

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FACULTY SENATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Room 103, Law Building, Monday, December 5, 1949

The Faculty Senate convened in regular session at 3:40 p.m. on Monday, December 5, in Room 103 of the Law Building. Twenty-nine members were present, with President McCormick presiding.

CORRECTION OF MINUTES: Mr. Leasher pointed out an omission in the minutes of November 7 in the last paragraph on page 5. Following "administration" in the third line, add "of delinquent reports. It was clear from the Minutes of both the Council and the Senate that no action had been taken changing the administration." The minutes were approved with the addition, on motion by Mr. Leasher, with a second by Dean Andersen.

RETIREMENT PLAN, DISCUSSION OF: Dr. McCormick called on Professor Howard for a report on the status of the retirement system.

Professor Howard reminded the Senate that the Retirement Act as enacted at the last election provided that no benefits were to be paid under the Act until January 1, 1950, the presumption being that benefits would then be paid. The Act also provides definitely that persons 70 years of age who have 15 years or more of service as of January 1, 1950, shall be compulsorily retired and shall receive retirement benefits. However, no funds have been appropriated by the Legislature to pay these benefits. Under recent action of the Board of Regents, the provision has been made to take from the payroll during the first two weeks of January those members of the faculty who fall in the above classification. There are 25 in this group. These persons will then apply for the retirement benefits. Presumably, however, the Retirement Board will notify them that no benefits are available, the Board of Regents' action permitting in this event their being put back on the payroll as of January 1. Some legal problems may arise, since the law requires compulsory retirement; and if they are returned to the payroll, the State Auditor may refuse to pay them. The whole problem can be solved only by having the Legislature appropriate funds for the Retirement Plan. The Governor of the State is reported to have agreed to include the question of such appropriation in the call for any special session of the Legislature, if one is called.

President McCormick explained that virtually everything that could be done about the Retirement Plan had been done by the Board of Regents. He indicated, also, that in addition to the group of 25 mentioned above, there are other members of the faculty over 70 who have not served 15 years. This second group would be able to continue in service until age 75 and then be eligible for retirement. He asked if the Senate felt that a meeting of the general faculty would be helpful for the purpose of informing the members of the faculty of the situation.

Professor Howard pointed out that until there are funds available for administrative purposes in connection with the work of the Retirement Board, the Board cannot even employ the actuary to make the study which is necessary before there can be compliance with the requirement of the law that the Governor be notified by the 1st of November, 1950, of the amount needed for the forthcoming biennium.

The President reported that the Attorney General and the State Auditor are of the opinion that when claims reach the Retirement Board there will probably be questions arising which can be submitted to the courts for clarification, but such action would not provide necessary funds to implement the Retirement Plan. He added that every department of the State is affected by the compulsory retirement plan, but probably none of them to the extent to which the University is affected. The State Tax Commission has only one person involved. It was his judgment, also, that members of the Legislature are now looking with somewhat more favor on the retirement plan than when it was first considered. Money is being collected from State departments and a fund created about which the Legislature has done nothing.

It was Dr. Schneck's opinion that the members of the general faculty are interested in having some assurance that steps will be taken by somebody in a position to do so to present this matter to the Legislature. The only question is who is going to do something about it?

President McCormick again indicated that if there were to be legislative relief within the next year the matter would have to be considered in a special session and to that end included in the Governor's call. He felt that it would be a good plan to have a meeting of the general faculty and asked if the Senate would want to adopt a resolution proposing to the general faculty that it go on record as recommending that the Board of Regents ask the Governor to include this question in his call in the event there is a special session.

The Senate took no formal action.

EXAMINATIONS, RECOMMENDATION FOR EARLY SENIOR: The Secretary read the following recommendation from the Advisory Council: "That senior records for the first semester be closed one week prior to the opening of final examinations as scheduled for those degree candidates who have received teaching appointments." It was explained that graduates in the College of Education who have accepted teaching positions need to file evidence of completion of such requirements with the office of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction in order to obtain a teaching certificate as a prerequisite for undertaking their teaching assignments. Frequently, these certificates are not available at the time a teacher starts his work, and he must be allowed to do so temporarily in violation of State law. Dean Clarson suggested that, under the circumstances, some provision be made to allow seniors who have accepted teaching appointments to take examinations somewhat earlier than the period scheduled for final examinations for the first semester.

Dean Clarson explained, in answer to a question by the President, that it was not known at this time just how many seniors would be affected by the proposed regulation, but that last year 14 degree candidates completed work at midyear in his college and 11 of these took positions and began teaching immediately thereafter. In addition, there were nine others who had degrees but who needed to complete additional work for the certificate. He explained that the Credentials Secretary in the office of the Registrar would have a list of those students who are completing degree requirements.

Dean Clarson moved, with a second by Dr. Garretson, that the recommendation be approved.

