Minutes from the December 18, 1975 meeting of the University of Montana faculty

University of Montana (Missoula, Mont. : 1965-1994)
UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA
FACULTY SENATE
December 18, 1975


Ex-officio members present: President Richard C. Bowers, Academic Vice President James Talbot, Philip T. Bain.

1. The minutes of November 20, 1975, were corrected as follows: Page 2, second line, delete "of", insert "about"; Page 2, 4. A., second line, delete "be elected". The minutes were approved as corrected.

2. The Senate went into executive session and appointed an ad hoc Ethics Committee, upon recommendation of the Executive Committee, to consider a specific current case, acting under the Ethics Committee charge of 1971, and to dissolve upon resolution of this case.

3. Announcements:
   A. Chairman Lowe announced the resignation of R. Medora, Pharmacy, (Schools Group), from the Senate. A by-election will be conducted to fill this vacancy because all runners-up in the Spring election are from Schools already possessing their quota of three members. The Election Committee has been so notified.
   B. Board of Personnel Appeals, Helena, has ruled the Law School exempt from collective bargaining balloting.

4. Committee Reports:
   A. Academic Standards and Curriculum Review Committee.
      (1) Proposal to Modify Procedure of Senate Consideration of Curriculum Proposals. ASCRC Chairman, Gray Thompson, introduced the motion and it passed.
      (2) Scholarship Requirements. Gray Thompson introduced the motion. Schaill suggested two editorial changes: Second sentence of Reinstatement section to read, "Following first suspension students are automatically reinstated after the lapse of three quarters upon notification to the Dean of their School or College", and third sentence should reflect "his/her judgment". The original ASCRC proposal passed the Senate as editorially changed.
(3) Transferability of Vocational Technical Credits. Thompson commented on the motion as presented by ASCRC. Hyndman moved the following amendment: the sentence in the first paragraph which reads, "The approval will be given only for those credits which are judged to be of value to the student's proposed program" be changed to read "The approval will be given only for those credits which are judged to be of a level comparable to those offered by the University". The motion was seconded, but failed. Erickson pointed out that AA Degree students do not have a major and thus apparently could not be granted credit for vo-tech work. He urged ASCRC to consider whether or not this is appropriate. Senate passed the original proposal from ASCRC.

(4) Undergraduate Non-degree Admission Status. Thompson introduced the motion. Dew asked that the word 'undergraduate' be inserted before 'degree', in the fourth sentence. The original ASCRC proposal passed as editorially changed.

B. Academic Vice President James Talbot presented list number 146, list of candidates for the bachelor's degrees and certificates and all advanced degrees at the close of the Fall Quarter, subject to the provisions that all requirements for the respective degrees and certificates be completed in accordance with faculty rules. It was moved, seconded and carried that the lists be approved.

5. Old Business:

A. Academic Vice President James Talbot discussed the recovery of merit and suggested three possibilities, ranked in order of priority, in view of the financial difficulties facing the University next year: (1) provide people with a minimum increase, (2) recognize merits for the present, and (3) recovery of merit. Von Kuster introduced a five-part motion which was ruled out of order by Chairman Lowe as items 2, 3, 4, and 5 addressed a broader question than recovery of merit. Huff suggested these four items be presented to the Executive Committee for future Senate discussion. Grossman moved "that the priorities as outlined by Academic Vice President Talbot be the priorities of the Senate and that given the present budget situation, the first consideration should be minimal salary increases for everyone". Huff seconded. Chairman Lowe ruled the motion out of order until presentation by Talbot was completed. Von Kuster moved "that the plan for recovery of past merit be abandoned and that funds allocated for recovery of merit be used for general faculty salary benefits by moving salary floors upward". Schaill seconded. Morton moved the question and Reinhardt seconded. The motion passed. A vote was taken on Von Kuster's motion and it was passed by the Senate (18,17).

6. New Business:

A. Grievance Committee proposal. Chairman Lowe stated William Crowley, Law, had reviewed the proposal and will be transmitting his reservations on the document to George Mitchell. Lowe asked Senators to forward any comments they may have regarding the proposal to the Faculty Senate Office.
7. General Welfare of the University.

Reinhardt expressed concern about the calendar system change as recommended by the inter-unit calendar committee and asked that the Senate go on record as objecting to the procedures being used to determine what type of academic calendar will be employed at the University of Montana and request sufficient time for discussion of the educational merits of various calendars. Huff moved to suspend by-law rules in order to deal with the matter and the motion was seconded and passed. Huff then moved the Senate support Reinhardt's statement and his motion was seconded. The Executive Committee was directed to widely disseminate the statement should the motion pass. The Senate approved the motion.

Sharkey spoke in favor of percentage salary increases rather than a set increase, and also suggested that by removing merit some people will be ignored. Bowers commented that last year the BOR did go on record stating that merit should be an important component of budgeting priorities. Von Kuster commented that he would like to see the Faculty Senate do whatever it can to establish a model of trust and respect for departments.

8. Meeting adjourned at 5:30 P.M.

Philip T. Bain