

FACULTY MINUTES
Ottawa University

August 30, 1974

The faculty met in the University Union at 9 o'clock on August 30, 1974. President Peter Armacost called the meeting to order and called on Dean Harold Germer for an opening meditation. Dean Germer presented reflections based on John 8:31-32. The roll was called by Leonard Meyers, faculty secretary. All members were present except for the following: Bill Boucek, Bill Frear, Ben Moor, Jack Patty, Horton Presley, Adrian Stoner, Shirley Swayne, and David Wesner.

President Armacost expressed words of welcome for all faculty. He welcomed especially Neil Harris and Tom Adams, who were returning from periods of study away from Ottawa, and also congratulated Neil Harris on completion of his Ph.D. degree. Dr. Armacost then introduced new faculty members: Shirley Swayne, in the Art Department, Genella Benjamin, in Physical Education, and Mike King, Media Specialist. The President also presented a gift to Bill Myers, in recognition of his having spent twenty years on the faculty of Ottawa University.

Dean Germer then read statements of "Ottawa University Aims and Objectives." President Armacost commented that these statements contain the basis for our teaching and program development. The President then addressed the faculty, giving his opening statement for the year. He mentioned several concerns currently being expressed in circles of higher education across the nation, and noted that Ottawa University has been wrestling with these problems. The concerns were for declining college enrollments and the resource problems which this brings, for faculty development, for flexibility in students' educational programs, including the contract model and advising, and for the job market and career education.

President Armacost stated that last year was a good year for us, despite certain problems. He spoke of the financial situation and of our situation in regard to gift income. He told also of fund-raising activities and about the recruitment of new members for the Board of Trustees. He also talked about enrollment, showing that the situation has improved over a year ago. He cited the work of the admissions staff and the fact that our retention rate is as good as expected. Special educational programs added during the year were likewise mentioned, specifically the Kansas City Center, the Ottawa Center at Kansas University, and the English Language Institute. He also spoke about progress which has been made in implementing the provisions of the FIPSE proposal, and of the concern which has been given to institutional integrity. Lastly, the President noted that study has been undertaken regarding our present and future building needs, and that planning on other matters of strategy, financing, etc., has taken place.

As for special emphases for the coming year, President Armacost pointed out that the main thrust will be to implement present commitments, rather

than to take on new ones. Stress will be placed upon the quality of our educational program, he said, including such features as the contract system and advising process for students. He cited the academic center structure as a means of increasing student options, providing a support system for advising and a means of faculty intellectual enrichment. Dr. Armacost emphasized the continued need to build our enrollment and to balance the budget as well. He said that efforts will be made to increase our visibility through public relations, and to launch a financial campaign which will provide greater financial stability and improve our facilities. The President then reiterated that our primary focus will be upon the personal development of our students, particularly their intellectual development. We have the program and the people to make it work, plus the advantage of comprehensive educational planning, he said, adding that we must focus on what we do well, which is liberal education.

During a question-answer period, the President stated that each of the special programs (e.g. the English Language Institute) has to carry its own weight financially. He then circulated copies of a document entitled "Assumptions in Long Range Planning" (see appended). He asked faculty to study it, saying that discussions concerning the assumptions will be forthcoming. In response to other questions, Dr. Armacost commented on the faculty "perception of overload," indicating his awareness of the problem and he remarked that the Ottawa Investment Corporation is not faring too well. He gave some details regarding the latter statement. He also spoke about faculty salaries and about tuition and endowment projections.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:54 a.m. for coffee break, until 11:15, at which time the business meeting was called to order. The first action was upon the minutes of the previous meeting, which was May 15, 1974. Ronnie Averyt said that the minutes should be amended on page 3, second paragraph, to show that in his statement to the Faculty Affairs Committee, he hoped that they would act with alacrity on the question of "disability insurance" as well as upon questions of faculty load and tenure. Elmer Roth then moved, Jack Bacon seconding, that the minutes be approved, as amended. The motion carried

Tom Maher then distributed copies of two informational documents, one an evaluation of contracting, done by a visiting group, and the other a report containing advising recommendations by Bernie Sloan of New College, Alabama.

The President then called for announcements, and the following were forthcoming.

