

Minutes*

**Faculty Consultative Committee
June 2, 1988**

Present: Ellen Berscheid, Mark Brenner, Charles Campbell, Shirley Clark, Richard Goldstein, Warren Ibele, Lynnette Mullins, J. Bruce Overmier, Ronald Phillips, W. Phillips Shively (chair), Michael Steffes, James VanAlstine

Guests: Gayle Grika (Footnote), Richard Sauer, Maureen Smith (Brief)

1. Report of the Chair

Professor Shively reviewed several items of business with the Committee.

- He had received a proposal that Committee members might wish to have a handbook. The Committee concluded that the preparation of a handbook might be useful for committee chairs rather than SCC or FCC members and asked Mr. Engstrand to prepare it.
- Professor Shively suggested a proposed membership for the ad hoc working group to prepare revisions of the committee structure of the Senate; the Committee approved. The Committee also suggested that as part of the charge the ad hoc group be asked to have a preliminary report for the orientation meeting of new committee chairs in late September.
- The Committee asked that Professor Clark and her subcommittee on the Task Force on Mandatory Retirement (with Professor Frickey replacing Professor Arvey, who is out of the country) select a chair for the Task Force this spring in order that initial data-gathering could begin over the summer. She was also asked to obtain information from the Office of the General Counsel on legal issues. Committee members agreed to think about possible nominees for chair and to get the names to Professor Clark in the next week or so.
- The Committee made several suggestions to Professor Brenner about members of the Task Force on Support Services. He was authorized to consult with whoever is designated as Acting Provost about the appointment and staffing for the Task Force.
- The final faculty members who will be asked to serve on the Presidential Search Advisory Committee were selected; Professor Shively will contact them as soon as possible. Committee members also expressed surprise at the quality and appearance of the advertisements that had appeared thus far for the presidency.

2. Legislative Request Priorities

Professor Shively outlined several items he believed should be a high priority for the biennial

* These minutes reflect discussion and debate at a meeting of a committee of the University of Minnesota Senate or Twin Cities Campus Assembly; none of the comments, conclusions, or actions reported in these minutes represent the views of, nor are they binding on, the Senate or Assembly, the Administration, or the Board of Regents.

request:

- Anticipatory retention money
- Faculty salary increases
- Funding for Commitment to Focus plans
- Library funding
- SEE budgets

A number of comments about the items were made. On anticipatory retention funds, the argument seemed very strong now, after what the University has gone through and its vulnerability to being raided.

On CTF, there was a call for a renewed emphasis on graduate education and research as the focal point of CTF and as the elements which made sense of higher education in the State; this emphasis helped garner the support of the other systems, and to revert to an emphasis on undergraduate education would endanger that support and the logic of CTF. Committee members concluded that improvements in undergraduate education must occur, but must be seen as taking place in the context of improved graduate education and research--there is a need to break away from the suspicion that undergraduate and graduate education are not compatible and to emphasize they are integrally linked. Faculty, moreover, must be attracted to Minnesota because of the graduate education and research; they cannot come expecting to emphasize undergraduate education and then have to be reoriented. There was also agreement that the establishment of the new Vice Provost position was for the purpose of revitalizing the core academic programs of the University, not only for the purpose of focusing on undergraduate education. Committee members also felt very strongly that research is not done to the exclusion of teaching, but rather that the substantial majority of the best researchers are also the best teachers; it was also pointed out that good teaching drives good research--this "bidirectional flow is what a research university is all about."

Also an item of concern was capping health care benefits, with the possible result of reducing salaries.

3. Discussion with President Sauer

Professor Shively closed the meeting for the discussion with the President. A variety of personnel matters were deliberated, including possible nominees to serve as Acting Provost.

President Sauer surmised that the Acting Provost would most likely be in place during most of the 1989 legislative session; he also suggested--and the Committee concurred--that the Acting Provost should be permitted to be a candidate for the permanent appointment if he or she wished.

The Committee recessed at 12:10, and then reconvened at 3:00 to act further on a personnel matter which had been left unresolved. The Committee adjourned at 3:20.

-- Gary Engstrand