows (new language underlined):

Committees of the Senate shall have a policy of open meetings. Closed or executive sessions may be held only after approval by a two-thirds majority of the committee members present and voting and only when personnel matters are discussed, when quasi-judicial functions are carried out, or when closed sessions are required to protect the rights of individuals. Under this rule, all regular sessions of the All-University Honors Committee shall be considered closed or executive sessions. As an exception to this rule, the Faculty Consultative Committee is granted the right to close a portion or all of a given meeting, after approval by a two-thirds majority of its members. The chairperson shall keep a listing of all topics discussed in closed meetings, making it available upon request, and including this list each year in the annual report to the Senate along with an evaluation of the role these meetings have played in consultation with the President. The right of the FCC to close meetings shall not be extended beyond the end of the academic year 1985-86 unless there is a vote of the Senate to do so.

COMMENT: The FCC has discovered after considerable experimentation that at times it cannot discharge effectively some of its consultative (as opposed to its steering and executive) duties and responsibilities in open meetings. The FCC believes that its ability to represent faculty interests and influence administrative policy, planning, and decision making requires candid consultation, often during the earliest stages at policy formation.

Faculty Consultative Committee

Patricia Swan, Chair

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

MORRIS CAMPUS

March 8, 1983

To: Faculty Consultative Committee

From: W. D. Spring *WD Spring*

Subject: Rough Draft - Bylaw Amendment

John Howe and I are convinced that our proposal should be characterized by candor and brevity, with the full realization that it will have to be defended on the floor of the Senate. I believe Pat Swan would like to consider the matter at our meeting on 31 March 1983. Will you read the rough draft below and send me your comments and suggestions no later than 23 March 1983?

Motion: ~~Recommendation~~ that the Bylaws (article II, 6) be amended by inserting the following sentence before the last sentence in the paragraph:

As an exception to this rule, the Faculty Consultative Committee is granted the right to close a portion or all of a given meeting, after approval by a two-thirds majority of its members ~~until the end of spring quarter 1986~~

Comment

The FCC has discovered after considerable experimentation that at times it cannot discharge effectively some of its consultative (as opposed to its steering and executive) duties and responsibilities in open meetings. The FCC believes that its ability to represent faculty interests and influence administrative policy, planning, and decision making requires candid consultation, often during the earliest stages of policy formation ~~a point at which such discussions are considered to be privileged communication between the president and his vice-presidents, not subject to the open meeting rule.~~

kc

Continuation:

The chairperson shall keep a listing of all topics discussed in closed meetings, making it available upon request, and including this list each year in the annual report to the Senate along with an evaluation of the role these meetings have played in consultation with the President. The right of the FCC to close meetings shall not be extended beyond the end of the academic year 1985-86 unless there is a vote of the Senate to do so.

April 21, 1983

To: FCC

From: P. Swan

Re: Keeping score on committee nominations.
Here's how I see the line-up; what say ye?

Twin Cities Intercollegiate Athletics

We name 2 -- 1 must be a Senator(S):

Virginia Gray (S)	CLA	Merle Loken	Med.
Julie Carson	Mgmt.	Alan Hunter	Ag.
Jim Fuchs (S)	CBS		

* Ask Sander Latts to Chair

All University Honors

We name 3

Gayle Yates	CLA for continuation and chair		
Jonathan Wirtschafter	Med.	Benjamin Leung	Med.
Lansine Kaba	CLA	Sally Jorgensen	Vet. Med..

Business and Rules

We name 3

R. Purple	Med. (Chr.?)	Caroline Czarnecki	Vet. Med.
David Giese	GC	Bright Dornblaser	Pub. Heal.
Marcia Eaton	CLA		

Planning

We name 2

William Hartup	Ed. (CLA)	Frank Busta	Ag.
Doug Pratt	CBS	John Borchert	CLA
Shirley Clark	Ed.	Fred Morrison	Law (Tenure?)

Finance

We name 1 at-large

Charles Campbell	IT	Leo Hurwicz	CLA
Bruce Overmier	CLA	Roberta Humphries	IT