

Minutes
Meeting of the Faculty Senate
September 18, 2001

Chairperson Joel Piperberg called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM in Chryst 210. All departments were represented.

Report of the Faculty Senate Chairperson

Chairperson Piperberg declared that due to the delay in their distribution, the Minutes of the September 4 meeting will be approved at the next meeting, along with the Minutes of today's meeting. Announcements

(1) Chairperson Piperberg announced that Tom Bell had been elected to two Committees that meet at the same time. When asked which he preferred to serve on, Dr. Bell said that he wished to serve on UCPRC. The vacant seat was given to the other candidate for that seat Dr. James Valle. Dr. Debbie Sigel was elected to two Committees at the last meeting and resigned from the Faculty Student Athletic Committee leaving another open seat on that Committee. Currently, there are two nominees for those seats (Rich Frerichs & Dieter Ullrich). Another election is needed however, since one seat has a three-year term and the other a one-year term. Further nominees are welcome.

(2) The Provost has approved the proposal for changes in the Honors Program involving the deletion of the requirement for a minimum of 2 honors courses in each of the academic areas, (G1, G2, & G3).

Report of the Student Senate President

Student Senate President Danz reported that the 2000-2001 "Person of The Year" awards had been held and that pictures were presently on the wall of the SMC; he also reported that Student Senate has composed a "Resolution" condemning acts of terrorism. The President went on to thank all of those who participated in the Forum last Monday on terrorism.

Report of the Graduate Student Organization President None.

Report of the Administrative Officers

President Caputo outlined the reasoning behind the University's response to the terrorist attacks on New York and the Washington, D. C. area. He said that the decision to continue classes provided a chance for students and faculty to discuss these events. The continuation of relatively normal activities and the opportunity for dialogue that it provided apparently helped both students and faculty begin to deal with these horrific events.

Provost McNairy said that the Counseling Center had been extremely supportive of students in distress. She went on to report that the first Fall Open House for high school students and their parents would be held on the September 29. She encouraged faculty and present MU students to attend as a strong show of support.

Dr. Phillips reported that the Academic Advisement Workshop was successful. She announced that there would be another workshop during which implementation and assessment strategies would be discussed at 4:30 PM (preceded by a 3:00 PM conversation) on October 4, 2001.

Dr. Stager reported that registration went smoothly and that enrollment was strong; 100 students above last year. He further reported that the new Add/Drop period would go into effect Spring 2002, at which time students would have one week only to add and/or drop courses.

Reports of the Faculty Senate Standing Committees

Sepi Yalda from the University Theme Committee passed out that Committee's recommendation (see attachment) for the 2002 - 2003 University Theme. The proposed theme is "Crossing Boundaries: Decolonizing the Curriculum". The motion to name this theme as the 2002- 2003 University Theme passed without dissent.

Reports of the Faculty Senate Special Committees

Chairperson Piperberg announced that there was now a Humanities Seat open on the Ad Hoc Honor Code Committee and urged Senators to urge colleagues to accept nomination to the now-open seat. Jen Miller had to resign due to scheduling conflicts with the new meeting times this year.

Proposed Courses and Programs None.

Faculty Emeritus None.

Discussion of Cancellation of Classes Due to Weather

The Senate took up discussion of snow delays and cancellations. In order to facilitate a possible implementation by Spring 2002 for at least part of such a proposal, Senate decided to discuss the issue of one- and two-hour snow delays first; it was felt that this issue might lend itself to a simpler solution. Two models were proposed last Spring (see attachments to September 4, 2001 minutes). In one- and two-hour delays, the first and sometimes the second class of the day can be greatly impacted in semesters when the University experiences snow/weather delays, especially if there are delays on more than one day. Both attached proposals suggest models for taking time from a number of classes to make up the time that has been lost to the delay. In this way, a number of classes may lose 6 - 12 minutes instead of one or two classes being eliminated completely. The models have the potential to cause confusion, but once a model is decided upon discussion suggested that Senate members believe that sufficient publicity about the policy and availability of the delay schedule on the Website and perhaps in each semester's course registration roster might alleviate this problem somewhat. Rather than designate a specific model, a Fenwick/Wisner motion/resolution to ask the Administration to consider a delay schedule, using the two proposals as models, was passed.

