Central Board Minutes
Wednesday, April 1, 1953

The meeting was called to order by Danny Lambros, and minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved.

Cameron presented a recommendation from Budget and Finance Committee that £18 be given to the S.C.A. for the purpose of sponsoring Bill Edwards on campus May 20. Money would come from the General Reserve Fund. The question was raised whether ASMSU should provide funds for speakers for separate organizations, and it was pointed out that Mr. Edwards would also be available to any group. He has just returned from a student conference in India, and he is prepared to discuss international tension areas of the world. After some more discussion, Cameron simply moved that £3.8 be allocated for the purpose of sponsoring Bill Edwards on campus May 20. Newlin seconded, and the motion was carried.

Members of the Budget and Finance Committee were present, and Central Board discussion next concerned Athletic Department requests for £10,000 more to make up a deficit in next year's budget. The 1953—1954 budget estimates income at £78,000 and expenditures at £88,991. To solve the apparent stalemate, it was pointed out that either £10,000 would have to be raised or a major sport (probably football) would have to be cut. Necessary money could be raised from: (1) an increase in the percentage athletics gets from the activity fee from 48 to 63 per cent, (2) a raise in the activity fee — which would require a student vote, (3) another £10,000 loan from the General Reserve Fund, or (4) an outside loan. Comments against these four suggestions for raising the £10,000 were to the effect that: (1) No one was willing to raise the activity fee percentage and thereby cut down and limit other activities, (2) Most did not think a raise in student fees would receive a required student vote, (3) There was feeling against taking a series of £10,000 loans out of the General Reserve Fund as such action would eventually deplete the fund, as this fund was not set up just for athletics, and as the Athletic Department had implied that it would not ask again for such future loans when it received its last loan of £10,000. And (4) an outside loan would be difficult to negotiate because of the financial risk.

Serious talk then turned to the possibility of dropping football. It was pointed out that even with the requested £10,000, our athletic program would be limited. Additional funds might be obtained from townspeople, but people don't want to back something that isn't successful. The feeling was expressed that dropping out of football would cause us to loose out in other sports and force us to drop out of the Skyline Eight. It was pointed out that there is no Skyline ruling concerning dropping out of a major sport, and such action would involve a conference vote. By dropping football, we would save £11,000 in expenses and lower the cost of athletic scholarships, it was stated; and more money could be devoted to improving our basketball team and for other purposes. Even if we were to be put out of the conference, we could still play basketball, someone said. Wunderlich questioned what effect such action might have on the financing of the new field house. Other arguments presented against dropping football were: (1) Free-lancing (as in basketball) wouldn't be very feasible because of our geographic position. Bozeman tried free-lancing and wasn't successful. (2) We would be the only state university in the nation without a football team. Nevada dropped football one year and then came back immediately. And, (3) such actions would be bad for public relations — especially with the high school students. In answer to the latter statement, it was pointed out that a loosing team that plays few home games is also bad publicity. Mention was also made of the fact that complaints of dissatisfied team members who can't be properly financed are bad publicity, too, and there is an anti-athletics feeling on campus. Lambros said that the dropping of football would require a
student vote, and discussion on athletic financing was then temporarily brought to a close.

A Publications Board recommendation was presented suggesting that Doug Anderson be appointed Sentinel editor and that Pat Thomas be made Sentinel business manager. Henne mentioned that she had heard that one of these candidates was also considering taking on another major job in school, and she said she would not be for any person assuming a Sentinel position under such conditions. It was pointed out that the matter had been favorably taken up by Publications Board with the involved candidate. Cameron then moved that the Publications Board recommendation be accepted, Henne seconded, and the motion was carried.

Lambros read a letter from the choir thanking ASMSU for assistance enabling its members to go to Bellingham, Washington. Lambros also reported that the Aber Day Committee had turned down Wade Ray for Aber Day. He mentioned that petitions for ASMSU and class offices would be due the next Tuesday, April 7, at 10 p.m. A complaint was made over the fact that this wasn’t enough time, but it was pointed out that the deadline listed in the ASMSU constitution could only be changed by a student vote. It was suggested that a list of standard election procedure be presented in skeletal form for convenient use. Larry Gaughan said he though the Constitutional Revision Committee would be willing to handle this project.

Wunderlich suggested that Central Board appoint some students to look into a group insurance proposal. He said that by charging $.2 per quarter, we could obtain 75 per cent coverage for the entire year, including the summer. Such a policy wouldn’t cover intercollegiate athletics, which are already covered; but it would cover intramural sports. Some views were expressed that the proposal would involve a project too expensive for results gained. Lambros suggested that the matter be referred to the Health Committee, which has two students.

Lambros said he thought it would be a good idea to urge those running for ASMSU offices to attend the last three Central Board meetings. As there was no further business, the meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Joan Tascher