

2-4-1991

## Academic Council Meeting Agenda and Minutes, February 4, 1991

Rudy H. Fichtenbaum

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**Wright State  
University**

Office of the University Faculty  
Dayton, Ohio 45435  
513/873-2039

TO: Members of Academic Council and University Faculty  
FROM: Rudy Fichtenbaum, Faculty Vice President  
SUBJECT: Agenda for Academic Council Meeting on  
Monday, February 4, 1991, 3:10 p.m., 155 A, B, & C--University  
Center

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of Minutes of January 7, 1991
- III. Report of the President: Paige Mulhollan
- IV. Report of the Steering Committee: Rudy Fichtenbaum
- V. Report of Standing and Ad Hoc Committees
  - A. Building & Grounds Utilization & Planing: James Runkle
  - B. Curriculum: Susan Praeger
  - C. Faculty Affairs: Gregory Bernhardt
  - D. Library: Gordon Welty
  - E. Student Affairs: Lewis Shupe
  - F. University Budget Review Committee: James Sayer
- VI. Old Business
  - A. Health Benefits Report and Motion (Academic Council will send a recommendation to the central administration that the fee structure for health insurance have two additional levels added. The third level would be \$50,000-\$74,999 annual earnings, the fourth level: \$75,000-\$99,999 annual earnings, and the fifth level: \$100,000 and above annual earnings.)
- VII. New Business
- VIII. Announcements and Special Reports
  - A. Next Academic Council: Monday, March 4, 1991, 3:10 p.m.
- IX. Adjournment

WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY  
ACADEMIC COUNCIL MINUTES

February 4, 1991

I. The meeting of February 4, 1991, was called to order by University Faculty Vice President Rudy Fichtenbaum at 3:10 p.m., in 155 A, B, and C University Center.

**Present:** G. Bernhardt, D. Brown, W. Carmichael, D. Engebretson, R. Fichtenbaum, B. Fowler, R. Fox, G. Gayle, F. Gies, B. Hale, E. Harden, N. Hassan, C. Hathaway, R. Hetherington, B. Hull, M. MacDonald, R. Markert, M. Melko, P. Moore, P. Mulhollan, M. Peltier, W. Rickert, J. Rossmiller, E. Rutter, J. Sayer, P. Seybold, R. Siervogel, G. Spalding, J. Steinberg, J. Stekli, J. Thomas, J. Vance, A. Wendt, R. Williams

**Absent:** A. Barclay, G. Cambier, L. Crum, D. Fitch, R. Gordon, W. Goulet, W. Hanks, M. Kapp, D. Reynolds, T., Ringhand, D. Schlagheck, K. Sheplak

II. The January 7, 1991, minutes were approved as written.

III. Report of the President, Paige Mulhollan reporting:

The State has forced the reduction in its budget. It will be two weeks before there is a precise definition of the cuts. There will probably be a 3% cut in instructional subsidy and 5% in other line items. Ohio student aid capital appropriations have been exempted from such cuts. A 3% cut in subsidy would amount to approximately \$1.5 million.

When our annual budget was put together, there was a \$2.4 million shortfall. With the additional loss of \$1.5 million in subsidy, there was a total of a \$4 million deficit. With the spending restraints introduced in November and some unexpected subsidy income, \$3.3 million have been made up of the \$4 million deficit. The university must now look for an additional \$500-\$600 thousand in savings. The university will continue its current spending restraints until it has more information as to this year's reduction in state subsidies.

The governor anticipates that there will be a \$1.5 billion deficit in the next biennium of which \$900 million will be in the first year and \$600 million in the second year of the budget. This will have an effect on the university budget. At this time there is no tuition increase cap for the coming year, but such is a possibility.

IV. Report of the Steering Committee, Rudy Fichtenbaum reporting:

A. The Steering Committee is forming a subcommittee to look at an Early Retirement Plan. Hopefully, there will be such a plan available in 2 1/2 years. The committee has also been asked if such a plan could be offered on a regular basis.

