

Senate meeting, May 18, 1989

TENURE COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT, 1988-89

Under the plan adopted for reorganizing and consolidating University committees, the Tenure Committee goes out of business at the end of the 1988-89 academic year, with its functions transferred to the Faculty Affairs Committee. Accordingly, the Tenure Committee essentially performed housekeeping functions during the 1988-89 year, guiding substantive matters to the Faculty Affairs Committee for consideration and developing procedural matters to promote an orderly transfer of functions.

PHILIP FRICKEY  
Chair

TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT, 1988-89

The Transportation & Parking Advisory Committee scheduled monthly meetings beginning in September 1989. The following major issues and activities were addressed by the committee.

- The committee examined the present policies and issues concerning access constraints to the Twin Cities Campuses. The committee formally recommended that the assembly examine existing policies regarding the allocation of parking resources. The committee asked the question, "What is the cost to the institution for not having adequate accessibility?" These costs include subsidized parking to staff, direct and indirect costs to students, lost income to departments because clientele cannot access the campus, etc.
- The committee recommended that campus bus route 13A, which is the Blegen-Jones West to East bank route, be slightly modified so that it can be routed through Dinkytown to West Bank. This minor change would provide bus service to students living in the Dinkytown area.
- A recommendation was made that the University petition the MTC to designate MTC route 73 a dime-zone fare. This route serves the perimeter of the Minneapolis Campus.
- A request was made to the Planning Department to include the fine for parking in a no parking handicapped zone on the sign.
- Encouraged the Planning Department to establish an office responsible to coordinate the needs of mobility impaired students and staff.

ROBERT A. SILVAGNI  
Chairperson

May 18, 1989

SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE

ROTC ISSUE

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Information

The forum on the ROTC question was, in my opinion, very successful. It was what we had in mind in urging that the Senate, through our committee, sponsor such events at which multiple views on controversial issues can be aired in a respectful and courteous manner. There was an audience of about 40 to 50 persons, less controversy than we would have liked (since no representative of ROTC was present), but with both sides of the issue presented and listened to by the audience.

While we are not yet ready to make a recommendation, it is clear that the committee is strongly committed to the existing equal opportunity policies and, further, to action of some sort to resolve the situation. We are also strongly committed to the importance of the ROTC presence on university campuses, and feel that actions leading to termination of ROTC here would be more or less washing our hands of an important issue, rather than taking proactive steps to resolve what appear to be grave constitutional questions, substantially beyond the conflict with our internal policies. We lean, I think, toward asking the institution to take a leadership role in resolving the issue at the national level, perhaps in concert with other institutions who are discussing the same issue.

Our committee continues to work on this critical issue and will send further information on our thinking before the year is out.

COMMENT:

The above report is submitted in response to the request by the University Senate on April 27 to indicate the next steps following the recent forum.

BARBARA KNUDSON  
Chair

May 18, 1989

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UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ASSEMBLY

ANNUAL REPORT, 1988-89

The Assembly discussed general issues in undergraduate education based on a compendium of task force reports gathered by Assistant Vice President Kvavik and "Implementing a Common Entry Point" by Associate Vice President Jeanne Lupton (on behalf of the Enrollment Management Advisory Committee).

The Assembly expressed its hope that the review of liberal education requirements, proposed to be conducted by the Twin Cities Campus Assembly and Academic Affairs, consider and respect changes in those requirements adopted by the Program for Individualized Learning in University College; the College of Agriculture; University of Minnesota, Morris; and University of Minnesota, Duluth. The careful thought and work of faculty, staff, and students which went into these new plans should be built upon and not overtaken.

Recognizing that rewards for teaching and academic advising are relatively difficult to find, the Assembly proposed that the Morse-Alumni and Tate Awards become part of the recipient's base salary. (The Senate Finance Committee has adopted a version of this recommendation for the Morse-Alumni Award and forwarded its proposal to the Educational Policy Committee.)

The Assembly proposed to the Educational Policy Committee and Academic Affairs that the University develop a program for recognizing departments which make outstanding contributions to undergraduate education.

The Assembly regretted that the Common Entry Point Report was not widely circulated before it was adopted. It is important to recognize that the plans it outlines deal with recent high school graduates, rather than all students who enter the University. Two major concerns arose from the discussion. First, students on the proposed "Exploration" track might be treated as second-class citizens when it comes to entry to courses and access to advisers. Second, the outline of the Exploration curriculum points toward somewhat narrowly-conceived, disciplinary and departmental study. Many students with wide-ranging interests might be better served by considering the many interdisciplinary programs that are available.

Finally, the Assembly made recommendations to Academic Affairs about its role in the selection of the (new) Vice Provost for Arts, Sciences, and Engineering, since that person will also be the Dean of University College.

DONALD ROSS  
Chair

May 18, 1989

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Annual Report of the Senate Library Committee, 1988-89

We have been gratified that Central Administration has accorded high priority to the pressing space and facilities needs of the University Libraries.

We have devoted much of our effort during the current academic year to assisting in the search for a new University Librarian. We developed a standard set of questions that we used in our interviews with each of six candidates, and we forwarded our recommendations to the search committee.

In addition, at our regular monthly meetings we:

- 1) monitored planning for space and new facilities;
- 2) examined the thorny issue of the responsibilities of the Libraries for providing quality study space for students on a predominantly commuter campus;
- 3) were briefed on automated circulation, bar-coding, and the circulation policies of individual units;
- 4) urged the Circulation Services Planning Committee of the Libraries to impose stronger sanctions on patrons who are irresponsible; and
- 5) encouraged the development of faculty advisory committees for individual units of the Libraries, and attempted to maintain effective liaison with these committees.

Other issues that we believe the Committee might wish to address in future include:

- 1) the erosion of funds for acquisitions, staffing, and patron services when the costs of automation are greater than

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anticipated and budgeted;

2) the need for better liaison between subject bibliographers and their clients;

3) personal safety in the libraries, especially during late evening hours;

4) handicapped access to existing and planned library facilities; and

5) the need for improved linkages, especially in telecommunications, with the coordinate campuses and their libraries.

JOHN FRASER HART  
Chair