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Academic Council Meeting Agenda and Minutes, April 6, 1981

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Date: March 13, 1981

To: Members of the Academic Council

From: *Lilburn P. Hoehn*
Lilburn P. Hoehn, Chairer of the Steering Committee

Subject: Agenda, Academic Council Meeting, April 6, 1981

The Academic Council will meet at 3:10 P.M., Monday, April 6, 1981 in the rear section of the University Center Cafeteria.

- I. Call to order
- II. Approval of minutes of March 2, 1981, Academic Council Meeting
- III. Report of the President
- IV. Report of the Steering Committee
- V. Report of the Standing Committees:
 - A. Curriculum
 - B. Faculty Affairs
 - C. Library
 - D. Student Affairs
 - E. Budget Review
- VI. Old Business:
 - A. Revised Faculty Retrenchment Policy (2-23-81) - See Attachment D to March 2, 1981, minutes.
 - B. Amendment to the Revised Policies and Procedures for Granting of Promotions and Tenure - See page 3 of the March 2, 1981, minutes.
 - C. Policy and Procedures for Academic Mediation (Grade Appeals) - see Attachment B to March 2, 1981 minutes and recommendation of the Student Affairs Committee applicable to the document - see Attachment F to the March 2, 1981, minutes.
- VI. New Business
- VIII. Adjournment

ACADEMIC COUNCIL
MINUTES

April 6, 1981

- I. The meeting of April 6, 1981 was called to order by Chairman Pro Tem Vice President John V. Murray at 3:10 p.m. in the Cafeteria Extension of the University Center.

Present: O. Amos, J. Barton, P. Batra, B. Beeler, J. Buening, J. Castellano, C. Cline, E. Fernandez, S. Ghosh, C. Hartmann, K. Hennessey, L. Hoehn, L. Howard, R. Iddings, R. Kegerreis, S. Klein, K. Kotecha, S. Link, M. Moloney, J. Murray, D. Pabst, M. Roach, G. Skinner, A. Spiegel, C. Swindler, H. Viets, E. Wales, B. Walker, R. Weisman, T. Wetmore

Absent: E. Cantelupe, J. Daily, R. Fox, A. Hye, P. Smith, J. Sullivan

- II. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the March 2, 1981 Academic Council meeting as presented. Minutes were approved.

III. Report of the President: No report

- IV. Report of the Steering Committee: Mr. L. Hoehn, Chairman, gave the following report:

A. The Early Retirement proposal is being reviewed for final legal and tax opinions.

B. The survey regarding the quarter system versus semester system is being tabulated by the Calendar/Elections Committee. A hand tabulation at this point indicates that 68 percent of faculty are in favor of the early semester system, 38 percent in favor of the quarter system, and 4 percent in favor of the traditional semester system. A final tabulation will be made through Data Processing.

- V. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to suspend the rules and have the report of the standing committees follow the discussion of the Retrenchment Policy under Old Business.

VI. Old Business:

- A. Faculty Retrenchment Policy (Attachment D to March 2, 1981 Academic Council Minutes)

Mr. C. Hartman made a motion to adopt the revised draft of the Faculty Retrenchment Policy. Motion was seconded and opened to discussion.

Ms. B. Beeler and Mr. J. Jacob, members of the Faculty Affairs Committee, were recognized by the Chair as being available to answer questions concerning the Retrenchment Policy. Discussion followed with opposition to the proposal being expressed on the basis that it transfers responsibility from those who are obligated and qualified to a politically dominated and a possibly uninformed committee. In response to opposition of the proposal, the view was expressed that faculty and the University are best served by a procedure which invites and requires faculty participation and that this document incorporates faculty views in an advisory manner.

Mr. R. Weisman introduced an amendment (Attachment A) to the proposed Faculty Retrenchment Policy and moved for adoption of the amendment. Motion seconded. Discussion followed with the point made that the main change made by the amendment concerns "who" draws up the retrenchment plan in detail; the amendment provides that the President, with his advisers, do this instead of FRAC. Amendment to the proposed Faculty Retrenchment Policy was put to a vote and passed.

A motion was made and seconded to amend the amended Faculty Retrenchment Policy as follows:

Under "Procedures," paragraph 1: Change "Faculty Budget Review Committee" to "University Budget Review Committee."

Motion passed.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion to adopt the revised draft of the Faculty Retrenchment Policy as amended.

Members voting YES:

O. Amos, J. Barton, P. Batra, B. Beeler, J. Buening, J. Castellano, C. Cline, E. Fernandez, C. Hartmann, K. Hennessey, L. Hoehn, L. Howard, R. Iddings, R. Kegerreis, K. Kotecha, M. Moloney, J. Murray, D. Pabst, M. Roach, G. Skinner, A. Spiegel, C. Swindler, H. Viets, E. Wales, B. Walker, R. Weisman, T. Wetmore

Members voting NO:

S. Ghosh, S. Klein, S. Link

The motion passed by a vote of 27 to 3.

