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**UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA**

**TWIN CITIES CAMPUS ASSEMBLY**

**MINUTES**

**February 3, 1977**

The second regular meeting of the Twin Cities Campus Assembly was convened in the auditorium of Nicholson Hall on Thursday, February 3, 1977. Checking or signing the roll as present were 104 voting members of the faculty, 35 voting members of the student body, 1 member of the Council of Academic Officers, and 9 nonmembers.

Vice Chairperson Barbara-Ann March presided.

The following items were considered, and action was taken as indicated.

**I. MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 21, 1976**  
**Reported for Action (5 minutes)**

*Approved*

**II. ASSEMBLY AND CAMPUS COMMITTEES, 1976-77**  
**Reported for Action (5 minutes)**

CAMPUS COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS AND RULES: Student: Michael Boosalis replaces Linda Digby.

CAMPUS COMMITTEE ON CONVOCATIONS AND THE ARTS: Add Dale Huffington. Students: Add Cynthia Gessele and Julia Halberg.

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON STUDENT AFFAIRS: Add William Hathaway. Students: Add Joseph LaJennesse and Heidi Wurst.

CAMPUS COMMITTEE ON HOUSING: Students: Add Kathy Rogness, Jeanne O'Hare.

CAMPUS COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY HEALTH SERVICES: Student: Add Julia Wood.

CAMPUS COMMITTEE ON STUDENT BEHAVIOR: Add Barbara Lyon. Student: Add Michael Malter.

*Approved*

**III. REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR THE**  
**TWIN CITIES ASSEMBLY STEERING COMMITTEE**  
**Reported for Action by the Faculty Assembly (15 minutes)**

The special Nominating Committee (approved by the Assembly October 21, 1976) to fill 1977-80 faculty membership terms on the Assembly Steering Committee presents the following six names, from which three are to be elected (dates are dates of initial appointment at the University):

George R. Blake: 1955; Professor, Soil Science; Senate/Assembly member, 1965-66, 1967-70, 1972-73, 1973-76; Senate/Assembly Committee on Committees; Coun-

cil on Liberal Education; University Committee on Educational Development; Campus Committee on Student Behavior.

Forrest J. Harris: 1953; Professor, Social and Behavioral Sciences; Senate/Assembly member, 1964-67; University Committee on All-University Extension and Community Programs (chr.); Council on Liberal Education; Study Group on University Outreach.

Andrea Hinding: 1973; Assistant Professor and Curator, Social Welfare History Archives; Senate/Assembly member, 1973-76; Assembly Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics.

Fred L. Morrison: 1969; Professor, Law School; Senate/Assembly member, 1973-76, 1976-77; University Committee on Tenure (chr.); University Committee on University ROTC Relations (chr.); University Committee on the Use of Human Subjects in Research; Campus Committee on Student Behavior.

Richard L. Purple: 1964; Associate Professor, Neurophysiology; Senate/Assembly Committee on Educational Policy; Senate/Assembly Committee on Committees.

John W. Webb: 1955; Professor, Geography, and Associate Dean, Social Sciences; Senate/Assembly member, 1971-74, 1974-77; University Schedule Committee; University Committee on the Use of Human Subjects in Research; Council on Liberal Education.

The Assembly Steering Committee is also the Assembly Executive Committee and forms the Twin Cities membership of the Senate Consultative Committee. Additional nominations, certified as available, may be made by: (1) petition of 12 voting members of the faculties, provided that the petition is in the hands of the clerk of the Twin Cities Assembly the day before the Twin Cities Assembly meeting; (2) nomination on the floor of the Assembly. The faculty representatives of the Twin Cities Assembly shall reduce by vote the slate to twice the number to be elected, and shall forward the results to the clerk of the University Senate.

The University Senate Bylaws provide that the clerk of the Assembly shall distribute, by mail, election ballots and slates to all faculty eligible to vote for members of the Senate and shall receive all returns.

Faculty members currently serving on the Steering Committee, whose terms of office continue beyond the current academic year, are:

Kenneth Keller, Institute of Technology  
Betty Robinett, College of Liberal Arts  
Barbara Stuhler, Continuing Education and Extension  
Mahmood Zaidi, College of Business Administration

The terms of Rutherford Aris, Institute of Technology; Donald Rasmusson, Institute of Agriculture, Forestry, and Home Economics; and Dennis Watson, Medical School, expire with the end of this academic year.

