

Minutes*

Senate Consultative Committee
Thursday, November 3, 1994
12:30 - 3:00
Room 238 Morrill Hall

Present: John Adams (chair), Thomas Burk, Sheila Corcoran-Perry, Lester Drewes, Sara Evans, Love Goel, Virginia Gray, James Gremmels, Kenneth Heller, Roberta Humphreys, Derek Jensen, Robert Jones, Geoffrey Maruyama, Jason Mork, Donald Ness, Harvey Peterson, Linda Pham, Chad Reichwald, Tim Stanislawski, Michael Steffes, Rabun Taylor, Barbara Thompson, Gerhard Weiss

Regrets:

Absent:

Guests:

Others:

[In these minutes:

Professor Adams convened the meeting at 12:30 and said there were several questions raised by the Transition Advisory Committee that he would like the Committee to discuss.

The first is student representation in governance and how it is serving the interests of the University. A particular issue is the very different perspectives and interests of graduate and professional students. One can also observe that the Senate is not as effective as it should be.

Asked about the recommendations the Transition Task Force is considering, Professor Adams said that it will likely propose to leave the existing governance structure in place, for the time being, but that new consultative structures within each provostal area should probably be added so the provosts have a group similar to that which the central administration now has with the governance system. One suggestion was that any senior committees that work with the provosts should also have a representative on this Committee.

Each area should be left to develop its own representative structure, it was said, rather than have it imposed by the Senate. It was later suggested that the provostal areas should have uniform systems of representation but that the colleges should be permitted to vary. The time to begin consultation, it was also pointed out, is immediately when the provost arrives.

*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.

Once the Transition Advisory Committee has done its job, Professor Adams observed, there remain the larger questions of governance to be addressed. One underlying issue about governance, it was said, is that governance without responsibility is meaningless, as is governance without resources.

University of Minnesota