

11-7-1994

Faculty Senate Minutes, Nov. 7, 1994

Eastern Kentucky University, Faculty Senate

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Recommended Citation

Eastern Kentucky University, Faculty Senate, "Faculty Senate Minutes, Nov. 7, 1994" (1994). *Faculty Senate*. Paper 33.
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FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

November 7, 1994

The Faculty Senate of Eastern Kentucky University met on Monday, November 7, 1994, in the Faculty Dining Room of the Powell Building. Senate Chair Virginia Wright called the third meeting of the 1994-1995 academic year to order at 3:30 p.m.

The following members of the Senate were absent:

E. Baldwin	A. Banks	D. Batch*	V. Falkenberg
H. Funderburk*	R. James	J. Jones	G. Masagatani
S. O'Brien*	T. Ricks*	P. Sowash*	B. Sowders*

*Indicates prior notification to the Senate Secretary.

Visitors to the Senate were Dr. William E. Davis, Department of Technology, and Mr. Chad Williamson, Eastern Progress.

Approval of the Minutes

Senator Wright called for additions or corrections to the October 3 minutes. There being none, the minutes were approved as distributed.

Report from the President: Senator Funderburk

Because Dr. Funderburk was attending a meeting with the Council on Higher Education, there was no report from the President.

Report from the Executive Committee: Senator Wright

Senator Wright began her report by expressing her appreciation to faculty who attended and spoke at the Council on Higher Education's public hearing on strategic planning and performance budgeting on October 13. She noted her hope that faculty views on classroom impacts would be considered in the Council's choices.

Senator Wright also announced the appointment of three new members to the Senate's Standing Committee on Oversight of Student Evaluation of Instruction. The new members are Duke Thompson (chair), Ann Chapman, and Margaret McCarthy.

Senator Wright also asked senators to note she has recently moved her office. Her new address is Beckham 232, and her mailing address is Beckham 237.

The Executive Committee met on October 24 and reviewed the Senate Budget Committee's report on the University's 1994-1995 budget. They also received progress reports from the Senate's Committee on Faculty Rights and Responsibilities regarding their study of procedures pertaining to scientific misconduct and the Senate's Editorial Advisory Committee. The committee received recommendations from the President's committee on the calendar and related policies.

The Executive Committee discussed activities related to incorporating merit pay guidelines passed by the Senate in October 1993 into existing University guidelines and procedures.

Report from the Faculty Regent: Senator Freed

Senator Freed reported that he had spoken at the Council on Higher Education's Forum for Strategic Planning and Performance Budgeting held at Eastern on October 13. In his speech at this forum he expressed his appreciation to the Council on Higher Education for their seeking faculty input in the development of their guidelines.

He also emphasized the fact that the state universities have for some time incorporated the concept of performance-based funding for the internal distribution of funds (for example, merit pay).

He also noted the importance of the Council's developing a set of principles and a coherent philosophy for the new system of distributing funds. As a part of these principles, the Council should be wary of establishing goals that potentially conflict (for example, retention of students that may diminish the quality of instruction). The Council should also be careful not to establish principles that are very dependent upon external factors.

Finally, he cautioned the Council that not all activities of the university are reflected in mechanically measurable criteria.

Report from the COSFL Representative: Senator Lee-Riffe

Senator Lee-Riffe reported that the Coalition of Senate and Faculty Leadership met on October 15 at the Perkins Building at Eastern. Representatives from Murray, Kentucky State, Morehead, Northern, University of Louisville, University of Kentucky, Eastern, and Jefferson Community College were present at the meeting.

As usual, representatives from all schools gave updates from their campuses; much of the discussion focused on the hearings sponsored by the Council on Higher Education on individual campuses. In comparison with other campuses, Eastern's treatment of such issues as notification of faculty leaders and faculty participation was far better than that of other institutions across the state.

Rather than proceeding with September's plan to meet with legislative leaders to discuss performance-based funding and other key issues, the members chose to meet first with Gary Cox and other staff members from the Council on Higher Education to discuss faculty views on issues facing the state's universities. This meeting will be held on November 19 at the University of Kentucky.

Reports from the Standing Committees

Committee on the Budget: Senator Rink

Senator Rink reported that a Committee on the Budget meeting was held on October 5. Members discussed their preliminary report on the University's 1994-1995 budget and additional tables and charts that might be included. The Committee also developed a questionnaire to solicit thoughts from senators and faculty on their report.

Senator Rink then discussed specific information from the committee's report and their questionnaire that had been distributed to senators prior to the Senate meeting. He also pointed out some major ways in which this year's budget differed from expenditures for recent years.

