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## Faculty Senate Minutes, Dec. 4, 1995

Eastern Kentucky University, Faculty Senate

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**FACULTY SENATE MINUTES**  
**EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY**

December 4, 1995

The Faculty Senate of Eastern Kentucky University met on Monday, December 4, 1995, in the Faculty Dining Room of the Powell Building. Senate Chair Richard Rink called the fourth meeting of the 1995-1996 academic year to order at 3:30 p.m.

The following members of the Senate were absent:

E. Baldwin*	V. Falkenburg	G. Masagatani	T. Ricks*
R. Baugh*	J. Frazier*	M. McAdam	P. Scholmann*
L. Collins*	L. Gaines	P. Murray*	J. Schwendeman*
D. Elias*	B. Gallichio	M. Powell	G. Wallace*

\*Indicates prior notification to the Senate Secretary

Visitors to the Senate were: Matt McCarty, Eastern Progress

**Announcements**

The Chair announced that Martha Grise will be presenting a parliamentary workshop on Monday, February 26, at 3:30 p.m. on conducting committee meetings. The location will be given at a later time.

The Chair also announced that Ward Wright will be retiring from the University at the end of this semester.

**Approval of the Minutes**

Senator Rink called for additions or corrections to the November 6 minutes. There being no additions or corrections, the minutes were approved as distributed.

**Report from the President: Senator Funderburk**

The President reported on the meeting he attended of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities. There is a plan to form a new national accreditation body to coordinate the activity of the regional agencies. The Secretary of Education attended this meeting and discussed the federal budget and its implications for higher education. Direct lending is in serious trouble. The overall program will stay somewhat intact, but the distribution method will change.

Dr. Funderburk next mentioned that the Council on Higher Education approved the 1996-1998 budget request which should bring Kentucky schools up to the average for their

benchmark schools if approved by the General Assembly. There is also a possibility that the universities will be exempt from the health alliance.

The Task Force on Higher Education will hold its last meeting on Friday, December 8, in Frankfort. Dr. Funderburk said that the report looked good, and that once it received final approval it would go on to the executive branch. The President plans to attend the Southern Association meeting in Atlanta on Sunday through Tuesday of next week.

#### **Report from the Executive Committee: Senator Rink**

The chair reported that the Executive Committee of the Senate formed an Ad Hoc committee on Cost Savings. Members include Dennis Quillen (chair), Tom Watkins, Bill Davig, Ronnie Mink, and Rita Davis.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for Monday, January 22, in the Robert R. Martin Room, Coates Administration Building.

#### **Report from the Faculty Regent: Senator Freed**

Senator Freed reported that he had been approached by several faculty members concerned about other colleagues who give final exams in the pre-finals week and cancelling classes right before a holiday. This practice undermines the efforts of the vast majority of diligent faculty members who teach their classes responsibly and in the required manner.

#### **Report from the COSFL Representative: Senator Lee-Riffe**

The Coalition of Senate and Faculty Leadership (COSFL) met on November 18, 1995, at the University of Kentucky, with representatives from all Kentucky institutions of public higher education present. Guest speaker, former Governor Edward Breathitt, encouraged the group to interact directly with members of the General Assembly to let them know firsthand what faculty see as the priority needs of higher education.

COSFL then drafted and adopted the following statement in support of higher education:

Support for higher education in Kentucky has seriously eroded in the recent past. While State tax revenue has increased by 40% over the last decade and enrollment in state institutions has increased by 31%, state general funding for higher education has decreased by 3%. Faculty members at Kentucky's institutions of higher education, speaking through their respective Faculty/Senates, endorse the position paper of the Kentucky Advocates for Higher Education (**See attachment 1**) and applaud their efforts. In addition, we endorse the Council on Higher Education funding proposals for 1996-98. We encourage consideration of the needs of higher education in any governmental discussion of budget surplus or restructuring of tax laws.

As faculty members of Kentucky public institutions of higher education, we welcome the opportunity to work closely with the new administration in its efforts to gain broad support for higher education in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Senator Lee-Riffe moved that the Faculty Senate endorse the COSFL statement of November 18, 1995. Senator Janssen seconded the motion. Senator Watkins raised a question about the accuracy of the statement that state general funding for higher education has decreased by 3% during the last decade. After considerable discussion, which focused on the interpretation of the 3% decrease and the importance for all public higher education institutions to endorse the principles in the COSFL statement, Senator Wisenbaker offered a substitute amendment that "the Faculty Senate of Eastern Kentucky University endorse the support of higher education in the statement prepared by COSFL on November 18, 1995." The Senate approved the substitute amendment unanimously. The Senate then unanimously approved the motion as amended.

Senator Lee-Riffe mentioned that the Eastern AAUP chapter is working on plans to have an opportunity for faculty who are members of AAUP to interact with local legislators some time in January.

#### **Report on the Self-Study: Senator Wisenbaker**

Senator Wisenbaker reported that the Self-Study report is now complete. The November 1995 version is the final report. The report is in vol. 1 and the appendices are in vol. 2. Copies are on reserve in the library. The accreditation team will be at Eastern March 11-14, 1996. Copies of the plans will be sent to each department and should be reviewed by as many faculty as possible.

#### **Report from the Student Senate: Mr. Joseph Hoffman**

Joseph Hoffman stressed the importance for each department in the university to develop a planned curriculum which every student could follow. The Student Senate also reviewed the possibility of student involvement on the Council of Academic Affairs.

#### **Reports from the Standing Committees**

Senator Rink dispensed with Standing Committee Reports so the Senate could adjourn early to allow members to attend a retirement reception for Dr. Ward Wright.