Discussion continued on the issue of full snow days. Given the alternatives, the difficulties in solving this problem appear to be greater. After a preliminary exchange of ideas, discussion was suspended to allow time for elections.

The meeting adjourned at 5:25.

Respectfully submitted,

Jen Miller
Recorder

Action Summary
Faculty Senate Meeting
September 18, 2001

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Attachment A
Faculty Senate Minutes
September 18, 2001

University Theme Committee 2000-2001 Report

Sepi Yalda, Chair Earth Sciences
Inese Wheeler Counseling
Alan Kelly English
Tom O'Brien Educational Foundations
Tim McDevitt Mathematics
Ann Gantt Social Work
Todd Mealy Student Senate Representative

Proposed Themes for the 2002-2003 Academic Theme

1. Crossing Boundaries: Decolonializing the Curriculum

Proposed by: Leroy Hopkins (Foreign Languages)

Other participants: Beverly Skinner, Steve Centola, Steven Miller, Kirsten Bookmiller, Kenneth Shields, Diane Umble, Khalil Hamid, Marjorie Warmkessel, Sam Casselberry

2. A Commitment to Honor and Excellence

Proposed by: Kathy Schreiber (Geography)

3. Emerging Opportunities for Graduates of the 21st Century

Proposed by: Rich Clark (Earth Sciences)

4. Unity through Diversity

Proposed by: Millersville University Commission on Cultural Diversity

Recommendation:

Crossing Boundaries: Decolonializing the Curriculum

Crossing Boundaries: Decolonializing the Curriculum

A small collaborative consisting of representatives from Economics, English, Communications/Theater, Foreign Languages, International Studies, and Honors Program has formed with the intent of applying to host the academic

theme for 2002-03. We intend to title the theme: "Crossing Boundaries: Decolonializing the Curriculum. Should our theme be chosen, then we will attempt to get Dr. Edward Said (author of **Orientalism** and many other standard works of cultural criticism) as a keynote speaker to kick-off what we hope will be a two semester-long program of workshops, speakers, films, and reading groups. Dr. Said is internationally recognized as one of the leading critics of culture living today. His works are routinely cited along with "classicists" such as Foucault, Derrida, Lacan, etc. His appearance on campus would attract attention throughout the system. Consequently, we are going to ask him if he would be willing to participate in a system-wide video conference that would allow students and faculty at all 14 campuses to interact with him. Likewise, the Honors Program is contemplating having one of his books on the reading list for Honors Program freshmen. Both Dr. Said's visit and the reading/discussion activities would be inaugural events. During the rest of the year we would invite speakers to engage in workshop/course development activities that would address the theme in each school. Specific goal would be to create a dialogue on the topic and its ramifications for the Schools of Education, Humanities/Social Sciences, and Science and Math.

2. Working with Millersville's Public Relations office we would saturate local media as well as contact the PR offices at the other SSHE campuses. To insure wide local participation in the activities we will replicate the activities funded several years ago by SSHE as part of its diversity mandate, viz. inculcating race, gender, and class into the general education program. Under that rubric we had curriculum design workshops for each school. Having the reading/discussion activity as well as an appropriate film series we can build on ongoing activities and in some cases create a new focus for them. To make the workshops effective we will contact colleagues from each school to have them participate in the planning.

3. Dr. Said's visit will be a major event that will most certainly fill Lyte auditorium. After the initial planning phase we will design other activities which can be in part funded by grants from the Pennsylvania Councils on the Arts and Humanities (I have contacts to both bodies and served two terms on the latter).

4. Student affair staff will be directly involved in the planning of student activities. We intend not just to have an impact on the curriculum but also on extracurricular program as well. I can envision numerous student service projects related to our theme and that would expose students to cultural contexts and traditions with which they are unfamiliar. Student affairs can help

organize that participation and perhaps support it through campus television and radio.

5. We will use a simple evaluation tool: a questionnaire that asks audience members to reflect on and react to the presentations. Faculty will be encouraged to bring their classes and to attend themselves. Afterwards, I would hope that open fora could deal with the issues raised by Dr. Said and other visitors whom we may be able to bring to campus.