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UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
FACULTY SENATE
FEBRUARY 7, 2000 MINUTES SUMMARY

I. Roll - The following Faculty Senate members were absent: Chandler, de la Torre, Draper, Garey, Macieski, McCann, and VonDamm. Absent as work to rule were Barretto, Carr, Christie, Echt, Garland, Givan, Kaye, Planalp, Reardon, Roh, and Stine. Excused were Bornstein and Hiller.

II. Communications with the Provost - The provost said that searches for four new deans are now underway. In the WSBE search, four candidates for WSBE's dean are coming to campus soon, and then we will look for consensus regarding bringing one or two of them back for further discussions. The CEPS search is down to eight or ten candidates, and the next step will be interviews at the airport. In the COLSA search, the committee is starting to set up criteria and will soon begin screening candidates; and the vacancy for a dean in SHHS is currently being advertised. Some of the four positions may be filled by this summer and others perhaps not until January. A professor asked if the COLSA dean would continue to have a fifty-percent appointment as dean and the other percent time in the Agricultural Experiment Station, and the provost said that the issue is under discussion.

Regarding the academic planning process, the provost said that normally there would have been discussions on this subject first with each constituency but that this step was delayed due to the current contract situation. At the present time the Academic Planning Steering Committee is doing some preliminary work which will be followed by the public discussions. The provost said that he wants to make sure that the academic planning process is integrated with the governance of the university and with implementation. The General Education Review Committee has one of its members on the Academic Planning Steering Committee, and enrollment planners also will be included, as well as the Academic Computing Advisory Committee. Two-thirds of the members of the Academic Planning Steering Committee are faculty, including the chairs of the Faculty Senate and the senate's Academic Affairs Committee; and the planning committee also includes students and members of the Board of Trustees. Resource people will be asked to attend as needed.

A series of articles on the planning process will be published in the Campus Journal, and this round of planning is intended to cover the next three to five years. A first draft of the plan is expected to be ready early in the fall and will include a time table, implementation, accountability, implications, and measures of success. The provost said that the planning effort must secure shared goals which will be the anchor of responsibility-center management. Curricular predatory practices could be a worry, but we have set up a committee and other resources to guard against that. The provost added that we need to consider what is the right size for the university over the next five years. Once we have agreements on goals and size, the units must act within those parameters.

III. Update from the Transportation Advisory Committee - Professor Diane Freedman said that the membership of this committee includes four faculty, two students, one graduate student, one operating staff, two PAT staff, the director of sustainability, and a representative from the town of Durham. Non-voting members include Allan Braun, Victor Azzi, and Dirk Timmons. The committee welcomes non-members to attend their meetings and intends to ask a member of the faculty union to participate. Future meetings will include February 11 from noon until 2:00 and February 18 from noon to 4:00. The committee agrees that there should be a transportation origin and destination study. The committee requests input from the university community and will be advisory to the university president and the vice president for finance and administration. A report will be published at the end of the year.

The Transportation Advisory Committee is currently starting to review the disappearances of general-use parking spaces for special uses. A suit by a student is making a review of disability access pressing. The Faculty Senate's Campus Planning Committee has proposed a motion that no changes in parking and transportation should be made until an origin and destination study has been done and reviewed. The two committees should share information with each other on a regular basis, and there should be a Faculty Senate representative on the Transportation Advisory Committee in addition to the faculty already on that committee. This membership change should be discussed with the transportation committee chair Dork Sahagian and the vice president for finance and administration, and Diane Freedman will ask the chair to arrange for membership of a Faculty Senate representative on this committee.

IV. Communications from the Chair - The Faculty Senate chair said that any additional nominations for the slate of membership for the University Curriculum and Academic Policies Committee should be given to him by the end of the day. The slate will be presented at the next Faculty Senate meeting.

V. Minutes - The minutes of the last Faculty Senate meeting were approved unanimously with two modifications as follows. The first sentence in item VI will be changed to: "If a UNH student takes a course at any other accredited school similar to the Thompson School, the student could receive credit for the course at UNH." The next to last sentence in that section will be: "Some faculty in WSBE and the Nursing and Kinesiology Departments wanted the motion to say that no action may be taken in this regard if it would negatively affect the department's accreditation."