#### **New Business**

Senator Janssen moved "that the Executive Committee establish an Ad Hoc Committee of five members for the purpose of determining if the current repeat/replace grade policy serves the needs of the institution and its students. In particular, this committee be directed to consider the possibility for limiting either the grades that can be replaced, or the number of

times a student can replace a grade by repeating a course." The motion was seconded by Senator Gale and was approved.

Senator Sowders moved "that the Executive Committee establish an Ad Hoc Committee of five members for the purpose of reviewing the procedures used to consider requests for withdrawal from classes or from the University after the last day permitted for withdrawing." The motion was seconded by Senator Robinette and was approved.

#### **Report from the Council on Academic Affairs: Senator Enzie**

Senator Enzie moved approval of the reactivation of the woods products manufacturing option in the Bachelor of Science in Manufacturing Technology Degree program. The motion was seconded by Senator Kleine and was approved.

Senator Fraas wanted to know if there was any new information on the Early Retirement Option. Senator Enzie responded that the Council of Deans is still reviewing the policy.

#### **Adjournment**

Senator Enzie moved that the Senate adjourn. It adjourned at 4:05.



Charles C. Hay III  
Faculty Senate Secretary



KENTUCKY ADVOCATES FOR HIGHER EDUCATION  
1995 GUBERNATORIAL CAMPAIGN POSITION PAPER

The balance of this century promises to be a pivotal era for American higher education. After more than a decade of being in the shadow of other priorities, recognition of higher education's value to society appears to be reemerging. This certainly appears to be the case in the south, where the Southern Region Education Board (SREB), of which Kentucky is a member, has recently released a report entitled, "Changing States: Higher Education and the Public Good."

This report includes the following conclusions:

- ▶ Higher education is a major asset but its value in an uncertain world is not sufficiently understood;
- ▶ The declining priority of higher education in state budgets poses real problems for our future;
- ▶ Higher education must change in important, fundamental ways;
- ▶ There needs to be a new and better balance in higher education, especially between teaching and research;
- ▶ Colleges and universities need to rethink what they teach and the ways in which they deliver instruction;
- ▶ Constantly rising and high tuition is a serious threat to access and imperils both the individual student and all of us;
- ▶ Better connections must exist among our schools, colleges, and businesses;
- ▶ There are important ways for higher education institutions to share within each state and across state lines.

The Kentucky Advocates for Higher Education subscribe to these conclusions and have been pleased to witness progress related to many of them in Kentucky. The restructuring efforts implemented by the faculty, administrations, and governing boards have done much to reform the way in which our universities provide their services. The legislature has mandated further accountability processes for the institutions. The work of the Higher Education Review Commission resulted in revised, focused mission statements for each institution and in a commitment to performance funding. As KERA has continued to be implemented, the involvement and commitment of resources by our universities has grown. That commitment will continue.

Of paramount concern, however, is the current status of higher education funding in Kentucky. Consider the following:

- ▶ Over the past decade, largely as a result of taking disproportionate reductions in state budget cuts, higher education's share of state appropriations has slipped from 17 to 14 percent. As a result, the portion of the universities' budgets provided by the state has declined from 47 to 39 percent. Tuition and fees, meanwhile, have increased from 12 to 17 percent of those budgets.
- ▶ During the same time that the state's support of higher education has declined, total institutional enrollments have increased by 40 percent and community college enrollments have doubled.

- ▶ Higher education is inextricably linked to economic development. It is now estimated that more than 60 percent of new jobs require postsecondary education. Kentucky ranks 48th among the states in percentage of its adult population with college degrees.
- ▶ Kentucky continues to spend less on higher education than the average of our neighboring states. Despite similar fiscal situations, those states have somehow managed to find the money to support their systems at a higher level than Kentucky.
- ▶ If Kentucky fails to respond to the SREB call for a higher priority for higher education, and our neighboring states do, then our relative position will be further eroded.

Accordingly, the Kentucky Advocates for Higher Education propose the following commitment for action from 1995 Gubernatorial candidates:

- ▶ During the first biennium of the administration, we propose that higher education receive an increase in funding that would bring higher education to 100 percent of the average, actual funding level of colleges and universities in our neighboring states. Adjusted for inflation, this would require a 7 percent increase each year of the biennium, or approximately \$52 million in the first year of the biennium and approximately \$54 million in the second year.
- ▶ During the second biennium of the administration we propose that funding move beyond the average, actual funding level of colleges and universities in neighboring states with which we compare ourselves. In the long term, the state should commit to a Kentucky Higher Education Performance Funding Model which would make Kentucky competitive with the rest of the nation.
- ▶ Increases in funding would be used to offset inflation and fixed costs, improve faculty/staff salaries, enhance quality, recognize performance, and address equity within the system. Institutions would be expected to use the increased resources for enhancement of quality consistent with their missions, the strategic plan, and the advancement of the Commonwealth's economy. Performance will be evaluated through the established accountability processes. Equity should be addressed so that each component of the system, universities and community colleges, is funded appropriately when compared to peer institutions in neighboring states.
- ▶ If the funding request can be achieved, the CHE should maintain its present tuition policy which is designed to set tuition based on Kentuckians' ability to pay and the comparable level of tuition in neighboring states.
- ▶ State-funded student financial assistance programs should be increased at the same percentage level as tuition increases, in order to help ensure access to higher education.

The Kentucky Advocates for Higher Education continue to promote the cause of higher education because we remain convinced that our ability as a state to provide meaningful employment opportunities for our people largely depends upon our system of higher education. We feel strongly that the current trend of diminishing state support is a short-sighted strategy that erodes the quality of our institutions and undermines the ability of higher education to contribute to Kentucky's economic progress. We ask you to join us to ensure that higher education receives the resources it needs to build a better future for our state.