

University of New Hampshire

## University of New Hampshire Scholars' Repository

---

Faculty Senate Agendas & Minutes

Faculty Senate Documents

---

2-22-1999

### FACULTY SENATE - 22 February 1999 Minutes Summary

Faculty Senate

Follow this and additional works at: [https://scholars.unh.edu/faculty\\_senate\\_agendas\\_minutes](https://scholars.unh.edu/faculty_senate_agendas_minutes)

---

#### Recommended Citation

Faculty Senate, "FACULTY SENATE - 22 February 1999 Minutes Summary" (1999). *Faculty Senate Agendas & Minutes*. 440.

[https://scholars.unh.edu/faculty\\_senate\\_agendas\\_minutes/440](https://scholars.unh.edu/faculty_senate_agendas_minutes/440)

This Text is brought to you for free and open access by the Faculty Senate Documents at University of New Hampshire Scholars' Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty Senate Agendas & Minutes by an authorized administrator of University of New Hampshire Scholars' Repository. For more information, please contact [Scholarly.Communication@unh.edu](mailto:Scholarly.Communication@unh.edu).

UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
FACULTY SENATE  
22 FEBRUARY 1999      MINUTES SUMMARY

I. Roll - The following Faculty Senate members were absent: de la Torre, McMahon, McNamara, Morris, Naumes, Pugh, Sohl, Williams, and Zsigray. Excused were Coon, Draper, Hopkins, and Miller.

II. Communications from the Chair - The governor's response to the senate's motion on university funding has been placed on the senate's web site. The senate chair distributed to the senators the chancellor's response to the Faculty Senate's motion on funding for the system office, as well as the senate chair's reply to the chancellor's letter. The chair passed out a list of some state legislators and their addresses. Following Governor Shaheen's suggestion that faculty contact their legislators, the chair asked that faculty write legislators regarding the university's critical need for both the five percent increase in the operating budget and an additional two percent to improve academic technology. Faculty were asked for their input on the Distinguished Alumni Event. The chair will contact the senate committee chairs to schedule their reports and motions for the remaining senate meetings in this semester.

III. Minutes - The minutes of the last meeting should say that that senate meeting approved the December 7 minutes. In item II, the phrase "most of the increase is for buildings and cannot be converted to salaries" will be attributed to the president. Also, in item VI, the sentence referring to the loss of spaces in Lot B will be changed to "Several lots on the main campus would be eliminated". The minutes of the last Faculty Senate meeting were approved unanimously as amended.

IV. Report on General Education - The Academic Affairs Committee considered the history, development, financing and goals of the current General Education Program and compared our program with that of other institutions. Half of all general education seats are in Liberal Arts, and general education has recently been changed by the addition of the writing requirement. Some other institutions have a general education plan with a thematic structure. The Academic Affairs Committee does not suggest specific changes in the program now, but **the committee moves that:**

**the Faculty Senate establish a General Education Study Committee composed of faculty representatives from every school and college. The committee's membership is not limited to senators, but its members will be appointed by the Agenda Committee of the Faculty Senate, in consultation with the Academic Affairs Committee. The responsibility of the GESC would be to undertake the activities described in the recommendations section of the document as well as other activities the GESC may deem appropriate. The chair of the GESC would be expected to be given a minimum of a one-course reduction in teaching load for each year of service. The GESC will**

**report to the Faculty Senate once each semester, as long as the GESC exists.**

Faculty expressed concern about the current reliance on part-time faculty and the low budget priority for general education. The study committee will need to examine the funding and get assurance that funding will be there, especially in the decentralized budgeting system. Permanent funding for general education will need to be built into the revenue stream. We need to build a campus-wide understanding that general education is important in all colleges. The General Education Study Committee will need to come back to the Faculty Senate for periodic infusions of academic vitality, so that it can keep the ability to get funding for general education. General education courses in Liberal Arts and CEPS seem to be valued at different rates in the new budgeting system. It is very important to maintain clear academic standards on general education courses.

The General Education Study Committee would consult with students. A professor also suggested that, although the committee members would be faculty, there should be a specific liaison person in the administration. The General Education Study Committee chair would receive a reduction of one course for each year, and this would come out of the university's Academic Affairs budget. A faculty member said that his department is forced by budget considerations to give large lecture courses to students who need individual instruction in mathematics. **The motion passed** with one nay and three abstentions. The university-wide General Education committee has sent a letter agreeing with the motion.

V. Update on the Provost Search - The Provost Search Committee has considered over one hundred applicants and has chosen eleven semi-finalists for preliminary interviews in Boston. Confidentiality will be maintained until the finalists are chosen. Just after spring break a few finalists will come to campus and participate in open fora during common exam times. The search committee chair will send a letter asking all members of the university community to come to these fora to meet and question the candidates. Finally, the Provost Search Committee will recommend to the president candidates who have strong evidence of scholarship, artistry, research, teaching, good values, an ability to deal with the budget, good communication skills, and the ability to work well with faculty, staff and students.

VI. Open Mike - Appreciation was expressed for the hard work of the Academic Affairs Committee members and their chair. The senate's Finance and Administration Committee chair said that he has forwarded to the Faculty Senate chair a number of questions that the committee would like to pose to the president. The budget has assumed a five percent operating budget increase plus an additional two percent for academic technology. The budget also assumed a certain level of tuition and enrollment and that the collective bargaining issue will be resolved at a certain level.

VII. Adjournment - Today's meeting was adjourned.