

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

Minutes of the University Senate Meeting

held in Hardin Hall, Rebecca Crown Center,

Evanston Campus

Thursday, January 30, 1975

The meeting was called to order by President Strotz at 3:30 p.m.; somewhat more than 150 Senate members were present.

(1) The Secretary moved approval of minutes for the meeting of October 9, 1974, as circulated; the motion carried.

(2) Provost Mack responded to the question:

"...Please inform the Senate what the University has done to act upon the Faculty Planning Committee's endorsement of a more vigorous policy with regard to continuing education"

by stating that a consultant from New York University reported to the Administration in December, 1973. Early in 1974 and in January, 1975, all N.U. deans considered the report and continuing-education issues which broadly relate to (a) community service and (b) developing the university's own programs. The deans do not plan to allocate more funds than currently to activities falling under (a), and were unanimously opposed to appointment of someone to generate a moneymaking university program (b, above) because it could create an image of eroding quality. Current well run, professional continuing-education programs will be maintained and should be publicized more, but without allocation of additional financial resources to them. In response to Professor I. Weil, the Provost said the associate-alumni courses will continue as now. President Strotz said no one is against doing everything possible in this area, but in a decentralized manner with responsibility assumed by individual deans, schools, and faculties.

(3) Professor P. P. Jacobi (Chairman, General Faculty Committee) moved.

(1) That the total membership of GFC be increased from the current 15 to 21. Such a size is still manageable and yet permits more work to be handed out and completed than is possible now from a smaller committee.

(2) That the following schools continue to be represented by one member each: Education, Journalism, Law, Management, Music, and Speech. (Full-time faculty contingents in these schools range from approximately 25 to 70.)

(3) That Tech Institute, because of its larger faculty(132), be henceforth represented by two delegates.

(4) That to insure reasonable representation in the Medical and Dental Schools, along with their supporting Basic Science faculty (faculty in those schools number more than 300), GFC representation be increased to four: one for Medical-Dental Basic Science, one for Clinical Dentistry, and two for Clinical Medicine (the latter accounting for more than 150 faculty members).

(5) That the College of Arts and Sciences, currently with three members, have its delegation raised to six, again because of the much larger size of its full-time teaching corps (approximately 400). Two will represent each of the College's three divisions.

(6) That each year an at-large member be elected by the University faculty. This means, since GFC members are elected to three-year terms, there will be three at-large delegates on the committee. Nominations for at-large membership may be initiated by petition to the GFC from groups of faculty members (five or more) who feel that their interests are not adequately represented or served. The GFC also may nominate candidates. If there are more than two nominees and no candidate gets a majority of those voting in the first mail ballot to the entire faculty, then the two top vote-getters face each other in a run-off. In the at-large races, background information on each candidate will be supplied as part of the mailing.

Election Procedures

(1) To assure that similar and democratic processes are used in every school and/or division, the GFC itself will run elections and certify their validity. The GFC representatives from a given school and/or division holding the election will be in charge of the nominating procedure and the mail balloting. In any school or division election where there are more than two candidates, if no candidate gets the majority of those voting, the two top vote-getters will go into a run-off.

(2) As stated above in the description of the new at-large seats, these members will be chosen in an annual election run by the GFC.

(3) To change over to the new membership structure, the following timetable--utilizing expiration of current member terms--will be followed:

May 1975 For regular 3-year terms: 2 CAS (Div. 1 and 2),
Law, Management, Clinical Medicine, Music, and
At-large

For 2-year terms: 1 CAS (Div. 3), Tech, and At-large

For 1-year term: 1 CAS (Div. 3), Medical-Dental Basic Science

May 1976 For regular 3-year terms: 2 CAS (Div. 1 and 3), Journalism, Clinical Medicine, Tech, Medical-Dental Basic Science, and At-large

May 1977 For regular 3-year terms: 2 CAS (Div. 1 and 2), Clinical Dentistry, Education, Speech, Tech, and At-large

May 1978 For regular 3-year terms: 2 CAS (Div. 2 and 3), Law, Management, Clinical Medicine, Music, and At-large

ETC.

The motion was seconded and Professor J. A. Ibers asked whether the College Divisions were of sufficiently similar size to justify equal GFC representation; it was stated that the Divisions range from 105 to 140 faculty each. Dean I. W. Cole suggested that fairness rather than uniformity of election procedures should be ensured; so as to leave election procedures up to schools, he proposed deletion of "Election Procedure 1." The amendment was seconded, briefly discussed, and defeated.