**Leon Reisman (Chr.)**  
**Marion Brooks-Wallace**  
**Marcia Eaton**  
**Richard Jordan**  
**Richard Poppele**

*Approved*

#### **IV. SPECIAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE** **Reported for Action by the Faculty Assembly (10 minutes)**

##### **Assembly Committee on Committees**

The chairman of the Assembly appoints the following as members of a committee to nominate candidates to fill, by the election procedure, 1977-80 faculty vacan-

cies on the Assembly Committee on Committees: George Blake (chairman), Thomas Clayton, Caroline Czarnecki, Ruth Hovde, and William Shepherd. There will be three vacancies to fill.

*Approved*

## V. REPORT OF THE CAMPUS COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS AND RULES

### Reported for Action (10 minutes)

1. The following Constitutional amendment received a majority vote at the October 21, 1976, meeting but not the required two-thirds; therefore, requires a second majority vote:

Amend the Constitution to replace the words "All-University Administrative Committee" by "Council of Academic Officers" wherever they appear, namely Article II, Section 1 (b).

*Approved*

2. The following Constitution and Bylaw amendments would provide authority for the parliamentarian of the Twin Cities Campus Assembly:

Amend the Constitution, Article II, Section 4 to read: (addition underscored)

4. Twin Cities Assembly Officers

"... The chairman, with the consent of the Twin Cities Assembly, shall appoint a clerk and a parliamentarian of the Twin Cities Assembly ~~who need not be a member of the Assembly, and~~ whose duties shall be prescribed in the Bylaws."

Amend the Bylaws, Article I: (add Section 5)

- "5. The parliamentarian shall advise the presiding officer or, upon request, any member of the Twin Cities Assembly on matters pertaining to parliamentary procedure. Parliamentary authority for the Twin Cities Campus Assembly shall be *Robert's Rules of Order Revised*, provided said *Rules* are not in conflict with the Twin Cities Campus Assembly Constitution, Bylaws, or special Rules."

**MARIO F. BOGNANNO**  
Chairman

The Constitutional amendment was approved, 125 to 0. This was not the required two-thirds for approval, and therefore, requires a second vote at the next regular or special meeting. Presentation of the Bylaw amendment was postponed until the Constitutional amendment was approved.

## VI. ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC STANDING

### Reported for Discussion (30 minutes)

The grading policy adopted in 1972 by the Twin Cities Campus Assembly included a provision for a two-record academic transcript system (*Minutes*, year 1971-72, #3, April 27, 1972, pp. 29-40). The official University transcript for Twin Cities students is an accomplishment record; the internal or operational record, available only to the student and his or her college, shows supplementary symbols (W, I, N) as well as accomplishment grades (A, B, C, D, S). This system was implemented as student records were computerized. Two-record computer-produced transcripts were available for new freshmen in the fall quarter 1972, for new advanced standing students in fall quarter 1973, and for all enrolled students in fall quarter 1975. Thus, it is only now possible to assess the full impact of this nontraditional system.

The 1972 subcommittee felt that the certification obligation of the University should be limited to "a chronological record of accomplishment, of standards met, not a detailing of the various ways in which a student did not earn credit" . . . . The present Committee rejects this and recommends that we return to a more traditional transcript—a record not only of accomplishments but also of unsuccessful attempts. In addition to serving a role in certification, a transcript which includes a complete record of registration attempts can be useful in predicting a student's future performance.

The concept and use of the operational record has already changed from that envisioned in 1972. The operational record has been released more liberally than the original policy dictated. Most of the undergraduate colleges on the Twin Cities campus have found that the additional information on the operational record is useful to them in admitting and counseling students from other colleges and, hence, are requiring students to provide them with copies of their operational records. The Office of Student Financial Aid, Student Loan Collections, the International Student Adviser Office, and the Student Counseling Bureau now receive copies of operational records. Other offices, such as ROTC and the Veterans Administration, have also requested access to operational records.

