

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE FACULTY SENATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA  
 Monday, December 2, 1963 Room 111, BPA Building

The Faculty Senate convened in regular session at 3:40 P.M. on Monday, December 2, 1963, in Room 111 of the College of Business and Public Administration. Thirty-seven members were present with President Harvill presiding. Dean Kirby also attended the meeting.

PRESENT: Bartlett, Brewer, Delaplane, Edwin Gaines, Gegenheimer, Gillmor, Gustavson, Hall, Harvill, Hillman, Hudson, Johnson, Kurtz, Lacy, Little, Lynn, Lyons, McMillan, Matsch, Moore, Muir, Harold Myers, Louis Myers, Patrick, Paylore, Powell, Resnich, Herbert Rhodes, Roy, Siegel, Simonian, Steelink, Svob, Vavich, Wallraff, Wilson, Windsor.

ABSENT: Blecha, Carlson, Conley, Forrester, F.P.Gaines, Kassander, J.M.Rhodes, Picard, Pistor, Rappeport, Yoshino.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the meeting of November 4, 1963 were approved as published.

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT: President Harvill distributed to members of the Senate for their information copies of two statements released by the Board of Regents. One was a report of the Board's Budget Committee concerning operating budgets for the three institutions of higher education in Arizona for the fiscal year 1964-65. The other was a report of the same committee concerning capital outlay for the three institutions for 1964-65. The President explained that these statements had been released to the press some time ago. He thought the Senate members would be interested in the full statements, however, since press coverage of the statements had not been good.

The President referred to the recent announcement by the Regents that the new medical school would be located on the thirty acres of University campus land now referred to as Polo Village, only a few blocks from the main campus in Tucson. The Board had decided to decline the offer of the Tucson Medical Center to turn over its facilities to the University for a teaching hospital. The Board had felt that Tucson Medical Center facilities would be unsuitable for medical education. The necessary modifications and additions to that hospital would have been so costly that the project would have been more expensive in the long run than to build a teaching hospital on the campus.

Dr. Harvill reported that both the Senate Appropriations Committee and the House Appropriations Committee had recently visited the campus to learn first-hand what the University's needs are, particularly so far as capital outlay is concerned. He said he felt the members of both committees had become very much aware of the University's space needs. He said the members of the committees had been favorably impressed by new buildings on the campus completed in the last few years and by the use to which the University was putting them.

Dr. Siegel asked if it was intended eventually to build the University teaching hospital on the Polo Village area. Dr. Harvill said that it was the consensus that the hospital should be built immediately adjacent to the other medical school facilities, adjacent to the main campus. Other medical schools have found that this is by far the preferable arrangement.

RECOMMENDATION FROM COMMITTEE OF ELEVEN, CONSIDERATION OF: The Senate considered a recommendation from the Committee of Eleven as follows:

The rapid and extensive growth of research on this campus in recent years and the promise of continued expansion into new areas of research have created a concern for greater attention to matters of safety.

A preliminary examination of our present procedures for promulgating safety in existing laboratories and for providing new facilities with recognized safety features has revealed some serious deficiencies in current practices.

In order to correct these situations it is recommended that:

(1) Recognized safety experts be employed to make a thorough survey of existing facilities and render a report to guide in the correction of deficiencies.

(2) An independent office of full-time safety engineer with adequate budget and authority be established by the University of Arizona.

(3) A standing faculty safety committee be established to work with the safety engineer. The function of this committee would be to maintain a constant check on hazards, maintain a training program in safety and foster an awareness of safety in research and teaching.

Miss Paylore, Chairman of the Committee of Eleven, explained that this topic had been discussed by the Committee over a long period of time and the Committee felt now it was appropriate to submit to the Senate these recommendations. She explained that the recommendations resulted from a particular study of two existing buildings by a sub-committee of the Committee of Eleven. The findings of this study would be made available to any faculty committee created, she said. She pointed out that in conducting certain kinds of research, the investigation enters areas dealing with unknown reactions. Further, investigations involving high pressures and low temperatures can be expected to dominate research programs increasingly in the future. Accidents are bound to happen in such research for this is the very nature of research itself. Safety precautions should be taken beforehand to minimize the danger to human life. It is such precautions that it is hoped the standing committee would establish.

