



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

University Senate Consultative Committee
1480 Social Sciences
267 19th Avenue South
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455
Telephone: (612)626-1850

FACULTY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Wednesday, September 23, 1987

12:30-3:00

405 Campus Club

AGENDA

1. For discussion: The design of the Twin Cities Campus discussion of the Report of the Planning Task Force.
2. For discussion: FCC's agenda for the year.
3. For information: Amendments to Procedures for Reviewing the Performance of Probationary Faculty. Attachments: Procedures, issued June, 1987, showing proposed amendments; G. Copa's cover memoranda of June 10 to Tenure Committee and May 28 to G. Maruyama.)

NOTE: Room 405 is available to the committee at noon for lunch.



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MINUTES

APPROVED 9/23/87

FACULTY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

September 23, 1987
12:30 - 3:00
405 Campus Club

Members present: Ellen Berscheid, Mark Brenner, Charles Campbell, Shirley Clark, Richard Goldstein, Ronald Phillips, W. Phillips Shively (Chair), James VanAlstine, M. Kathleen Price (2:00).

Guests: Nina Shepherd and Maureen Smith (University Relations).

1. FCC relationship to the Regents.

Professor Shively gave a short account of how the students are proceeding on this issue. The next regular informal quarterly meeting of FCC and Regents will be on November 12, for either lunch or dinner.

2. FCC agenda for the year.

The chair identified many of the past year's initiatives and other areas of continuing business:

- Following through on Twin Cities academic planning (i.e., holding campus forums, dealing with non-academic units, and addressing faculty development issues);

- the work of the Faculty Development Committee;

- FCC's relationship to Board of Regents;

- the new search and review guidelines for middle-management positions;

- the upcoming newsletter for Senate committees and the administration;

- the increased budget to support the staffing of Senate committees;

- Revitalizing the faculty lobbying effort, both through the faculty legislative liaison and through encouraging the Faculty Association's representative.

- Asking the Business and Rules Committee to develop rules to deal with disruptions at University Senate meetings;

- Making more use of the Faculty Senate, e.g., to pass resolutions

In a letter to the chair, Professor Goldstein had recommended additional issues to the committee's attention:

- Anticipating the effects on the University of the lifting (following 1994) of mandatory retirement for faculty;

- The impact on departments of central administration's recent transfer of fringe benefits into the college budgets (Senate Finance Committee will pursue);

- Taking a systematic look at the Libraries including budget, collections, transmittal of information;

- Allowing some open discussion time at each FCC and SCC meeting.

In the meeting, FCC members added to the list:

- Looking futher at the Spring, 1987 reports from SCC's external governance reviewers;

- Securing governance committee oversight of Twin Cities Campus auxiliary services;

- Considering the report of the subcommittee on Academic Professional and Administrative representation in the Senate system, due in early December;

- Seeking review of personnel policies that impede academic efforts (a planning issue but one which does not fall clearly within the purview of any Senate or Assembly committee;

- Promoting coordinated sponsorships for University-wide forums, and regularizing campus convocations.

- Making the Senate and Assembly meetings more meaningful (e.g., expediting procedural business, overlapping Senate and Assembly meetings if possible so similar or identical votes could be taken consecutively, and relaxing the formal atmosphere -- perhaps with refreshments);

- When the Faculty Senate has a substantial agenda, scheduling it to meet on a separate date from the University Senate;

- Preparing Faculty Senate positions on the issues prior to a University Senate meeting.

3. Arranging public Twin Cities Campus discussion of the documents "Plan for Focus" and "Preparing for the Twenty-First Century."

FCC discussion explored what would be the most fruitful way to gather opinion and develop positions to submit to the University administration. Members recommended these steps:

- After a series of special meetings of the Twin Cities Campus Assembly, hold one or two meetings of the Faculty Assembly, where resolutions could be developed. Encourage the students to do something in parallel.

- Request of the President and the Provost a special Senate Consultative Committee/Assembly Steering Committee meeting with them right after the conclusion of the series of meetings and interpret the thrust of those meetings to them.

- Announce the meetings and their purpose through a letter to all faculty, enclosing the names and telephone numbers of senators (by college); invite faculty to talk to their senators.

- Push for a channel for civil service input.

- Assign an abstractor for each session; abstracts could aid the press and serve in an ongoing way as a point of reference for the administration.

There was a consensus of opinion in the FCC to schedule approximately eight afternoon and evening Campus Assembly meetings in October, using more than one campus location. The wrap-up session should be October 29 (unless the administration extends its timetable for reporting to the Regents).

Professor Shively agreed to invite Provost Benjamin and Acting Associate Provost Foster to the October 1 SCC meeting.

The Consultative Committee will, through a notice in Brief, encourage other groups to take on other, related, responsibilities.

The Chair will write up and send to all SCC members a summary of this discussion and a list of issues to choose from for forum topics.

Tentative forum topic list identified by FCC:

- Increased resources for the academic "core;"
- Single port of entry and coordination of undergraduate education;

- The collegiate structure, and a vice presidency for the arts and sciences;
- the Academy itself;
- The biological sciences;
- Research policy, administration and funding, and a vice presidency for research;
- The campus environment.

In considering who should chair the several Assembly meetings, FCC members agreed the chairs need to be fully conversant with the issues. In some instances the chair of an appropriate committee and an FCC member might co-chair. This question was left open.

4. Modifications to the "Procedures for Reviewing Probationary Faculty."

There was minimal discussion of this document upon which the Tenure Committee and the Academic Vice President have agreed. FCC members found the changes to be very sound. FCC will steer the document to SCFA for its consideration and forwarding to the Faculty Senate.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Meredith Poppele
Executive Assistant