

2017-07-10-12

Minutes  
Senate Committee on Educational Policy  
Meeting of September 26, 1984

Members Present: William Hanson, Gerald Kline (chair), Gretchen Kreuter (secretary to SCEP), Tom Lussenhop, David Lutz, Elaine May, Robert McCollister, David Thompson, John Wallace (ex-officio), Gloria Williams, Mary Young

Members absent: Jeffrey Frey, Lael Gatewood, Van Gooch (UMM), Andrew Lee

1. There was introduction of members for the 1984-85 school year.
2. Meeting times and place were established: 402 Campus Club, 3:15 p.m., on alternate Wednesdays. The next meeting will be held on October 10.
3. Issues brought forward from 1983-84 were:
  - a. Dean Fenton's memo regarding access to graduate programs through CEE. She had expressed concern that residence requirements, etc., hindered CEE students in attaining graduate degrees. Letter was sent in response to Fenton, and SCEP now awaits her response. The chair will circulate a copy of the Fenton letter to members of the committee.
  - b. Lael Gatewood's report: she examined microcomputers and their implications for the University. She will have a draft report for the next meeting.
  - c. Letter to President Magrath regarding task forces: SCEP expressed concern over the procedure by which the task forces were constituted and the means by which recommendations were formulated. (Copies of the Presidential Report on Task Force Recommendations were distributed to the committee.) John Wallace explained the process: there was no Senate representation, as such, in it. Gerald Kline noted, however, that John Wallace had reported on the work of the Student Experience Task Force as it had been carried out last year.
4. Proposed change from the quarter to the semester system: one of the recommendations to emerge from the Task Force reports was that the University should plan to move from the quarter to the semester system. John Wallace reported that a committee has been set up to consider the issues involved, and that it will report to the president.

There was discussion regarding the process by which this committee had been constituted. Concern was expressed over the apparent neglect of faculty governance implied. Lawrence Goodman noted that, clearly, the Senate needs to be involved in a change like that proposed from quarter to semester system.

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5. SCEP's role in consideration of task force recommendations: Gerald Kline suggested that SCEP ought to read carefully the task force recommendations, especially those dealing with educational policy, and formulate its own responses to them. Elaine May noted that implementation of some recommendations might require new policies that ought to be considered by SCEP. It was agreed that the most fruitful course for SCEP to take was to prepare feedback on issues of educational policy that have emerged from the task force reports and that remain to be implemented.
  
6. Council of Undergraduate Deans: John Wallace reported that he will meet regularly with the undergraduate deans, and will be interactive between them and SCEP. The deans will primarily address the following issues during the academic year: 1) entrance requirements and standards, including related issues of merit awards of financial aid; 2) evaluation of instruction, plus related issues including the problem of student cheating; and 3) enriched programs and how they should be financed. Copies of the 1984 Root/Williams memorandum, "Recommendations Concerning the Evaluation of Teaching Quality" will be sent to all SCEP members.