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### 1996/97 FACULTY SENATE - 12 May 1997 Minutes Summary

Faculty Senate

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UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
1996/97 FACULTY SENATE

12 MAY 1997 MINUTES SUMMARY

I. Roll - The following Faculty Senate members were absent: Anderson, Balling, Burger, Calculator, Cote, Fan, Forest, Greenlaw, Gross, Hiller, Karson, Krysiak, McHugh, Morgan, Pugh, Schwab, and Zabarsky. Senator Jolley was excused.

II. Communications from the Chair - The Faculty Senate chair discussed the formation of the university committees. They should have frequent input from the various constituencies, and so we need to set up a process for Faculty Senate committees to interact with the university committees. Katie McShane met with the Agenda Committee on this matter. Also, the University Scholarship Committee is about to meet, and the Faculty Senate has submitted four names to the president for membership on the President's Commission on the Status of People of Color. Elections for the Professional Standards Committee have been completed.

The provost has hired a consultant firm to review enrollment planning. The university wants to concentrate on improving its entrance standards.

III. Minutes - The minutes of the April 7 Faculty Senate meeting were approved.

IV. Part-time Faculty - **A motion was made and seconded to take up the motion on part-time faculty, which was made in the April 7 Faculty Senate meeting and which asks the Faculty Senate to adopt the March, 1997, Report of the Senate Committee on Part-time Faculty and to urge the UNH president to proceed with the implementation of the recommendations in the report.** There was extensive discussion of the report. Some professors were concerned about possible blurring between tenure and non-tenure tracks and about the needs of the departments for flexibility and not adding more bureaucracy and standardization. One professor suggested establishing a guideline that no more than twenty-five percent of a department's faculty could be part time. However, the English and foreign language departments need large numbers of part-time instructors to teach first-level students. The recommendations regarding a one-year termination notice and expanding contracts would be difficult to put into practice, because part-time faculty often fill in for professors on leave and the vacancies are not always known far enough ahead to comply with this recommendation. If the department could not commit early enough, the department might fire the current part-time instructor and later hire a new person, in order to comply with these proposed guidelines. However, a termination notice could be rescinded.

Other faculty members said that checks and balances are needed, because there are long-term part-time teachers who can be fired without notice and at a chair's whim. **Friendly amendments were made and accepted that items four and five of the recommendations be deleted and that item three be changed to: "At the conclusion of the third consecutive and subsequent positive annual reviews, the high-percent-time faculty member shall be entitled to a minimum of one year's notice before termination, apart from dismissal for 'cause'. At this point, reviews may be undertaken biennially rather than annually."** Concerns were expressed regarding annual reviews and other aspects of the motion. **A motion was made, seconded and passed to table the motion, with the recommendation that this issue be examined by the 1997/98 Faculty Senate.**

V. Articulation Agreements - Currently, most students have to redo courses for general education requirements when transferring from the New Hampshire Community and Technical Colleges, although some departments at UNH have articulation agreements with certain schools. A proposal is now underway to construct an extensive list of courses from the community and technical schools that would be accepted for credit at UNH for general education requirements. Concerns were expressed that while, in some departments such as mathematics, it is not hard to describe course equivalency, in other departments such as philosophy there are no industry standards for an introductory course. Also, if a course were put on the accepted list, the faculty and/or the syllabus could change. There is insufficient information regarding the faculty qualifications, assignments, grading, standards, and so on.

The chair of the Faculty Senate Academic Affairs Committee said that each department should look at the information on a course which is proposed for acceptance and decide whether or not to do so. The department could accept the course, reject it, or ask for further information. A department might even write into the agreement that only a specific faculty member is approved to teach the course. The previously passed motion on transfer of credits for general education requirements also allowed for reconsideration periodically as needed. **A motion was made, seconded and passed that the 1996/97 Faculty Senate urgently recommends to the president and the provost that no further action be taken on articulation agreements with New Hampshire Technical and Community Colleges, pending further action by the 1997/98 Faculty Senate.** The motion passed. The Faculty Senate will review this matter in the fall.

VI. Thanks - The chair was thanked for his good work this year and presented with a ceremonial gavel.

VII. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned.

UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
1997/98 FACULTY SENATE

12 MAY 1997 MINUTES SUMMARY

I. Roll - The following Faculty Senate members were absent: Balling, Bogle, Burger, Calculator, Cooper, Cote, DeMitchell, Fan, Greenlaw, C. Gross, Krysiak, McMahon, Morgan, Pugh, Schoof, Schwab, Zabarsky. Senators Dolan, Herold and Sohl were excused.

II. Elections - The officers elected by the 1997/98 Faculty Senate are: Janet Aikins as chair, John Seavey as vice chair, John Miller as secretary, and Howard Mayne and James Tucker as at-large members of the Agenda Committee, whose members include all the officers.

III. Discussion with the President - President Leitzel expressed thanks to the previous Faculty Senate members and said that she looks forward to working with the new senators. She has met with the trustees regarding the relationship of outreach to teaching and research and how to differentiate the mission of the university from that of the state colleges. She has met with former trustees and is communicating with members of the New Hampshire House of Representatives regarding the budget. The review for National Collegiate Academic Association certification is in progress, and we must be sure that faculty have oversight over athletics.

IV. Communications from the Chair - The Faculty Senate needs to take visible and powerful stands on issues of importance. Work is needed on a plan for academic computing, sustainability, research support, a library committee and many other issues. This summer the faculty senators will be invited to informal discussions in order to get to know each other and to plan issues to be dealt with in the coming year. The Faculty Senate constitution will be reviewed regarding possible changes in the timing of elections. During the academic year, each senator should expect to attend meetings of the Faculty Senate or its committees on Mondays from 3:10 to 5:00 or send a proxy. Better communication with departments is important.

V. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned.