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Academic Council Meeting Agenda and Minutes, February 3, 1997

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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 President
SUBJECT: Agenda for Academic Council Meeting on
Monday, February 3, 1997, 3:15 p.m., E156 Student Union

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of Minutes of January 13, 1997¹ (Attachment F)
- III. Report of the President: Harley Flack
- IV. Report of the Steering Committee: Rudy Fichtenbaum
- V. Reports of Committees
 - A. Buildings & Grounds Utilization & Planning: Jan La Forge
 - B. Curriculum and Academic Policy: Thomas Sav
 - C. Faculty Affairs: Thomas Sudkamp
 - D. Library: David Goldstein
 - E. Student Affairs: Susan Carrafiello
 - F. University Budget Review Committee: Donna Schlagheck
- VI. Old Business
 - A. Curriculum and Academic Policy Committee: Thomas Sav
 - i. Minors
 - a. Economics --Attachment A
 - b. Urban Affairs --Attachment B
 2. General Education Course Additions/Changes in Liberal Arts CST 240-- Attachment C
 3. Attachment D--Women's Studies Minor Program (for information only-- approved by Academic Council January 13, 1997)
- VII. New Business
 - A. Curriculum and Academic Policy Committee: Thomas Sav--Proposed Unconditional/Conditional Admission Policy--Attachment E
 - B. A Motion Recommending Future Location of the Faculty Center in the Present Upper Hearth Lounge--Buildings & Grounds Utilization & Planning: Jan La Forge
- VIII. Announcements and Special Reports
 - A. Report from Athletic Council: Frank Carmone
 - B. Report on Strategic Planning: John Fleischauer
 - C. Next Academic Council Meeting: March 3, 1997, 3:15 p.m., E156 Student Union
 - D. Adjournment

WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC COUNCIL MINUTES
February 3, 1997

I. The meeting was called to order by University Faculty President Rudy Fichtenbaum at 3:15 p.m. in E156 Student Union.

Present: Bartlett-Blair, D., Barto, E., Coutts, J., Fichtenbaum, R., Fitzgerald, E., Flack, H., Fleischauer, J., Frederick, S., Gilpin, R., Guo, S., Hetherington, R., Kapp, M., Kleine, P., Mirkin, L., Nehring, V., Perkel, M., Poelzing, S., Pohlman, R., Potter, C., Rickert, W., Sanders, N., Sayer, J., Schlagheck, D., Shaw, A., Siervogel, R., Srinivasan, R., Sudkamp, T., Swart, J., Thomas, J., Vance, J., Vandecreek, L., Voss, D., Wetter, E., Yen, V.

Absent: David, D., DeShields, L., DeStephen, D., Dustin, J., Fraser, S., Goldenberg, K., Pederson, S., Rutter, J., Xu, L.

II. The minutes of the January 13, 1997 meeting were approved as written.

III. Report of the President: Harley Flack reporting:

- A. Dr. Flack reported that he had just come from a press conference where he participated with Dave Ponitz from Sinclair Community College, Maureen Grady from Clark State College and Mike Burns from Edison State College to respond to concerns with the biennial budget released that morning by the executive branch of the Governor. The recommended budget is one of the worst for higher education in Ohio in a decade or more. There had been considerable consultation with a committee including representatives of the Governor's office, both houses of the state legislature and representatives from the regents. The original discussion centered on the possibility of an increase in subsidy for the years 1998 and 1999 of 5% to 5-1/2% each year. The discussions also focused on the creation of a new way of funding higher education in the state, through performance funding dedicated to supporting the individualized missions of each of the colleges and universities in the State of Ohio. The proposed subsidy level for the first year is 2.6% on the average and 2.4% for the second year. Tuition caps have been recommended at 3.0% for each of the two years with a 1% additional allowable that must be dedicated to financial aid for resident undergraduate students. With the performance funding over the two years of the biennium, \$153 million was recommended but the Governor's budget only includes about \$52 million for that same period with \$15 million recommended in the first year and about \$36 million for the second year. Performance funding was recommended in five major areas of challenge: research, access, technology, K-12 higher education partnerships and higher education jobs partnerships. The impact of the proposed budget is (1) students will have no relief from the tuition increases that have been levied against them over the last several years; (2) there will be less money for the essentials of higher education (technology and other instructional supports necessary); (3) the level of faculty increases that was first discussed may not be reached. Dr. Flack then asked for the council's support in the lobbying effort to try to get the state legislature to have a more positive recommendation for the budget for higher education for 1998 and 1999.
- B. The Enrollment Planning Council has been working on a number of strategies to increase enrollment at WSU. Enrollment increases seem to be one of the few avenues left to increase the budget for next year. The fall 1997 enrollment targets are to reach the enrollment level of fall 1995. The other factor in the enrollment is to increase student retention. Dr. Flack asked for the support of the faculty and staff in attracting and enrolling new students for the fall of 1997. He also asked that the faculty increase their efforts in advisement and tutoring functions which can lead to increased retention rates and success of students.
- C. Dr. Flack asked for the support and involvement of the faculty in completing the strategic planning process by trying to achieve some important goals over the next five years. Those goals would include increasing access and enrollment of students at WSU, enhancing our academic mission, remaining a leader in physical accessibility, initiating and completing a major fund campaign, and continuing to expand our collaborative activities on campus and in the community as a metropolitan university. Dr. Flack asked faculty, staff and students to help WSU realize its mission of being a catalyst for educational excellence by being servant leaders wherever possible.