B. Amendment to Revised Policies and Procedures for Granting Promotions and Tenure

Mr. C. Hartmann made a motion to amend the Revised Policies and Procedures for Granting of Promotions and Tenure at Wright State University as follows:

Section VII, Removal or Suspension of Tenured Faculty: Delete the word, "exigency," and replace it with the word, "emergency," so as to read:

"A faculty member having academic tenure has a continuous appointment which may be terminated or suspended only for just cause or because of financial emergency after opportunity for hearing or through retirement or resignation."

Motion was seconded and opened to discussion.

Mr. G. Skinner made a motion to substitute an amendment for the amendment under discussion. The substitute amendment would be:

Delete the word "exigency" and replace it with the words "emergency (as defined in the Faculty Retrenchment Policy) or because of program elimination."

Motion was seconded and opened to discussion. It was felt that "program elimination" needed further thought and consideration. The motion and second were withdrawn on the substitute amendment and motion made and seconded to amend the original amendment under discussion as follows:

Delete the word "exigency" and replace it with the words "emergency (as defined in the Faculty Retrenchment Policy)," so as to read:

"A faculty member having academic tenure has a continuous appointment which may be terminated or suspended only for just cause or because of financial emergency (as defined in the Faculty Retrenchment Policy) after opportunity for hearing or through retirement or resignation."

Question was called and passed. Voice vote was taken and the amendment to the amendment passed.

A roll call vote was taken on the original motion as amended with the following results:

Members voting YES:

O. Amos, J. Barton, P. Batra, B. Beeler, J. Buening, J. Castellano, C. Cline, E. Fernandez, S. Ghosh, C. Hartmann, K. Hennessey, L. Hoehn, L. Howard, R. Iddings, R. Kegerreis, S. Klein, K. Kotecha, S. Link, M. Moloney, J. Murray, D. Pabst, M. Roach, G. Skinner, A. Spiegel, C. Swindler, H. Viets, E. Wales, B. Walker, R. Weisman, T. Wetmore

Members voting NO:

None

Motion passed 30 to 0.

C. Disposition of Retrenchment Policy

Discussion followed concerning disposition of the Retrenchment Policy as to whether the policy approved by Academic Council should go directly to the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees or whether it should go to the General Faculty. The Constitution and Bylaws are silent on this issue. Mr. R. Weisman made a motion to send the Retrenchment Document passed by the Academic Council to the General Faculty for discussion at the Spring General

Faculty meeting and its recommendations, along with the Academic Council's recommendations, be forwarded to the appropriate committee of the Board of Trustees. Motion seconded and opened to discussion. Question arose as to authority delegated to the Academic Council by the faculty. Acting Parliamentarian, Mr. W. Rickert, said the faculty delegated authority to Academic Council but did not relinquish authority and the faculty, constitutionally, remains above Academic Council and has powers of ratification over what Academic Council does.

Mr. C. Hartmann made a motion to amend the motion to incorporate the sense of the Academic Council that by affirmative vote to send this document to General Faculty, we recognize the faculty's ability to make a decision, pro or con, on the document. Motion was seconded and discussion followed. It was affirmed that by this amendment to the motion, should the General Faculty decide against this document, it will be dead, and if the General Faculty is in favor of the document, it will go before the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees. Vote was taken by show of hands. Amendment passed.

Discussion returned to original motion as amended. Mr. G. Skinner spoke against the motion, due to the research and time spent by Academic Council on this document and that Academic Council does represent its constituents. If the required number of faculty wish to have this item added to the agenda of the Spring meeting, this can be done by petition. Mr. T. Wetmore made mention of the many open hearings held providing faculty with the opportunity of a voice on this issue. Concern was expressed regarding the lack of clarity in the Constitution and Bylaws as to what happens with documents acted upon by Academic Council and this should be given some serious consideration. Question called and passed. Vote taken by show of hands. Motion was defeated. The Retrenchment Policy will be forwarded to the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees.