Miss Paylore then moved that the recommendations submitted by the Committee of Eleven be adopted and implemented as soon as possible. The motion was seconded by Dr. Gegenheimer.

Dr. Harvill said he would be glad to appoint a committee to study this important matter. He said he felt that the creation of the committee should be the first step. The committee then could study the total subject with care, to provide evidence which the President could use to support requests for additional funds which might be needed to implement a more elaborate safety program.

Dean Roy said that a faculty safety committee could be very helpful in providing information necessary to implement the first two recommendations. Miss Paylore said that the Committee of Eleven would like to have a Safety Committee appointed promptly, with the hope that the other recommendations could be implemented as soon as possible, perhaps based on recommendations of the faculty committee.

The question then arose whether the Senate should vote on all three recommendations from the Committee of Eleven as one motion. It was the consensus that it would be preferable to consider the items individually. Miss Paylore then said she would be willing to amend her motion and would recommend first of all adoption of Recommendation 3. This change in her original motion was approved by her second, Dr. Gegenheimer.

Mr. Svob pointed out that the first sentence of Recommendation 3 referred to a Safety Engineer, referred to in Recommendation 2.

Dr. Gustavson pointed out that when he was working at the University of Chicago closely associated with the development of the atomic bomb, the matter of safety was of particular importance. Dr. Stone of the University of California had the responsibility for safety precautions, Dr. Gustavson said, and he did an outstanding piece of work in seeing to it that hazards were kept to a minimum. Industry must give constant attention to this matter and does a remarkable job in doing so, he said. The regrettable thing is that research personnel often are not sufficiently safety conscious themselves. What is necessary, he emphasized, is to make all research personnel, and here we are talking about our own faculty, more safety conscious. He said he hoped that any faculty Safety Committee would take as its first responsibility the commission to make every member of the University faculty safety conscious. Every department should make a careful analysis of its own safety procedures. With the guidance of a Faculty Safety Committee, with the cooperation of every department on campus making a survey of its own situation, and with the counsel of Mr. Houston, the University's Physical Plant Director, who has had experience as a safety engineer, Dr. Gustavson felt that much could be accomplished. So far as obtaining the assistance of outside safety experts, Dr. Gustavson felt confident that industry could be prevailed upon to provide such professional assistance to the University if it was felt outside assistance was needed.

Dr. Muir said perhaps the Senate would be interested in the findings of the Committee of Eleven Sub-committee on Safety which had made a preliminary study of this matter. Dr. Vavich had been Chairman of that committee. Dr. Muir said he had been impressed by the fact that the committee had found that danger lay not only in such areas as possibility of explosions, etc., but in such simple matters as doors opening inward instead of outward.

Dr. Vavich stated that Director Houston had been in accord with the report on the two buildings included in the preliminary survey and had been grateful to have deficiencies called to his attention.

Dr. Harvill said certainly everyone was agreed that all members of the University faculty and staff should be made as safety conscious as possible. Without doubt many additional safety measures should be taken. The question is, what would be the most appropriate procedure to follow in handling this matter. Before bringing in outside safety experts, Dr. Harvill suggested consideration be given to using the talents of members of our own faculty.

Dean Harold Myers commented that he assumed any Faculty Safety Committee created would work closely with Mr. Houston.

Dr. Harvill said it seemed to him that the first need was to create a Faculty Committee on Safety. This committee should then work with the departments in an effort to make all members of the faculty safety conscious. Departments could survey their own situations. If the committee then felt that a full-time safety engineer is needed to maintain adequate safety precautions on this campus, to keep the faculty alert to danger, to see that hazards at all times are kept to a minimum, then he would see to it that a full-time safety engineer was appointed.

Dr. Gegenheimer said he felt the real desire of the Committee of Eleven was to get a faculty committee organized and at work.