A major shortcoming of the present transcript is that one is immediately suspicious when one sees a record of accomplishment that includes fewer than 14-16 credits each quarter. One suspects that the student has manipulated the system by registering for many credits and completing only a portion of them, by "trying out" courses without planning to complete them the first time, or by not completing courses to avoid grades of C or D. This handicaps a good student who must attend the University on a part-time basis and rewards a student who does not successfully complete courses.

As was recently elegantly stated by Wilbert J. McKeachie (*College Grades: A Rationale and Mild Defense*. AAUP *Bulletin*, Autumn 1976, p. 320. ), complete transcripts are useful not only for certifying accomplishment, but more importantly, to predict a student's future performance. In determining admissions we want to know not only that the prospective student has the skills and knowledge to do well in advanced courses, but also, by using the pattern of grades and registrations in the student's past, something about the student's ability and work habits. Prospective employers want to use transcripts to assist in decisions about how good an employee the student will become. Here again the overall pattern of grades and registration attempts may be of importance.

Growing disenchantment within the University by students, faculty, and staff, as well as increasing pressure from University and non-University agencies, require a reassessment of the two-record system. Most who have had experience with the dual system believe that its disadvantages exceed its advantages and request a return to the single record system. The current system is disadvantaging good students, condoning nonaccomplishment, frustrating non-University agencies, increasing expenses, and, most importantly, impairing the academic reputation of the University of Minnesota. The Committee on Academic Standing therefore recommends that the Twin Cities Campus Assembly approve the following:

- 1) Beginning with fall quarter 1977, the Official Transcript will include a record of all courses for which the student was registered after the end of the second week of classes (first week during a five-week summer session) and the outcome of that registration.
  - a) The Official Transcript will list only the student's most recent major.
  - b) The Official Transcript will NOT indicate grade point average or completion index unless they are requested by the student's college. When these computations are included, the basis of computation shall accompany the transcript.
  - c) Upon graduation, the Official Transcript will list the student's major(s) and degree(s) granted, along with date(s) of graduation.

- 2) The Operational Record and Official Transcript will be retained as separate documents, under present rules, for the period September 1972 through Summer Session II, 1977.

**NORMAN KERR**  
**Chairman**

A motion was made to refer the dual transcript issue to the Assembly Committee on Educational Policy for further study.

*Motion approved*

## **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

None.

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

The following resolution was presented:

We the Twin Cities Campus Assembly as representatives of the University community wish to express our support for the actions taken by President Magrath regarding University relations with the Veterans Administration concerning the administration of veterans benefits.

Furthermore, we encourage the President's continued involvement relative to this issue, ~~and request the Senate Committee on Social Concerns to review the various aspects of this issue, work in conjunction with the President's office, and recommend Senate action where appropriate.~~

A suggestion was made to delete the words "and request the Senate Committee on Social Concerns to review the various aspects of this issue, work in conjunction with the President's office, and recommend Senate action where appropriate," which was accepted.

## Appendix

### ABSTRACT OF DISCUSSION

The meeting was called to order at 3:15 p.m. by Barbara-Ann March, vice chairman, in Nicholson Hall auditorium. Minutes of the last meeting and memberships on Assembly and Campus committees were approved.

*Steering Committee Nominating Committee*—Leon Reisman, professor in General College and chairman of a committee to select a slate of nominees from which faculty members would elect persons to fill next year's vacancies on the Steering Committee, presented six names. He reported that names had been sought by mail solicitation of faculty, and he called the results a "roster of excellence." The slate was then approved for election by mail ballot.

*Committee on Committees Nominating Committee*—Membership of a nominating committee to fill next year's vacancies on the Committee on Committees was approved.

*Committee Name Change*—Following a second reading of the Constitutional amendment to rename the Administrative Committee the Council of Academic Officers by Mario Bognanno, professor of industrial relations and chairman of the Business and Rules Committee, the Assembly approved the measure 118 to 0, thus effecting the change.

*Authority of Parliamentarian*—Mr. Bognanno proceeded to a Constitutional amendment that he said would correct an omission dating back to the beginnings of the current Senate structure; that is, the process for appointing the parliamentarian and the authority of that office. The Constitutional amendment was approved 125 to 0. A second reading would be necessary because the two-thirds requirement was not met. Mr. Bognanno postponed the related Bylaw amendment until the next meeting.

*Grading Policy Proposal*—Norman Kerr, professor of genetics and cell biology and chairman of the Academic Standing Committee, opened the discussion of his committee's recommendation to return to a single official transcript that would include a record of all courses for which a student was registered after the second week of classes. It would replace the present two record system, known as the dual transcript, one record of which is an internal or operational transcript available only to the student and college units and which indicates supplementary symbols such as W, I, and N. The other record, known as the official transcript, does not include such grades. He said the committee had undertaken the study last year upon discovering that most college units were asking for operational records. The dual system was experimental, he said, and results of the committee's evaluation indicated the University should return to the former system. He said that it seemed more honest to let the student know that the total record would be sought by and given to college units when they requested it. Deans had been asked for comments; all who replied favored return to the single record, though not all had responded. Most students groups, he said, were opposed, including the CLA Intermediary Board.

Mike Malter, student, asked how thorough the committee's study had been. He said he had been unable to get a report from the committee on its contacts with employers and that the *Daily*, not the committee, subsequently provided the information. He said it didn't make sense to change the rules just because they weren't being complied with. He asked why colleges needed the complete record. He also asked for an evaluation of the impact of a single transcript system on academic flexibility. Mr. Kerr responded that, though his committee was not able to provide data on employer preference, the *Daily* had published anecdotal information. On college use of the operational record, he used as an example the College of Liberal Arts, which was the last major unit to ask for it. CLA found that IT students who had been flunking were

applying to CLA and attempting to follow an IT curriculum there. He contended that counseling at admission time would be improved and also that students were led to believe they were getting away with something when in fact they were not. He suggested that faculty members could give Ds instead of Ns to students they hated.

David Lenander, student, urged that the Educational Policy Committee hold open hearings and conduct a thorough study. Harriet Lewis, student, said the Council of Graduate Students was divided on the issue, but that she herself felt the student wouldn't have enough flexibility under the single record system. Mick Roach, student, said that the TCSA resolution had not been unanimous, but there was agreement that the matter needed more study. He suggested that the one-transcript system wasn't perfect, and its problems should be taken up, too, so that corrective mechanisms could be instituted. Lawrence Goodman, professor of civil and mineral engineering, supported the committee recommendation, calling the official transcript a deceptive device. Roger Fellows, student, said a complete study should be made of the implications of returning to the single record and said facts should be obtained from other Minnesota colleges. Fred Morrison, professor of law, asked whether colleges could keep their own records. Mr. Kerr said that they could indeed do that and that the recommendation pertained only to the official University record.

Kenneth Keller, professor of chemical engineering and materials science, contended that W (withdrawal) was not necessarily a negative factor on a student's record but rather an indication that the student wanted to venture outside his or her major. He said there might be many instances where people don't know that an operational record was being kept. A medical student felt the single-record system would be a disadvantage to University students applying to Medical School, compared with other applicants whose full records were not available. There was a move for a 10-minute extension of discussion time, which was approved, after which Mr. Malter moved to send the report to the Educational Policy Committee for further study. His motion was approved 74 to 51. When asked whether the Assembly would be asked to vote on the issue at the next meeting, Ms. March said that would depend on the committee's recommendation.

*Veterans Administration Resolution*—Mr. Malter moved for consideration of a resolution supporting the President's recent action in voicing his opposition to proposed regulations governing administration of veterans benefits, and requesting the Social Concerns Committee to collaborate with the President's Office and recommend Senate action if necessary. Mr. Keller indicated that the Steering Committee had discussed the problem, acknowledged that it was serious because the proposed regulations would be costly and really wouldn't resolve any problems. The committee had encouraged the President to continue his efforts with the Veterans Administration. Russell Hobbie, professor of physics, asked why the resolution shouldn't be referred to the Academic Standing and Relations Committee. Mr. Kerr suggested that the Steering Committee should designate the appropriate committee. There was a move to delete the referral to the Social Concerns Committee, which was then approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

**MARILEE WARD**  
**Abstractor**