

Minutes\*

**Senate Consultative Committee  
Thursday, April 29, 1993  
11:00 - 12:00  
Room 226 Appleby Hall**

- Present: Mario Bognanno (chair), John Adams, David Dahlgren, Amos Deinard, Judith Garrard, Sonja Hoheisel, Paul Holm, Derek Jensen, Robert Jones, Tom Lopez, Anne Sales, Denise Tolbert, James Tracy, James VanAlstine, Shirley Zimmerman
- Regrets: Lester Drewes, Benjamin Liu, Karen Seashore Louis, Toni McNaron, Irwin Rubenstein
- Absent: Paul Carrier, Love Goel, Tess Sheir, Dan Sinclair
- Guests: Geoffrey Maruyama, Harvey Peterson
- Others: Rich Broderick (Footnote)

[In these minutes: task force on University governance; grievance policy issues]

**1. Committee on Committee Recommendations**

Professor Bognanno convened the meeting at 11:40, immediately after the Assembly Steering Committee, and drew the attention of Committee members to the materials distributed with the agenda that relate to the method by which student numbers in the Senate are calculated. The Committee on Committees points out that the method used for as long as anyone can remember is at variance with the method prescribed by the Senate constitution; it recommends that that incorrect method be continued for one year while more fundamental questions about the structure and makeup of the Senate are addressed.

Professor Bognanno then distributed a memo suggesting to the Committee that a task force on governance be appointed to consider a series of issues related to the Senate and its committees. Discussions on several of these points, he related, has been going on for five years or more, and it is past time to resolve them.

One Committee member inquired if these issues would be taken up by the Faculty Consultative Committee or the Senate Consultative Committee; Professor Bognanno responded that it would be both. One of the issues it should address, he agreed, is what is a faculty matter, what is a student matter, and what are matters requiring joint deliberation. Another is the usefulness and effectiveness of each of the Senate committees.

Larger questions were raised by the discussion of the Assembly Committee on Intercollegiate

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Athletics at the previous meeting, said one Committee member. There is confusion between the policy-making and consulting responsibilities of the committees and the responsibility of administrators. It is to be hoped that the task force will consider the distinction between administration, policy-making, and consultation, and what each is expected to produce. The committees should NOT, in any event, get drawn into management.

Professor Bognanno reported that the four previous chairs of the Committee (Professors Scott, Ibele, Brenner, and Shively) agreed to the need for such a task force, and three of them have agreed to serve on it (Associate Dean Brenner holds an appointment that is primarily administrative, so it was thought to be awkward to ask him to serve). In addition, a former Student Senate Consultative Committee chair would be asked to serve, as would a former student representative to the Board of Regents and a former chair of the P&A Advisory Council. He also suggested that the task force be asked to conduct its work during Fall Quarter and to make a report during Winter Quarter, 1994.

Concerns were expressed about the lack of coordinate campus and graduate/professional student representation. After some deliberation and debate, it was agreed that the task force membership as proposed (all from the Twin Cities) would be acceptable, it being understood that the task force would make recommendations and its work would be subject to review by interested parties. It was agreed that Professor Bognanno should appoint the task force.

The Committee also agreed to condone, for one more year, the (inaccurate) method of establishing student representation that has been the practice for many years, pending the outcome of the task force report.

## **2. Grievance Policy Amendments & Appointment to Grievance Advisory Committee**

Professor Bognanno then turned to the grievance policy amendments that had been developed out of consultation between various parties as the policy was prepared for submission to the Board of Regents. Professor Bognanno proposed that the changes be part of the consent package of the Senate docket, saying that they all adhere to the spirit of the policy adopted by the Senate and were intended only to clarify points everyone appeared to agree on. The changes, in summary, are these:

- Confirmation that the University can change the rules, regulations, etc., that govern its employees--which is the case now.
- One may file a discrimination complaint with the EEO Office, or one may file a grievance under these policies and procedures, but not both.
- The University Grievance Officer is to provide counsel on policies, not serve as an advocate.
- The Board of Regents are to be provided a copy of the annual report of the University Grievance Officer.

The Committee agreed without objection to place the changes in the consent package of the Senate docket.

Professor Garrard then noted that the Committee is to appoint a representative to the Grievance Advisory Committee; she nominated Professor Bognanno. The Committee concurred without dissent.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15.

-- Gary Engstrand