At this point there was general uncertainty as to just where the discussion had led so far as acting on the original motion was concerned. By consent it was then agreed that any earlier motions were withdrawn.

Miss Paylore then moved that in considering the recommendations from the Committee of Eleven, the Senate should first request the President to appoint a Faculty Safety Committee to investigate the entire matter of safety on the campus, with the understanding that subsequent actions taken relating to surveys of existing facilities, appointment of a safety engineer, etc. would be based on recommendations by the Faculty Safety Committee. Dean Harold Myers seconded this motion.

Dr. Harvill said he wanted the Senate to be assured that his office would give the committee full support. If it is felt that outside assistance is needed beyond the competence of our own faculty members, such assistance would be obtained, he said.

Dr. Kurtz told of an experience he had had some years ago on this campus when he was working as a graduate student where there was a fire in the laboratory. In attempting to control the fire, it was discovered the fire extinguishers would not operate, the fire hoses from the hallway would not reach the laboratory, and when they were turned on, the hoses leaked so badly no water would come from the hoses. Extensive fire damage was the result. This had happened in the Agriculture Building.

Dr. Kurtz said similar situations exist today in some buildings on the campus. Faculty members are so busy with the host of responsibilities, he said, that they do not have sufficient time to spend on safety surveys even though they might be competent to do so. He said he felt what was needed was personnel employed to give full time to the institution's safety program. Dr. Steelink said he agreed fully with Dr. Kurtz's remarks. He said the University needed a designated safety engineer.

Dr. Harvill said that it was very possible that the decision finally would be to establish such a position but sufficient evidence must be collected first. To collect such evidence would be one of the responsibilities of the Safety Committee.

Dr. Gustavson said he would like to emphasize again the importance of educating our own faculty members in the importance of safety. He gave as an example of poor procedure the practice of permitting undergraduates to do laboratory work without wearing safety goggles.

The question was called for and the motion carried. Dr. Harvill said that the committee appointments would be made at an early date.

GENERAL MATTERS: Dr. Gegenheimer asked the President if the Board of Regents was studying the matter of liability insurance in light of a recent Arizona Supreme Court decision ruling that agencies of the State of Arizona are subject to liable suit.

Dr. Harvill said that the Board of Regents was studying the entire matter. The Board has requested that information be compiled on the costs of insurance to take care of damages which might result from such suits.

The President commented that he wished that the University might do something further to enrich the educational experience of the superior student. He explained that he was referring to what happens to these students before they come to the University. He referred to the fact that the Advanced Placement Program is not developing in Arizona high schools outside of the Tucson area. The President said he wondered if the Committee of Eleven might study this matter in the hope of finding means to encourage the high schools of Arizona to develop more challenging and rewarding programs for their superior students.

Dr. Patrick explained that secondary school administrators in other areas of the state are now showing more interest in developing an Advanced Placement program. Dean Moore said he felt this was a matter which the High School Visitor could appropriately encourage. Miss Paylore said that she would ask the Committee of Eleven at its next meeting if that group was interested in pursuing this subject.

Dean Moore explained that efforts to encourage the superior student should be begun before the high school level. He referred to an experimental program sponsored by the University which has just begun, involving selected sixth grade students. These students are spending part of each school day on the University campus in a program developed by the College of Education and Tucson District Number One. The students meet in the new College of Education Building.

Dr. Gillmor said she would like to call the Senate's attention to the two issues of the ARIZONA WILDCAT issued at the occasion of President Kennedy's assassination. The first issue came out on Friday afternoon, a few hours after the assassination. The second one was issued on Saturday morning and included a number of photographs showing reaction of the University community to the President's death.

On Miss Gillmor's motion, the Senate voted to commend the staff of the WILDCAT for its splendid work in preparing the two issues of the newspaper covering the University community's reaction to the death of the President. The motion praised both the promptness with which the extra editions were issued and the quality of the newswriting and the news-photography of the two issues. The motion was seconded by Dr. Muir and Dean Roy and was unanimously adopted.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 P.M.

  
David L. Windsor, Secretary