

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA FACULTY COUNCIL

Minutes

Tuesday, 19 January 1999

Room 256, IMU

Members Present: A. Bhattacharjee, S. Bishara, L. Burmeister, J. Carlson, K. Clark, C. Colvin, J. Cox, R. Curto, J. Jew, J. Kline, C. Lynch, J. Menninger, G. Milavetz, E. Wasserman, B. Wiley.

Members Absent: B. Butler, H. Diehl, M. Pincus, M. Stone, K. Tachau.

Guests: Michael Barron (Admissions), Joe Coulter (Office of the Provost), John Folkins (Office of the Provost), W. H. Knight, Jr. (Office of the Provost), Lyle Muller (*The Gazette*), Quinn O'Keefe (*Daily Iowan*), Brian Shemp (*Press-Citizen*), Jon Whitmore (Office of the Provost).

I. The meeting was called to order by President Wiley at 3:33 PM

II. Prof. Colvin moved, seconded by Prof. Milavetz, to approve the agenda for the meeting. The agenda was approved without dissent.

III. Prof. Colvin moved, seconded by Prof. Milavetz, to approve the minutes of the Faculty Council meeting of 15 December 1999. The minutes were approved without dissent.

IV. Announcements

A. Mary Mathew Wilson has resigned from her position in the Faculty Senate Office to take a position in the University Examination Service.

B. Prof. Huston Diehl, Department of English, has resigned from the Faculty Council due to illness. Prof. Patrick "Barry" Butler, Mechanical Engineering, has resigned from the Faculty Council; Prof. Butler has been appointed as interim Dean of Engineering.

C. The next meeting of the Faculty Senate, 2 February 1999, will be addressed by Board of Regents President Owen Newlin. A reception for Pres. Newlin will be held on the first floor of Old Capitol following the meeting.

D. There will be a reception for members of the Faculty Senate by University President Mary Sue Coleman on 13 April 1999 at the president's mansion.

E. In response to a question from Prof. Kline about the possibility of a visit from Governor Vilsack, President Wiley stated that the traditional time for governor's visits is during the fall semester.

V. Old Business

A. Qualifications for Academic Ranks: President Wiley.

A new version of qualifications that had been distributed before the meeting was circulated. The University Operations Manual has somewhat identical wording for the ranks of Associate Professor and full Professor. The Senate officers were divided on the

issue of making revisions with some favoring trying to modify the wording rationally and others preferring to leave well enough alone, except moving the phrase concerning "not a reward for long or acceptable service" to the Professor qualifications. Pres. Wiley suggested a straw vote on moving the one phrase but doing nothing else. This was moved by Prof. Carlson and seconded by Prof. Kline.

Among the points made during the debate were:

Long service should not be a qualification for promotion to either rank.

What we have in the Operations Manual is adequate and any additional detail ought to come from individual units.

The current distinctions between Associate and full Professor are not quite right; we need flexible rules that make the distinction clear.

Neither rank should be awarded merely for long service.

Prof. Kline moved, Prof. Milavetz seconding, to amend the motion by adding the above-quoted phrase to the qualifications for full Professor, retaining it for Associate Professor. The amendment was accepted on a voice vote.

The vote on the amended motion resulted in its defeat: ayes four, nays seven.

Prof. Milavetz moved, Prof. Colvin seconding, the proposed (Wiley-Menninger) revisions to the qualifications. There followed a long discussion, which included accepting various friendly amendments and voting on others.

The qualification for Associate Professor concerning scholarship will read "Clear demonstration of scholarly or artistic achievement." [friendly amendments]

The wording "and, where applicable, internationally" (recognized scholar or creative artist in the chosen field) was added to the qualifications for full professor [passed on a voice vote as an amendment].

"Post-doctoral" were added to the list of students under teaching qualifications for Associate Professor [carried on a voice vote as an amendment].

After an inconclusive discussion concerning specifying the documentation of scholarly or creative accomplishment Prof. Carlson moved, Prof. Colvin seconding, to lay the main motion on the table. This was passed on a voice vote. Pres. Wiley will conflate the various amendments into a complete set of qualifications, included as part of these minutes, and they will be discussed at the next meeting of the Faculty Council.

B. Revised Amendment to the Faculty Senate Constitution regarding eligibility for Senate offices: Vice President Carlson.

Following the last Council meeting, the Committee on Rules and By-laws adopted new wording to allow a Faculty Senator whose term was expiring to be eligible for election as an officer. After a friendly amendment to remove a redundant phrase, the Proposed Amendments on *Eligibility for Senate Offices* to Article II of the Constitution and Article III of the Bylaws was passed without dissent.

## VI. New Business

### A. University Admissions Standards: Michael Barron, Director of Admissions.

Director Barron distributed information sheets on "Required High School Preparation for Admission" and "Completion of High School Unit Requirements by Newly Enrolled Freshmen." Over 90% of admitted students are meeting the unit requirements in some manner. He pointed out that secondary schools object to having their curricula dictated by Regents' institutions. There is difficulty in retaining foreign language teachers in certain high schools, thus making problematic the requirement of two years of instruction in a foreign language. Class rank is made less satisfactory as a measure of performance by the custom in some high schools of combining students with the same grades at the same rank and not omitting the adjacent positions in the ranking, or allowing examinations to be retaken until "learning is achieved." Grades in the high school unit requirements are a good guide to undergraduate performance and persistence, with the math and science requirements being the most reliable predictors. But there is little documentation to justify the necessity for unit requirements for particular parts of the undergraduate curriculum. Associate Provost Folkins noted that the expectations of AAU institutions seem to have significant influence on students and their parents, if not on school districts. Director Barron suggested that a more collegial productive relationship was needed between secondary school and undergraduate faculties, one in which the environment of each would be better appreciated by the other.

Professor Clark asked whether there are minimal ACT scores required for admission. Director Barron responded no, but test scores are used if the first criterion (class rank in top 50%) is not met. Admissions officers use a "Cleary" score, based on multiple criteria, to establish admissibility. Assoc. Provost Coulter reported that Regents institutions are enrolling students with an average composite ACT score of 24.7; only 2% of admitted students have scores less than 19 but less than 50% of high school graduates have scores of 19 or higher. The production by high schools is out of synch with U/IA admission expectations.

- C. Prof. Carlson moved, Prof. Kline seconding, that the Agenda for the Faculty Senate meeting of 2 February 1999 be approved. The motion was carried via a voice vote.
- D. Prof. Kline moved, Prof. Carlson seconding, a recommendation by the Committee on Elections for Samir Bishara (Orthodontics) to replace Kay Mescher (Preventive & Community Dentistry) for the remainder of her term (1999) on the Faculty Council. The motion passed without dissent.

VII. The meeting was adjourned at 5:36 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
John R. Menninger, Secretary