In reply to a question by Dean Brown, Dean Clarson explained that the

information establishing the identity of the students who would be allowed to take early examinations would be provided jointly by his office and that of the Registrar. This information would be available prior to the time the early examinations were held.

Dean Harvill suggested that the problem be resolved by having the final examinations for the students in question checked first by the instructors concerned so that reports could be submitted without delay.

Dean Clarson pointed out that every effort has been made to expedite the checking of records and the filing of reports with the State Superintendent's Office but that it is impossible to get grades from instructors for students who complete work on the final Saturday of examination week and who need credentials in order to start teaching on Monday.

It was Dr. Houghton's judgment that the problem referred to would not justify adjustment in the final examination schedule, even though it were provided that all students who had employment opportunities at midyear be included.

Miss Gillmor asked if the student might be employed on a temporary certificate, but Dean Clarson explained that while temporary certificates are available under certain conditions, such certificates are not more quickly obtained than the regular certificates. Dr. Garretson explained that legally the teacher is unauthorized to enter a classroom without a certificate and that he cannot legally be paid for any teaching done prior to the time the certificate is issued.

Dean Butler asked if there would be assurance that certificates could be issued in time to meet the needs of the teachers if the adjustment were made in the examination schedule. Dean Clarson indicated that provision could be made to speed up the processing of applications for certificates in such a way as to solve the problem. He reported that preliminary reports would be sent to the State Department of Education giving all the information that that department needs, except a final report of grades and completion of degree requirements. When this latter report is received, very little time is needed to issue the certificate.

He explained, in response to a question by Professor Borgquist, that instructors in a number of departments might find it necessary to arrange for a special examination schedule if the recommendation were passed and that the adjustment would not be limited to courses in education.

The question being called for, the motion passed.

MEMBERSHIP, ELECTION TO: The Secretary referred to a report from the Election Committee in connection with the need to elect a successor to Dr. Leon Pultz.

Dr. Roy nominated Dr. Laurence Gray. This nomination was seconded by Dean Brown. Dr. Garretson moved that the voting be done by ballot, with the second by Professor A. S. Andersen.

Dr. Roy then withdrew his motion, with approval of his second, and moved that the Senate proceed to elect by ballot without regard to specific nominations. This motion was seconded by Dr. Houghton and carried.

The President appointed Dr. Cardon and Dr. Warner to act as tellers, and when the report was received, he announced that Dr. Laurence Gray had been elected a member of the Senate to succeed Dr. Pultz.

LATIN-AMERICAN EXCHANGES, POLICY RE: This matter had been postponed from the last meeting, at which time Dr. Barnes had moved that a letter be written to the Committee of Eleven saying that nothing can be done about exchanges with Latin-American countries. This motion had been seconded by Dr. Garretson.

Dr. Barnes explained that he wished to withdraw his motion and that Dr. Garretson had concurred in this.

Miss Gillmor explained that many members of the faculty, particularly those who are members of the Latin-American Affairs Committee, have been much concerned because it has not been possible to arrange for exchanges of professors and students of Latin-American countries. She moved the adoption of the following recommendation from the Latin Affairs Committee: "That a committee be appointed to draw up a proposal for an amendment to the State Constitution to enable the University and the two state colleges (and other state agencies interested for possible technical reasons) to participate in the exchange of students and professors (or technicians) through the expenditure of public funds, and further that the committee investigate the best means for seeking the adoption of this amendment by the voters of the state." Miss Gillmor's motion was seconded by Dr. Roy.

It was President McCormick's opinion that the proposal was ill-timed, in view of the general public reaction to the foreign situation. The presence of foreign teachers suggests to many individuals that the Institution is interested in promulgating foreign theories.

Miss Gillmor explained that it was not the plan to bring any exchange professors from Russia or Communist-controlled countries. The Federal Government has an extensive program for encouraging exchanges, she reported, and removal of present restrictions in the State would put the University more in line with the Federal program.

Dr. Barnes felt that the present restriction imposed by the State Constitution was too stringent. He had reviewed the matter with Dr. Bork, Chairman of the Latin-American Affairs Committee, who was reported to feel that any proposed change would have to have at least the tacit approval of the Board of Regents. He would like to have the formal approval of the Board, without having them become involved in any active campaign for the change in the State Constitution.

Miss Gillmor pointed out that the present restriction affected all departments, not just the Spanish Department or those immediately concerned with Latin-American relations. She called attention to the request made some ten years ago by the Federal Office of Education that the University recommend members of its staff in fields other than Spanish for appointments in Latin-America. At that time a number of teachers in technical fields were sent by the Federal Government. It was her judgment that something be done to the end that the University not only provide teachers in other countries but have the benefit of welcoming foreign teachers to its staff.