Report from the Editorial Advisory Committee: Senator Creek

Senator Creek began his report by giving a brief history of the Editorial Advisory Committee. He noted that the committee had been established in 1992 to develop a newsletter and a logo for use on official Faculty Senate correspondence.

The committee was further charged with examining newsletters currently being produced on campus to see if any could be expanded to include a Faculty Senate newsletter, and with developing a job description for the editor of this newsletter.

The committee has developed the editor's job description and will be advertising to fill the position. The committee also recommends that the editor receive one-quarter release time for working on the newsletter, although the President does not support this idea.

The Faculty Senate newsletter would focus on disseminating Senate information, discussing impact issues, summarizing Senate debates, and publicizing faculty honors. The format of the newsletter is to be determined by the editor and an advisory committee.

Unfinished Business and General Orders

Senator Enzie moved approval of the Proposal to Change University Practices in Regard to Emergencies introduced at the Senate's October meeting. After general discussion which focused on student concerns about the shortness of the ten-minute interval between class periods in inclement weather and the problem of adequate notification, the motion was

approved.

New Business

Senator Culross, chair of the President's Committee on Procedures and Timetable of Admissions, Registration, and Financial Arrangements Process, moved the approval of seven recommendations for changing the university's calendar and related policies.

Recommendation 1: The committee recommends that the University adopt admissions deadlines of 1 August (Fall), 1 December (Spring), 15 April (Intersession), and 15 May (Summer) for all degree-seeking students. Such deadlines will ensure that all students can have necessary paperwork processed, be advised, and get registered in a timely manner so that they will be available to attend the initial class meetings of the semester.

Senator Janssen suggested adding "applications" between admissions and deadlines to the first recommendation. The Senate did not object to this addition. Senator Janssen moved to amend the wording in the first sentence to read: "all degree- and certification-seeking students." After considerable discussion, the amendment was approved. The Senate approved the amended recommendation.

Recommendation 2: The committee recommends that, in the fall and spring semesters, classes begin on Monday. This change will make the first week of classes a five-day week and will thus encourage students to begin attending classes on the first day of the semester.

The Senate approved the recommendation.

Recommendation 3: The committee recommends that the first day of what is now the two day wrap-up registration period at the beginning of the fall and spring terms be restricted to registration by students not attending the university the previous full term. The committee believes that this will make the early registration period more attractive to continuing students, who do not need to wait until the wrap-up period to register.

Recommendation 4: For the same reason, the committee recommends that the second day of what is now the two-day wrap-up registration period at the beginning of the Fall and Spring terms be designated a late registration day and the restricted to registrations by continuing students.

After considerable discussion, the Senate approved recommendations 3 and 4 by a vote of 24 to 20.

Recommendation 5: The committee recommends that the current late registration fee of \$25.00 be increased to a minimum of \$50.00, in order to discourage students from delaying registering until the late registration period.

The Senate approved the recommendation.

Recommendation 6: The committee recommends that the University consider revising its refund policy so that the policy does not encourage students to withhold fee payment as long as possible. Under current policy, students who pay early and then decide to withdraw during the late registration period forfeit 25% of their payment, while students who withhold payment altogether simply cancel their registration and incur no loss.

The Senate approved the recommendation.

Recommendation 7: The committee recommends that the University end classes on Friday (or Saturday) and adopt a five-day final examination period for the fall and spring semesters, to begin on Monday and end on Friday. This recommendation derives from a concern about exams beginning, with the current calendar, the day after classes end.

The Senate approved the recommendation.

Senator Culross moved adoption of two more recommendations.

Recommendation 1: The committee recommends that input from faculty, administrators and students be solicited relative to the desirability of adopting MWF and TR class patterns.

Recommendation 2: The committee recommends that input from faculty, staff, and students be sought as to possible revisions in the holiday schedule. This recommendation is prompted by ideas that were raised regarding such things as the elimination of the Columbus Day and President's Day holidays, abandonment of the election holiday every four years, addition of a "Fall Break," and expansion of the Thanksgiving holiday to a full week. (None of these recommendations necessarily assumes any additional holidays but focus instead on the most desirable method of using existing days.)

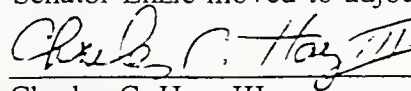
After some discussion, Senator Janssen moved to postpone the vote on these two recommendations to the next meeting. The motion to postpone was approved.

Report from the Council on Academic Affairs: Senator Enzie

Senator Enzie moved approval of two new options to the Bachelor of Science in Aircraft Professional Pilot degree program in the College of Applied Arts and Technology. The motion was approved.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Senate, Senator Enzie moved to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.



Charles C. Hay, III
Faculty Senate Secretary