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Academic Council Meeting Agenda and Minutes, April 1, 1974

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Wright State University - Main Campus

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Wright State University

Campus Communication

Date: March 14, 1974
To: Members of the Academic Council
From: John Treacy, Secretary, Steering Committee
Subject: Agenda, Academic Council Meeting, Monday, April 1, 1974

The April meeting of the Academic Council is scheduled for Monday, April 1, 1974, in Room 401, Fawcett Hall, at 3:10 P.M.

The agenda follows:

- I. Call to order.
- II. Approval of Minutes of March 4, 1974, meeting.
- III. Report of the President.
- IV. Report of the Steering Committee.
- V. Reports of the Standing Committees:
 - A. Curriculum
 - B. Faculty Affairs
 - C. Library
 - D. Student Affairs
- VI. Old Business:
 - A. Decision on formation of an early semester Study Group.
- VII. New Business:
 - A. Western Ohio Branch Campus Student Constitution.
- VIII. Adjournment.

JT:el

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

April 1, 1974

Minutes

- I. The regular monthly meeting for the academic year was called to order by Chairman Pro Tem Associate Provost Murray at 3:15 P.M.
- II. The Minutes of the March 4, 1974, meeting were approved as written.
- III. Report of the President, Mr. Murray reporting.

Mr. Murray explained the composition of the University Budget Review Board: two student members, three faculty members, the President, the Vice President, and Mr. Tom Keller, Budget Director, as a non-voting staff member. The Board will be meeting all day April 4, 1974, and possibly all day April 5. It is hoped that faculty contracts will be ready by April 15, which is the target date. These meetings are open but only limited space is available in the conference room where they are held, and it was felt that there would be ample feedback through the representation.

Some organizational realignments are in the process of being studied and/or implemented in the administrative support area and in the student services area. Members of the Steering Committee, students, Deans, have all been involved in this. There will be a complete and full report given at the Spring Quarter General Faculty Meeting.

In response to a question from Mr. Roberts on the status of the search for Deans, Mr. Murray indicated that the search for a Dean of the College of Education should be finalized by the end of next week; in regard to the College of Business and Administration, the Committee will have all the information in by the target date of April 12 and will meet to discuss their recommendations; the College of Science and Engineering got started later than the others so therefore will probably not have a final decision until about a month later than the first two colleges. Finalization is expected by the end of the Spring term. It was further explained that search committees are established to decide on the positions of Dean, such committees being made up from faculty within the particular college, students, and at least one faculty member outside the college involved. Composition of the Admissions Search Committee includes representatives from the various administrative units and two student members; Mr. Dolphin is Chairman of the committee. Mr. Roberts pursued the committee discussion further, having heard of a new slot to be created in the area of student services, for which there had been no search committee selected; Mr. Murray indicated that the latest information he had in regard to that position was that it was not a Dean's position.

Mr. Filio questioned what duties would now be assigned to Mr. Murray, with his recent promotion. Mr. Murray said that he will have added responsibilities in relation to the Library, to the Western Ohio Branch Campus, to Piqua Academic Center, but not the Dayton downtown center. There is the possibility that some responsibilities with regard to the University Division may be added, depending upon the realignment previously mentioned.

- IV. Report of the Steering Committee, Mr. Fritz reporting.

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Professor Emil Kmetec has been appointed to the Naming of Facilities and Honorary Degrees Committee.

The next meeting of the Committee has been set for April 10, and any items needing to be added to the agenda for the Council meeting should be brought to the attention of the Steering Committee.

The third item concerned the establishment of a faculty dining facility in the University Center area currently being used as the dormitory cafeteria. A questionnaire sent to all faculty, over the signatures of Mr. Spiegel and Mr. Fritz, brought an overwhelmingly favorable response to the possibility. Implementation as soon as possible will be considered at the next Steering Committee meeting. Mr. Sachs questioned the advisability of handling the matter by soliciting input from faculty between quarters, but Mr. Fritz explained that the possibility came up quite unexpectedly. There are some inconveniences related to the use of the area (no tunnel connecting it with the remainder of the campus), and it was felt that some response was needed before even deciding to pursue the possibility further.

V. Reports of the Standing Committees:

A. Curriculum Committee, Mr. Larkins reporting.

The Committee is currently studying several areas: a proposal from Liberal Arts for a B. A. and B. F. A. degree program in Selected Studies, problems developing due to the lack of notation of academic actions on transcripts, the use of the P/U grading option, and finally a review (with perhaps recommendations for revisions/clarifications) of the responsibilities of the Curriculum Committee.

B. Faculty Affairs Committee, Mr. Swanson reporting.

Liability insurance has been established and policies sent to faculty and staff.

The report from the committee reviewing Article VII of the Promotion and Tenure Document is now being considered by the Trustees' sub-committee and there should be something to report to the Council at its next meeting.

Mr. Wade questioned the status of the student communication feedback system, mentioned before Council earlier in the year, and was informed that although the Student Affairs Committee had already considered it, Mr. Swanson's group had not as yet but was scheduled to do so at its next meeting.

In response to a need for clarification of coverage under the new liability insurance, Mr. Swanson will request that Dr. Ahmad send out an explanatory note to everyone.

C. Library Committee, Mr. Hess reporting.

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Because of the heavy demand for use of census documents, they will no longer be circulated.

A review of the recommendations from the Deans' Council to Mr. Murray, related to the allocation of funds to the various colleges for acquisition of new books and back files, has been made; agreement with the recommendations was indicated. It was brought out that the nursing program, as well as the upcoming medical school program, would draw allocations from a separate funding used exclusively for developing programs.