- 1) Martin Meade distributed copies of the orientation schedule for new students, asking faculty to note events which involved them, such as advising times and picnics. He also distributed information cards for the campus directory.
- 2) Justo Diaz announced that 18 Japanese students will be enrolling and that others will be arriving during the year. There will be 7 Nigerian students also, he said. He asked for faculty assistance in advising and helping these students.

- 3) Charles Rich said that there will be a meeting of advisors for GED 110 in A306 following adjournment of the faculty meeting.
- 4) Annabelle Pence gave some information for faculty advisors: freshman advisors will receive materials at their afternoon meeting; new transfer students will be registering on Tuesday; UPS deficiency reports have been sent to students.
- 5) Keith Shumway gave some information about the Kansas City Center, including the location of the headquarters office, and its telephone number. He said that two classes are scheduled to begin soon.
- 6) Lloyd Gladman said that advisors need to be aware that the changes in Freshman Core will affect teacher education students since the Core reduction to seven units does not fulfill the same total requirement as previously regarding state teacher certification. Dean Germer noted that the effect of Core changes on teacher education has not yet been fully worked out, but will have to be determined.
- 7) Dean Germer asked that reports from faculty workshop task forces and center meetings be submitted; they may become issues for the next faculty meeting. He also requested that advisors apprise students of their opportunity to attend other KCRCHE institutions by means of student exchange agreements.

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12:00 noon, and reconvened at 1:30 p.m. President Armacost called for reports, and the following were made:

- 1) Dean Germer reported on behalf of the General Education Committee, regarding a review of the Senior Core. Two changes have been made, neither of which involve major departure from policy or will involve a significant number of students, he said. The changes are (1) the possibility that a student could take GED 800 (only) off campus, and (2) the possibility of waiving one or both Senior Core course requirements if it can be shown that non-college experiences which meet Core objectives has been undergone and evaluated as successful.
- 2) Carl Bobbish reported on behalf of the University Program Series. He cited a list of events to be presented during Session I, saying that brochures will be distributed later.

When no old business was forthcoming, the President called for new business, and the following items were raised.

- 1) Dean Germer, on behalf of the General Education Committee, moved that "GED 110 is to be offered on a Pass/NC basis." The purpose of this is related to the fact of diversity in kinds and levels of activities in the course, and that the rationale emphasizes proficiency development. Some faculty reservations were expressed, regarding the need for qualitative judgments as well and academic rigor. The motion carried, by majority voice vote.

- 2) Dean Germer moved, on behalf of the General Education Committee that "Students enrolled in all GED Core courses other than GED 110 will be offered the option of selecting either a grade (A, B, C, NC) or Pass/NC; if the student does not exercise this option within a time determined by the Core Directors, then the student will automatically be evaluated on a Pass/NC basis." Discussion followed on this motion. Bill Myers moved, Jim Hennager seconding, to amend to say that "a student can make a choice of grading system up to the last 5 days of the Course." Myers' motion to amend was defeated by majority voice vote. David Bemmels then moved, Jack Bacon seconding, to amend the last line of the motion so that "Pass/NC basis" is deleted and "grade (A, B, C, NC) basis" is substituted. Bemmels' motion to amend was carried by majority voice vote, and the original motion, as amended, was then carried, no dissents heard.

- 3) James Billick, on behalf of the General Education Committee, moved the following:

"It is expected that Students will enroll in Senior Core within their final year of residence prior to graduation.

To enroll in Senior Core a student must have successfully completed 23 course units toward graduation.

If the student has not met this condition, then all the following three conditions must be met. (1) The student's contract must have been approved by the Committee on Academic Review. (2) The student must write a petition to the Dean of the College and the Director of Senior Core stating how and why enrollment in Senior Core in the desired sessions would enhance achievement of the objectives stated in the contract. (3) The petition must be approved by the Dean of the College and the Senior Core Director."

The reason for the motion is that too many students have been taking Senior Core not having sufficient course experience to make the Senior Core experience most worthwhile. Discussion followed. Sherwin Snyder then moved, Bill Myers seconding, to amend the motion to read "22 course units," in place of 23. After more discussion, Snyder's amendment carried by majority voice vote. Then the original motion, as amended, was carried by voice vote. It was then agreed that the effect of the present motion would have to be reserved until the next academic year (1975-1976).

