

Minutes\*

**Faculty Consultative Committee  
March 28, 1988**

Present: W. Phillips Shively (chair), Ellen Berscheid, Mark Brenner, Charles Campbell, Shirley Clark, Richard Goldstein, Ronald Phillips, James VanAlstine

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

**1. Letter to the Faculty**

The Committee reviewed a draft letter that Professor Shively proposed to send to the faculty on behalf of the Committee. The Committee agreed that such a letter be sent and that it should explain clearly both the FCC role in recent events and the future plans and goals of the Committee in light of the changed circumstances of the University. After being given several suggestions, Professor Shively was authorized to redraft the letter and get it out as soon as possible.

**2. Letter to the Editor, Minneapolis Star and Tribune**

Professor Shively circulated a draft letter he thought might be sent to the newspaper commending them for a recent editorial and briefly laying out the choices ahead for the people of the State with respect to the University. After discussion, it was agreed that Professor Goldstein would write a letter of his own and the original letter would not be sent.

**3. Presidential Selection Criteria**

Committee members reviewed carefully a draft set of criteria prepared by the subcommittee chaired by Professor Clark. A number of changes were adopted; the final document will be forwarded to the Board of Regents from the Committee.

Professor Shively was asked to ensure that any set of criteria eventually adopted by the Regents be forwarded for review and comment to any faculty advisory committee appointed to assist in the search for the new president.

**4. Proposed Expenditures from the Reserves**

Committee members examined and discussed the tentative proposals for spending up to \$40 million from the reserves that had been provided by the administration to the Board of Regents last week. There was strong consensus that the University should explore using reserve funds as bridges to eventual hard money allocations to be financed either from reallocation or from new legislative appropriations in the future.

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There was also strong agreement that only some of the proposed expenditures were related to Commitment to Focus improvements. Committee members were of the view that the priorities in the spend-down of the reserves needed to be redirected to academic improvements and also that the "existing commitments" needed review to determine exactly how "committed" the funds are.

Discussion also centered around faculty salaries and the need to remove from the pool of available dollars such items as tuition benefits and the health coverage cost increases. Committee members felt that salary increases had to meet faculty expectations, especially in light of the recent revelations about reserves and other expenditures.

The Committee adjourned at 4:00.

-- Gary Engstrand

University of Minnesota