D. Student Affairs Committee, Mr. Hemsy reporting.

Attention was directed to a two-page handout from the Committee, related to a University-wide communication system. (Attachment B) The Committee will enter this under "New Business" today, thus the material will have been considered by both the Faculty Affairs Committee and the Council members before next month's meeting. Various points brought to mind in considering this proposed system were whether the students want such a system, how it would tie in with course evaluation now being considered, the evaluation of courses after they have been completed and while they are in progress, and the scope of the system. Such discussion, Mr. Murray suggested, should be conducted when the proposed system is brought up as an item on the agenda next month.

The Western Ohio Branch Campus Student Constitution has been briefly discussed in the Committee's meeting and there were enough serious objections that the document has been referred to a sub-committee comprised of representatives from that campus, from the Dean of Students Office, and the Committee. As a result of this action, the item was removed from today's agenda, where it had been listed as "A" under New Business. It will be brought again to the Steering Committee for listing on a later agenda.

VI. Old Business:

A. Decision on formation of an early semester study group.

Mr. Fritz explained that this had been placed before the Council at last meeting to allow an intervening time for representatives to receive feedback on whether there was interest enough to set up a study group to inquire into the whole system. Mr. Fritz moved that -

The Council should form a study commission to investigate the possibility of an early semester system here at Wright State University.

The motion was seconded, and floor discussion opened.

An earlier document from Mr. L. Hussman had indicated that the Chancellor's Office

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had not been particularly receptive toward a move by Miami University for an early semester system. Mr. Fritz went on record speaking against an early semester system here at the University, indicating a largely negative attitude on the part of those with whom he had discussed the matter since last month's meeting. It was explained that such a study group would be made up of members from the Standing Committees, reporting back to the Academic Council. Mr. Murray reported that nine state universities have approached the matter, with five being firmly for the early semester and proceeding in that direction, and four being against it. Three state universities, Wright State included, have not conducted a study, therefore are considered to be "on the fence" or undecided about it at this time.

Representatives from Business and Administration and from the student body spoke in favor of the formation of a study group, being in favor of the early semester system as a means of getting the students on the job market sooner in the year and more quickly.

Further review of the matter brought to light that of the nine universities mentioned, two did not have extensive studies. However, it was felt that if Wright State voted against the formation of a study group, they would be unique in that they would ostensibly be against the early semester system without having studied the plan. The extremes on the question are Ohio State against it and Miami for it, with Miami having made a thorough and comprehensive study. Mr. Fritz has reviewed Miami's study in part; however, he went on to state that in soliciting input from his college, the feeling was that much effort connected with conducting a study would be wasted when members of that college would vote against acceptance of the early semester system since it would be too difficult to work heavy credit courses into such a system.

Mr. Merriam expressed the feeling that the University has an obligation to at least look into the studies made by other universities.

Concurrence with this viewpoint was shown by the vote on the motion to form a Study Group; the motion carried by voice vote, although not unanimously.

B. Mr. Larkins placed a motion -

Approval of the P/U grading system for GL 428.

It was stressed that this was the system, not the option, and that GL 428 is of the seminar type.

Voice vote passed the motion.

Mr. Larkins asked -

Approval of the P/U grading system for ML 200.

Voice vote was in favor and the motion was passed.

A third motion was placed by Mr. Larkins -

Approval or reinstatement of the P/U grading system for
LCS 481 and LCS 482.

The Council voted in favor of the approval.

VII. New Business:

- A. Removed from the Agenda, per earlier recommendations.
- B. For the College of Continuing and Community Education, Mr. Larkins presented for consideration and voting upon at next month's meeting -

Academic Calendar 1974-1975
Amended Summer Quarter (June 17 - August 23, 1975)
June 17 Tuesday. A and C Terms begin.
July 4 Friday. Holiday (Independence Day).
July 21 Monday. A Term ends.
July 22 Tuesday. B Term begins.
August 22 Friday. B and C Terms end.

Questions related to this proposal included its effect on mass registration, and on the Spring final examinations. It was pointed out the reason for requesting this was the relation of teachers to the opening of public schools. Since this amendment would not affect the present year's calendar, it will be brought to vote next month.

- C. For the Graduate Council, Mr. Fritz asked for -

Approval of an amendment of Section VII, 2 (b) of the Graduate Council
Bylaws to read:

- (b) The Chairman of a Standing Committee must have
Category II membership on the Graduate Faculty.

Voting on approval of this amendment will be in May.

- D. Mr. Haughey requested permission to submit an additional item at this time under New Business, a proposed "University Programming Board". (Attachment C) Mr. Haughey stated this proposal was being submitted to the Student Affairs Committee as well as to Council, so that Student Affairs would have time to prepare a report for next month.

There was some discussion about this manner of presenting a new item, but it was explained that the final draft of the Programming Board guidelines had been prepared too recently to have gone through Steering Committee. Although unusual in procedure, acceptance of the item is not out of line; to forestall inclusion of the

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item at this point would require voting against its acceptance.

Mr. Sachs presented an amendment to Mr. Haughey's request -

The document "University Programming Board" should be submitted for review to the Student Affairs Committee.

It was felt that voice vote denied this amendment, but hand voting was requested.

In favor of the amendment 7

Against the amendment 11

Several members of the Council did not vote.

The amendment was defeated. The item will be entered on the May Agenda under Old Business.

VIII. The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 P.M.