B. The committee is looking at the number of students who are in the University Division, have a large number of hours, and have a 2.0 or higher grade point average, but cannot be admitted to the major of their choice.

C. Gordon Walbroehl, Chair of the Commencement Committee, has been called to active duty. The committee will be looking for his replacement on the Commencement Committee.

V. Report of Standing Committees:

A. Building & Grounds Utilization & Planning, no report.

B. Curriculum, no report.

C. Faculty Affairs, Gregory Bernhardt reporting:

The committee met twice in the month of January, and the following actions were taken:

1. The Due Process Hearing Board has been convened.
2. The committee is looking at the salary inequities procedures among the colleges.
3. An ad hoc committee on Early Retirement is being formed.
4. The Academic Dishonesty Policy is being reviewed in conjunction with the Student Affairs Committee.
5. The letters for awards for recognition have been sent out to all the faculty.
6. The committee continues to look at a continuous employment agreement for faculty below the title of assistant professor.

D. Library, no report.

E. Student Affairs, Lewis Shupe reporting:

1. The Division of Student Affairs and the University Student Affairs Committee unanimously endorsed the Diversity Statement. The members of the Student Affairs Committee recommend that the statement be forwarded to Academic Council for review and consideration for endorsement. (Attachment A)
2. The Student Affairs Committee is reviewing the interim policies for Discrimination and Discriminatory Conduct in Public Forums, Demonstrations and Marches, and Speaker's Corner. Questions and concerns have been expressed in reference to the wording of the policies, specifically in relationship to freedom of speech.

The members of the committee have asked those persons expressing concern with the interim policies, as written, make specific written recommendations for considered modifications. Recommended revisions of the policies will then be forwarded to Academic Council by the March meeting.

3. The members of the committee have responded to students' questions and concerns regarding student activities at the Nutter Center. Tom Oddy, Director of the Nutter Center, will be meeting with members of the committee to clarify these questions and concerns.
4. Members of Student Government have completed the interviews leading to consideration of restructuring Student Government's role at Wright State University. It is anticipated that the recommendations for restructuring will be completed prior to the end of the 1990-91 academic year.

F. University Budget Review Committee, James Sayer reporting:

1. The UBRC will meet with Tom Oddy, Director of the Nutter Center, with questions concerning the financial status of the center.
2. The committee continues to look at the major items in the budget.
3. At the financial subcommittee meeting of the Board of Trustees a report was made that much of the deficit in the budget has been made up.

VI. Old Business:

Health Benefits Report and Motion. (Academic Council is sending a recommendation to the central administration that the fee structure for health insurance have two additional levels added. The third level would be \$50,000-\$74,999 annual earnings, the fourth level: \$75,000-\$99,999 annual earnings, and the fifth level: \$100,000 and above annual earnings.)

Edward Spanier, Vice President of Business & Finance, and Chair of the subcommittee that made the recommendation on the fee structure on health insurance, along with Don Pabst and James Jacob, who were two of the faculty representatives on the committee, related in what way each viewed how the the health insurance could be funded. The discussion was long and covered such items as equity of assessment, WSU's ranking in the state of Ohio in regard to faculty salary, and the university's priorities as to allocation of funds.

The original motion was withdrawn and a substitute motion was made that:

"The subcommittee should revisit the issue as to how the insurance should be paid."

VII. New Business:

- A. Diversity Statement. A motion was made for an endorsement by the Academic Council of the statement on Diversity (Attachment A). The motion was seconded and will be considered as Old Business at the March 4 AC meeting.
- B. Graduating with Honors Policy. Perry Moore asked that the policy of "Graduating with Honors," approved at the November 26, 1990, Academic Council, be rescinded and returned to the University Curriculum Committee for further consideration.

In the discussion, it was pointed out that this item is on the agenda for the Winter General Faculty Meeting scheduled for February 12 and cannot be removed. The general consensus was that the matter should be dealt with at that meeting. The motion was withdrawn.

VIII. The next Academic Council Meeting will be Monday, March 4, 1991.

IX. Adjournment

Attachment