- 4) James Billick, on behalf of the Academic Council and Faculty Affairs Committee, moved as follows:

"The Faculty of Ottawa University commits itself to a thorough and systematic approach to evaluation by students of faculty teaching.

The primary evaluative instrument will be the Student Instructional Report (S.I.R.), but individual professors may use an instrument of their own preference or work with the Office of Research and Planning to 'customize' an instrument to their own particular uses.

All courses in the University will be evaluated by students.

Information derived through the evaluative system would be available to the individual faculty member and to the Dean of the College at the discretion of the faculty member. The Dean and the Office of Research and Planning will receive institutional profiles based on the S.I.R."

Dr. Billick supplied a brief explanation of the source of the motion (Academic Affairs Committee of Student Senate) and its development. Peter Sandstrom spoke in favor of the motion, saying that it can be construed as a reinforcing educational device, rather than as a threat to faculty. Ronnie Averyt raised questions concerning the immediacy of the motion, and also its enforceability. He said that he is opposed to the compulsory aspect of the motion and that he fears that future pressures on faculty may arise from it. Dr. Averyt then moved, Jack Bacon seconding, to amend so that the statement "All courses in the University will be evaluated by students." is deleted and the following statement replaces it: "It is strongly urged that all faculty voluntarily undertake a program of student evaluation of all courses at this institution." Following discussion, Averyt's motion to amend was carried by majority voice vote. Then the original motion, as amended, was carried by voice vote, with no dissents being heard.

5) Dean Germer then moved, Fred Zook seconding,

"That all four Academic Centers be equally operational in the Academic year 1974-1975.

1. General Education

The Center for Communication, Expression and Value Clarification will administer and evaluate GED 110 and 120, and also be the locus for evaluation of Senior Core.

The Center for the Study of Organizational and Cultural Issues will plan and develop Sophomore Core GED 210 to be offered in 1975-1976.

The Center for the Study of Issues of Individuality and Personal Value will plan and develop Sophomore Core GED 220 to be offered in 1975-1976.

The Center for the Study of Human Interaction with the Environment will plan and develop Sophomore Core GED 230 to be offered 1975-1976

2. Program

Each Center will undertake to offer program opportunities in the area of Center Focus. This may be done through sponsorship of forums, visiting speakers, UPS events (in cooperation with the Program Integration Committee) or discussions on themes of Center Interest. The Center, through its Director or members may offer independent studies on such themes. The Center may propose new course offerings or evaluate the bearing of some present courses upon Center interest.

3. Advising

Each Center will develop means and methods to support and enhance the advising of our students. This does not presuppose any necessary relation of students to Centers. Such decisions, if there be any, should grow out of our experience in Centers. The basic direction will be to provide supports to broaden and enrich goal setting and individual educational planning."

Wayne Angell pointed out that the faculty has not acted to change the Sophomore Core sequence, and that the explanation of the present motion therefore does not constitute substantive action. After further discussion, Fred Zook moved, Lloyd Gladman seconding, to table the motion until the next faculty meeting. Zook's motion was defeated by division of the house, 16 for and 20 against. During subsequent discussion, it was observed that FIPSE grant money is available to fund each of the four Centers this year. Wayne Angell then moved, Bill Myers seconding, to amend the motion so that the 'explanation' portion is dropped and the motion itself will read "that all four Academic Centers be tentatively operational in the academic year 1974-1975, pending further faculty action."

- 6) Carl Bobbish then moved, Mike Sancho seconding, "that the faculty evaluate, on a yearly basis, the network of administrative personnel." After explanation was given of the rationale for the motion, Wayne Angell moved, with Ronnie Averyt seconding, "to refer the above motion to the Faculty Affairs Committee, with this Committee to report back to the faculty at the October faculty meeting." The motion to refer was carried by majority voice vote.

Mike Twedt then inquired whether any departmental memos regarding registration information would be forthcoming. Dean Germer said this is to be done through the Registrar's office.

Fred Zook asked what procedure will be used in discussing and deciding about substantive organizational issues which have been raised. It was answered that the Academic Council would consider these issues.

Ronnie Averyt then moved, Jack Bacon seconding, that the meeting be adjourned. It was so ordered at 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Leonard L. Meyers, Faculty Secretary