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FACULTY SENATE - 29 September 1997 Minutes Summary

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UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
FACULTY SENATE
29 SEPTEMBER 1997 MINUTES SUMMARY

I. Roll - The following Faculty Senate members were absent: Balling, Burger, Coon, Cooper, Ernest, Fink, Gross, Herold, McNamara, Moynihan, Roh, Schoof, and Zabarsky. Greenlaw was excused.

II. Discussion with President Leitzel - The president said that the university will take very seriously the two incidents in which a crowd of students included a small number of students who threw objects at police. Most of the students present were non-confrontational onlookers, but such incidents are a danger to public safety and damage the image of the university. In the second incident, students had obtained a bonfire permit from the Durham fire department. The university is working with police, landlords, students leadership and town officials and will deal forcefully with those students who were arrested. In the past, many students gathered at fraternities and sororities, but now the rule is that each member can have no more than three guests and that only invited guests are admitted. This weekend town and campus police patrolled together on foot, which worked well.

The enrollment management study will be reviewed by the VPAA and the Academic Affairs Committee, in order to find practical measures to enhance the recruitment of high-ability students. The report recommends reconfiguring how various UNH offices work together.

Repairs on Morse Hall must be done now because the building is deteriorating quickly. The building was constructed eleven years ago at a cost of seventeen million dollars, and serious problems of design and construction have been found. Now the urgent repairs will cost almost five million dollars, and most of the required funds will come from accounts at the system level.

III. Communications from the Chair - Jim Farrell will serve on the Athletic Advisory Committee. Candidates for Special Assistant to the President for Affirmative Action have been brought to campus, and the faculty were invited to meet them. In the near future, specific options regarding plans for the visit of the Governor with the Faculty Senate on December 8 will be brought to the senate.

IV. Minutes - The minutes of the previous Faculty Senate meeting were approved.

V. Motion on Wording of the Faculty Senate Constitution - Professor Tucker moved and Professor Copeland seconded a motion to untable the **motion to amend the Constitution of the Faculty Senate to remove the words "full-time" from Sections 2 and 10, which are the only two places in the constitution where "full-time" appears as a modifier for the phrase "tenure-track faculty."** The motion to untable and the main motion both **passed unanimously.**

VI. Faculty Senate Library Committee - Professor Buckley moved and Professor Copeland seconded a motion to untable the motion to amend section 6B of the Constitution of the Faculty Senate to change the phrase “five standing committees” to “six standing committees”; to add the following item 6B, 6: “The Library Committee will concern itself with matters pertaining to the university’s library and its operation”; and to identify in Section 5 of the Bylaws of the Faculty Senate the university librarian as the administrator corresponding to the library standing committee. The motion to untable passed. A friendly amendment was made and accepted by Professor Buckley that, in the Constitution of the Faculty Senate, the library would be deleted as a charge for the Academic Affairs Committee.

The librarian will have a university-wide advisory committee on the library, and the Faculty Senate would have its own Library Committee with only faculty as members. A professor expressed concern that the library and computers serve similar functions and that we should deal with both in a similar way. There is a university-wide Academic Computing Advisory Committee, and so perhaps we should also have a Faculty Senate Academic Computing Committee as a seventh standing committee. Professor Afolayan moved and Professor Gaudette seconded that the motion on the Library Committee be tabled until the next meeting. The **motion to table passed** with 22 ayes and 15 nays.

VII. Writing across the Curriculum - Professors Gannett and Connors gave a presentation on the university writing requirement and writing across the curriculum. The writing requirement will take effect for students entering in the fall of 1998. Members of the Writing Center have met with faculty from many departments to facilitate writing-intensive courses and to suggest ways in which writing can be intensified while minimizing extra demands on faculty time. The Writing Center is also available to help students, staff or faculty with any writing concern, and the use of the center is increasing very rapidly. Faculty can refer students in need of writing help and are invited to contact the center at any time. A writing fellows and intern program is planned, where some students would receive course credit or a stipend for helping with the writing in specific courses. Ten faculty seminars on writing are being held from September 26 to December 5. Final identification of general education and major writing-intensive courses for fall of 1998 is occurring now, since catalog copy is due by November 1. Many other courses are in the approval process. VPAA Eggers will forward to faculty senators an email from Ken Appel, which shows the need for writing across the curriculum.

VIII. Alcohol Policy - A draft of a university alcohol policy was distributed to the senators. This version includes many revisions resulting from discussion of the previous draft of the policy. The Faculty Senate’s Student Affairs Committee will review the latest draft and make a recommendation to the senate on October 13, since the president wants all constituencies to respond by October 20. The policy will cover all persons on university property, including students, faculty, staff and visitors.

IX. Open Mike - A discussion ensued on the students’ right to assemble versus the need

for public safety and what role, if any, the faculty would have on the issue. The meeting was adjourned.