The President pointed out that under the Constitution all members of the

faculty and staff must be citizens of the United States and all manual and mechanical laborers employed by the State, such as the buildings and grounds staff of the University, must not only be citizens, but also residents of the State for at least a year before being employed. The intention of this requirement indicates the general position with respect to the employment of foreigners. He again questioned the timeliness of the proposal and suggested that employment of foreign teachers might create the impression in the public that the Institution is interested in promulgating foreign theories.

Dr. Carpenter raised a question as to the situation at the University of California, explaining that a number of foreign scientists were employed on the staff of that institution during the war.

Dean Butler stated that the foreign members of the staff in California were undoubtedly being supported on Federal grants for research work and that apparently California has a restriction similar to our own.

The question being called for, the motion lost.

DEFERRED GRADES, RECOMMENDATION RE: The Secretary read a recommendation submitted by the Committee of Eleven as follows: "These grades (deferred grades) may be removed for credit within one year at a subsequent regularly scheduled final examination, except where a student would otherwise be prevented from graduating or where such scheduling conflicts with another scheduled examination." This wording would be substituted for the present wording: "These grades may be removed for credit within one year at the convenience of the instructor by extra class requirements or special examination...."

Dr. Schneck stated that it was the intention of the Committee of Eleven to limit their recommendation to the removal of the grade of "Incomplete" when such grade was to be removed by examination.

Objection was made to the proposal on the ground that it would in many cases work a hardship on students and that such a regulation should not make it impossible for the student to remove a deferred grade a short time after it was awarded.

Dr. Schneck argued that a clear-cut statement as to when the examination could be taken would be helpful to instructors and that the phrase "convenience of the instructor" did not meet the need of the faculty.

Dean Clarson moved to table the recommendation and the motion was seconded by Professor Howard, but was lost.

Dr. Roberts moved that the recommendation be approved, explaining that he was opposed to it. The motion was seconded by Professor Howard and lost.

REGISTRATION FOR CREDIT, RECOMMENDATION RE REDUCTION OF PERIOD OF: A communication was read from the Committee of Eleven calling attention to action taken by the Senate on February 7, 1949, reducing the period of registration for credit from two weeks to one week, providing that a similar adjustment in the academic calendar is made by Arizona State College at Tempe. The communication expressed the hope that this action would be followed up and the further recommendation that the Senate take steps to have a uniform regulation for all institutions under the joint Board of Regents regarding this matter of late registration.

The Secretary explained that following the action of February 7, 1949, it had been discovered that Arizona State College at Tempe was not in favor of reducing the period of registration for credit, and no change was made in the two-week period as calendared.

President McCormick raised the question of whether or not the Senate would wish to take some action recommending to the faculty of Arizona State College at Tempe that the period of registration for credit be reduced. Dr. Garretson suggested that the chairman of the University faculty get in touch with the chairman of the faculty at Tempe to see if something could be done. President McCormick felt that this might be the best way of handling the matter.

Registrar Leshner suggested that it would be awkward to change the calendar for this year or next year, since our published announcement indicates a period of two weeks of registration for credit. A supplementary statement could be published in the summer, but it would be confusing to the prospective student. He suggested that since the question has already been raised once with State College, it would be desirable to have the University consider the matter on its merits for itself. This suggestion was supported by Dr. Houghton and Dr. Mary Caldwell.

Dr. Garretson moved that the chairman of the faculty be instructed to communicate with the faculty of State College on this and other matters of joint interest. The motion was seconded by Dr. Houghton.

It was Dr. Roberts' opinion that the motion seemed inadequate, inasmuch as the chairman of the faculty has had no expression from the Senate as to its opinion on the matter. He wished to amend the motion to have an indication of the opinion of the Senate. This amendment was seconded by Professor A. S. Andersen, and accepted by Dr. Garretson. Dr. Schneck, as chairman of the faculty, indicated that he would like to have an expression of opinion from the faculty.

Dr. Roberts explained his amendment to the motion by stating that the recommendation of the Senate should be reported to the general faculty that the period of registration be reduced, effective with publication of the next catalogue, and that, assuming acceptance by the faculty, the Chairman should then discuss the matter with the Chairman of the Faculty at State College at Tempe.

The motion to amend was passed by the Senate.

President McCormick asked if the motion as passed was clear to all members of the Senate. Dean Harvill then moved to reconsider the motion. This motion was seconded by Professor Schwalen and passed.

Dr. Roberts stated that much of the difficulty encountered by the Senate in considering this and other matters seems to come from trying to word motions on the spur of the moment. He then moved that a committee be appointed to draw up a carefully-worded motion expressing the general thought that was agreed on here and to present it for consideration at the next meeting of the Senate. This motion was seconded by Dr. Garretson. The motion was passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35. Dean Clarson said that he would ask that a special session be called for the 19th of this month for the purpose of working on the summer session catalogue.


U. Zaner Leshner, Secretary