Professor E. H. T. Whitten spoke against the motion, stating that Graduate School representatives have a definite constituency (faculty, students, and programs) that it is critical to have represented during the present financially difficult period; the alleged double-representation problem is unreal because most faculty members are on the graduate faculty. The proposed members at large would also give double representation; it seems ill-conceived to seek representatives from groups who feel their interests are not adequately represented--was it intended that examples could be Roman Catholics, Jews, women, aliens, or members of the John Birch society? Elimination of the Evening Divisions representative seemed justified, but increasing the total GFC size by 40% could lead to a less cohesive committee. Professor F. Haitan pointed out that special interest groups would only nominate, the whole faculty would vote; Professor Jacobi thought a committee of 21 is not too large.

Professor J. B. Lambert moved that item 6 of the motion be voted upon separately; the seconded amendment was defeated by a show of hands. After further discussion, Professor E. Mathis proposed an amendment (seconded Whitten) to the effect that three graduate-school representatives be substituted for three members at large in item 6 of the motion. A member asked what GFC's purpose was in including "members at large" in its motion; Professor Jacobi replied that it would permit the flexibility necessary because so much change occurs in the university. During further debate, Dean L. H. Nobles questioned whether the amendment was out of order; the President ruled it to be in order, but it was defeated by voice vote. The original motion was then passed by voice vote.

(4) Professor P. P. Jacobi, on behalf of the General Faculty Committee, requested that its resolution on faculty salaries tabled at the October 1974 meeting be brought up, and he moved the following substitute motion:

* * *

Resolved, That since Northwestern University's excellence depends so heavily on faculty excellence, we believe the financial well-being of that faculty becomes a matter of greatest importance. In view of the severe increases in the cost of living in recent years, which have eroded compensation gains for faculty, and the projection that such increases will continue, the University should adopt as a key objective and strive to achieve annual faculty salary increases of not less than the increases registered in annual indexes of the cost of living. The GFC asks the Senate to approve a mail ballot in which the full-time, paid members of the faculty can express their views on this issue.

After seconding and a brief statement by Professor I. Abu-Lughod, the motion was carried unanimously. President Strotz stated that he wished to go on the record as thoroughly endorsing this resolution.

(5) Professor E. H. T. Whitten (Chairman, Committee on Rescheduling the Academic Year) outlined the committee's composition and charge; the Vice Presidents and all academic deans have been asked for input; all undergraduate living units are being asked for input. The views of individual faculty and groups of faculty are needed; because opinions of graduate students are difficult to obtain, department chairmen and deans are asked to solicit such information for the committee (a short list of questions to which answers are needed is available).

(6) On behalf of the Senate Steering Committee, Provost R. Mack withdrew the motion on the Agenda; it duplicated the sense of a motion passed at the May 1972 meeting:

(7) Professor A. R. Drebin, on behalf of the Senate Steering Committee, moved that:

* * *

"The University Senate recommends to the Board of Trustees that the whole of Article III, 1.b of the University's Statutes, governing membership of the University Senate, be changed to read:

b. All full-time paid Professors, Associate Professors, and Assistant Professors."

The purpose of this motion is to make automatic what has been done for several years by vote on an annual basis. The motion was carried by voice vote.

(8) Professor A. R. Drebin, on behalf of the Senate Steering Committee, moved that

* * *

"The University Senate recommends to the Board of Trustees that Article III.3 of the University's Statutes be changed to read:

3. QUORUM. Fifty members of the Senate."

Professor R. Leopold seconded the motion. Dean T. W. Tillman asked whether, since there are over 1000 members of Senate, any particular rationale guided the choice of 50 instead of 20 defined by the present statute. Professor Drebin said it was thought that the increased size of Senate demanded a larger quorum, but a number significantly more than 50 would be unrealistic. The motion carried by voice vote.

(9) The next meeting of Senate will be on May 1, 1975 (not May 8, as originally scheduled).

(10) President Strotz asked those not voting members of Senate to withdraw before Professor D. P. Jacobs presented on behalf of the Honorary Degree Committee the list of those nominated for Honorary Degrees in 1975. As a result of a paper ballot, the entire list was approved. There was an informal discussion of the rationale and timing of Honorary Degree awards at N.U. during counting of the votes.

(11) Professor D. Shemin said that he wished to express a vote of thanks to those who had made the new pathways on the lake-fill Campus possible; many enjoy using these facilities. Applause.

Professor M. Marcus requested that, if the faculty-salary motion is passed by the mail ballot but the Administration is unable to make the full increases in salary, a detailed statement be given to GFC as to why they could not be made, so that GFC can digest the data and report its conclusions to the Faculty. President Strotz said he thought this reasonable and that, subject to approval of the Budget and Resources Advisory Committee, the Administration will go along with the suggestion; he further said that the Administration has more to gain than to lose by communicating what leads it to the conclusions it makes.

(12) There being no further business the Senate voted to adjourn at 4:50 p.m.

E. H. Timothy Whitten
Secretary