VII. Report of the Standing Committees:

- A. Curriculum Committee: Mr. S. Frederick, Chairman, reported that the Committee has spent time discussing decisions of the General Education Committee. Mr. S. Frederick requested suspension of the rules so that action can be taken on course inventory requests under New Business.
- B. Faculty Affairs Committee: Mr. C. Hartmann, Chairman, reported the Committee is studying the University Promotion and Tenure Document, including the suggestion of a tenure cap.
- C. Library Committee: Mr. J. Amon, Chairman, reported there was a meeting in March of the Chairman of the Library Committee and the University Librarian with the Deans, and the Deans were informed of budgetary problems with journals and a course of action was discussed. Deans are asking departments to submit lists in rank order of journals needed by those departments. The Library is requesting information on journals necessary to maintain minimal needs. Review

of these lists will be made by the departments, colleges, and the University Library Committee to ensure that all needs will be met. The lowest priority journals will be dropped from subscription to save the needed amount which is estimated to be 13 to 22 percent of the total cost. All this must be completed prior to June 30, 1981 or journal subscriptions will be dropped as they come in.

D. Student Affairs Committee: No report

E. Budget Review Committee: No report

VIII. Old Business (Continued):

D. Policy and Procedures for Academic Mediation (Attachment E to March 2, 1981 Academic Council Minutes)

Mr. C. Hartmann made a motion to approve the Policy and Procedures for Academic Mediation. Motion seconded and opened to discussion. The Chair recognized Mr. H. Viets and Mr. A. Smith to participate in discussion of this document.

Ms. B. Walker made a motion to amend the document as follows:

Replace the first paragraph in Section II.A., Composition, to read:

"The AMC shall consist of four (4) faculty members and three (3) students. One faculty member will represent Health Affairs (appointed by the Vice President for Health Affairs) and three (3) faculty members will represent the colleges of Business and Administration, Education, Liberal Arts, and Science and Engineering on a rotating basis (appointed by the Vice President for Academic Affairs)."

Motion was seconded and opened to discussion. Mr. C. Hartmann said that Faculty Affairs takes the position that the document as amended would be deficient because it does not permit those persons with the greatest expertise, i.e., members of the faculty, to have control of the recommendations that come from the mediation panel. Ms. Walker furnished a listing of five schools with their forms of academic mediation, jurisdiction held, and composition of committee, which indicated a high student representation. The Chair recognized the Chairman of the Student Affairs Committee, Mr. C. Phelps, who spoke in favor of the amendment in that faculty rights would not be taken away and the amendment is basically allowing the students a voice in grade decision. Mr. H. Viets rebutted that grade experience was needed in terms of the procedures involved and although the students could exercise fairness, their experience with the procedures for a course was not extensive enough. Question called and passed. Vote taken on amendment to the motion. The amendment was defeated.

Attention returned to the original motion with much discussion. It was stated that the University now has no across-the-board policy regarding grade appeals. The student has been referred to the faculty member, then to the department chairman, and then to the dean of the college in which the instructor is located. Ms. Walker appealed to the Academic Council in favor of the document on the basis that there is a need for viewpoints to be expressed and with

academic mediation, there would be a clear and precise process to be followed. Ms. Walker expressed confidence in the student's expertise to know whether a procedure has been followed. The opinion was expressed by members that there was a real need for a grade appeals policy but that it should be at the college level. Ms. Walker pointed out that the proposed procedure allows the student and the faculty member to go beyond the college level if the decision made at that level was not satisfactory.

President Kegerreis made a motion to amend the Policy and Procedure Document for Academic Mediation as follows:

Paragraph I.A. (following the first sentence) . . . is adopted by the faculty and Academic Council of Wright State University to apply to any college or school that has not adopted its own process for academic mediation on or before July 1, 1982.

Motion was seconded and opened to discussion. It was stated that the intent of this amendment would give the University academic units until July 1, 1982, to develop their own academic mediation policy and if they fail to do that, this document would apply. It also has the implication that this policy would be delayed in its implementation until July 1, 1982. This amendment would mean that in those colleges with an academic mediation policy, there would be no appeal higher than the college level. President Kegerreis stated this policy would not abolish the Office of the Ombudsman. Voice vote was taken on the amendment to the motion. The amendment passed.

A roll call vote was taken on the original motion as amended:

Members voting YES:

Oris Amos, Prem Batra, Barbara Beeler, Joseph Castellano, E. Fernandez, S. Ghosh, C. Hartmann, L. Hoehn, R. Iddings, R. Kegerreis, S. Klein, K. Kotecha, S. Link, M. Moloney, J. Murray, D. Pabst, M. Roach, H. Viets, T. Wetmore

Members voting NO:

J. Buening, C. Cline, K. Hennessey, A. Spiegel, C. Swindler, B. Walker

The motion as amended passed by a vote of 19 to 6.

IX. New Business:

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to suspend the rules to act on course inventory requests for GL 154, GL 155, and BIO 101 (Attachment B). A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve these course inventory requests.

X. Adjournment:

A motion was made, seconded, and passed to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

:mlr

Attachments