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

In the last meeting of the Steering Committee, the agenda for today's meeting was planned. The committee also discussed two other major issues:

1. Regarding the report from the Student Affairs Committee about a recommendation to add a question to the standard student evaluation of teaching questionnaire, the Steering Committee decided for the Faculty Affairs Committee and the Student Affairs Committee to review the whole questionnaire. The Steering Committee will be asking both committees to form a joint ad-hoc committee.
2. There was preliminary discussion on the best way for governance to discuss the whole issue of semesters, in light of the report that was given by the Provost at the last Academic Council meeting. The Steering Committee decided that it really doesn't belong in any one committee because there are financial issues, curricular issues, issues of teaching loads, etc. The idea of creating an ad-hoc committee was discussed. The exact composition of that committee has not been decided. Dr. Fichtenbaum will be recommending to the Steering Committee at its next meeting that the committee be composed of the chairs of Faculty Affairs, Budget Review, Student Affairs, Curriculum Committee and Calendar and Elections. He will propose that this committee examine the issue and then make a recommendation to Council at the May meeting, if there is any proposal for a change.

V. Reports of the Standing Committees

A. Buildings and Grounds Utilization & Planning: Jan La Forge reporting:

(See Attachment A)

B. Curriculum and Academic Policy: Thomas Sav reporting:

(See Attachment B)

C. Faculty Affairs: Thomas Sudkamp reporting:

Faculty Affairs Committee has reviewed, amended and approved a proposed university policy for disability accommodations. The approved proposal has been sent to Gwen Mattison for a legal review. This proposal should be ready for the next Academic Council meeting as an item of new business.

D. Library

No report

E. Student Affairs

No report

F. University Budget Review: Donna Schlagheck reporting:

(See Attachment C)

VI. Old Business:

A. Curriculum and Academic Policy Committee: Thomas Sav

1. Minors

a. Economics -- (Attachment A to Agenda)

After discussion, the proposal was approved.

b. Urban Affairs -- (Attachment B to Agenda)

The proposal was approved.

2. General Education Course Additions/Changes in Liberal Arts CST 240 -- (Attachment C to Agenda)

After discussion, the proposal was approved.

3. Women's Studies Minor Program (for information only -- approved by Academic Council January 13, 1997) -- (Attachment D to Agenda)

VII. New Business:

A. Curriculum and Academic Policy Committee: Thomas Sav -- Proposed Unconditional/Conditional Admission Policy -- (Attachment E to Agenda)

A motion was moved and seconded to move this proposal to Old Business at the March meeting.

A motion was then made, seconded and approved to suspend the rules and treat this proposal as Old Business. After discussion, the proposal was approved.

B. A Motion Recommending Future Location of the Faculty Center in the Present Upper Heath Lounge -- Buildings and Grounds Utilization and Planning: Jan La Forge

(See Attachment A)

After discussion, the motion was moved and seconded as Old Business for March meeting.

VIII. Announcements and Special Reports

A. Report from Athletic Council

(See Attachment D)

B. Report on Strategic Planning: John Fleischauer

Dr. Fleischauer reported that the academic, administrative and student service unit reviews have been completed. The Strategic Planning Council in its review of programs realized that WSU over the last several years has actually been engaged in a process of consolidation and reduction, during the periods of 1991-92, 1994 and the reallocations of 1995-96 for this year's budget. Central planning is more likely to be able to identify strategic directions for strength than it is to identify individual program changes that might lead to that strength. Consequently, at the present time, the Strategic Planning Council expects to provide recommendations for strengthening programs. The report is expected to identify very specific strategic goals for the university, establish some planning directives or guidelines for reaching those goals, provide detailed program observations based upon the review of the programs with suggestions for programs which deserve strengthening, and some specific and targeted observations that will assist deans, directors and department chairs in going through the process of consolidation and realignment of resources. The plan will acknowledge, support and urge enrollment planning activities in order to recapture resources we have lost through declining enrollments. By eventually returning to enrollment levels of 1991-92, the university will be able to apply incremental increases in funding from subsidies and tuition to programs which we have identified for strengthening.

C. Next Academic Council Meeting: March 3, 1997, 3:15 p.m., E156 Student Union

IX. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 4:52 p.m.