VI. Update on Transfer of Credit - The chair of the senate's Academic Affairs Committee said that New Hampshire's community technical colleges have their own trustees and their own system, which is not part of the University System of New Hampshire. The community technical colleges are currently accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges - Technical College Commission, but the technical colleges would like to be accredited by the NEASC - Commission on Institutions of Higher Education, which accredits UNH and Thompson School. Visiting teams have recently been sent from NEASC to decide if the technical colleges are ready for candidacy status, which is the first step in the application process. A report on this is expected in April. If a technical college receives candidacy status, in another one to five years the school would start to submit a formal application to NEASC. Each campus would spend about a year preparing a self-study. Then NEASC would send a visiting team to the school for several days, and a written report would be prepared for NEASC. After all that, the Commission on Higher Education would decide whether or under what conditions to grant accreditation to each school.

Until the three motions on transfer credit were passed by the UNH senate a few years ago, a student transferring to UNH from community technical colleges would usually get a block of credits worth sixty percent of those at the transferring institution; but the student would not get credit for the particular courses. However, some courses were evaluated and approved for full credit and sometimes even credit as a major course or for a general education requirement. Then the motions passed by the senate eliminated the block credit and said that courses from accredited institutions of higher education would receive full credit and that courses from schools not accredited as institutions of higher education would get no credit. To meet major requirements, courses would have to be approved by the major department at UNH; and to meet general education requirements, courses would have to be approved by the Admissions Office with the consent of the General Education Committee. However, the senate was told that accreditation for the technical colleges as institutions of higher learning would happen soon, and the motions said that New Hampshire's community technical colleges would be exempted from the new provisions until the schools received accreditation. Shortly thereafter, Provost Eggers decided to extend this

grace period to Hesser, McIntosh, and the Maine State Technical Colleges, but only until the fall of 2002. We see now that the change in accreditation for the technical schools will take years if it happens at all.

Finally, Bruce Keough, who is chair of the USNH Board of Trustees, set up a Transferability of Credit Task Force chaired by Walter Peterson. Membership in the task force includes the UNH provost, the dean of UNH-Manchester, and the director of the Thompson School, as well as additional trustees and legislators. The task force met on December 20, and UNH gave a presentation at that meeting. The task force will continue to meet and intends to give a report to the Board of Trustees. Previously, technical college and USNH faculty had met with the chancellor and emphasized to him the differences between the two types of schools and their courses. The Faculty Senate agreed that it needs to keep an eye on the transfer-of-credit issue. The president has said that the senate has jurisdiction on this issue at UNH, but many political pressures exist.

VII. Academic Performance of Student Athletes - Professor Steve Hardy, who is the UNH faculty representative to the National Collegiate Athletic Association and who also chairs the president's Athletic Advisory Committee, said that his committee considers issues related to the welfare of student athletes. The NCAA requires a report for certification for division one athletics and includes criteria of gender equity. The NCAA provides funds for the UNH Academic Support Services for athletes and the Life Skills Program for athletes. Student athletes at UNH have high graduation rates, and their average SAT scores compare well also. Sometimes students have problems with conflicts between class or exam schedules and games or practices, and the senate has already reviewed that policy. Today senators discussed how they have handled such situations and who has been helpful in resolving difficulties.

Hazing is an emergent area of concern and is being reviewed. In addition, the NCAA has set limits on the number of hours which can be required for practice and weight lifting during the season and also outside of the season for a given sport. However, the NCAA rules subsequently allowed additional individual skills instruction which is supposed to be voluntary. At UNH a weekly list of such skills instruction is required. A professor asked why student athletes do not seem to use the University Writing Center, and Professor Hardy said that he would look into that.

VIII. Transportation Policy - The Campus Planning Committee chair will send to the senators electronically the motion on transportation policy, and the senate will have an opportunity to vote on the motion at the next senate meeting. Proposals such as the Sustainable Transportation Trip Report and Recommendations call for a new approach, transportation demand management, and have recommendations which could be disruptive and costly for faculty and staff. Therefore the Campus Planning Committee is proposing a motion which calls for an origin and destination study before any changes are made. Many faculty say that the changes which were proposed would affect their daily lives negatively and that they have seen frequent small changes in parking rules that, in aggregate, have already been detrimental to them. The Faculty Senate should be consulted on the questions that would be part of the origin and destination study, because faculty want to be sure that its wording is not biased. The Master Plan talks about restoration of the walking campus; but we have not had a walking campus; and most faculty have great concerns about the proposed changes. For example, the loop road idea would eliminate many parking spaces on campus and would cost a great deal.

IX. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned.