

Summer 7-13-1977

Senate Meeting July 13, 1977

Academic Senate
Illinois State University

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ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES
(Not approved by the Academic Senate)

July 13, 1977

Volume VIII, No. 19

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Meetings of the Academic Senate are open to members of the University community. Persons attending the meetings may participate in discussion with the consent of the Senate.

Persons desiring to bring items to the attention of the Senate may do so by contacting any member of the Senate.

Academic Senate Minutes
(Not approved by the Academic Senate)

July 13, 1977

Volume VIII, No. 19

Call to Order

The meeting of the Academic Senate was called to order by Chairperson Cohen at 7:00 p.m. in Stevenson 401.

Roll Call

The Secretary called the roll and declared a quorum to be present.

Approval of Minutes

VIII, 149 A motion (Kuhn/Quane) to approve the minutes of the June 29, 1977 meeting carried.

Acceptance of Resignation of Senator

VIII, 150 A letter of resignation from the Senate was received by all senators from David VanDeVoort. A motion (Kilroy/Rhodes) to accept Mr. VanDeVoort's resignation with regrets was made and approved on a voice vote.

Seating of New Senators

Monte Law was seated as the new graduate student senator since the number of votes received by him was next highest to those of Mr. VanDeVoort. President Watkins was also welcomed to the Senate as a new member.

Chairperson's Remarks

Chairperson Cohen announced that new fall addresses were needed for the University phone book within the next few days.

Administrators' Remarks

President Watkins announced that he was glad to be at ISU. He had no further remarks.

Provost Horner informed the Senate that the Governor had vetoed the appropriation bill back to the Governor's originally recommended 5% level for salary increases. The Faculty Status Committee report is being finalized for review by faculty members of the Senate in an executive session scheduled for Wednesday, July 20.

The FY78 operating budget has been completed. ISU finds itself nearly \$1/3 million underfunded for anticipated utilities expenditures. We do not

as yet know the outcome of the capital budget. It is on the Governor's desk. We are still hopeful the funds for remodeling Old Milner for use by the College of Business will be approved.

The Board of Regents recently approved a recommendation of \$544,000 for FY79 new and expanded program requests and an 8% salary increase figure.

Student Body President's Remarks

Mr. Rutherford announced that the Student Association is open, and legal service and printing services are available for students during the summer.

Election of Student Member to Executive Committee

VIII, 151 A motion (Christiansen/Rutherford) to postpone the election of a student member to the Executive Committee until the August 31st meeting was made. Mr. Christiansen explained that some students are unable to attend the summer meetings, and student senators would probably like to confer among themselves on the election. Since the new member of the Executive Committee will also serve on the Administrative Affairs Committee, Mr. Goldstein was asked if his committee would be harmed by being without a committee member for that period of time. Mr. Goldstein felt the absence would make little difference at this time. The motion was approved on a voice vote.

CLEP Examination in Mathematics

Mr. Rhodes, Chairperson of the Academic Affairs Committee, distributed to senators a memorandum dated July 7, 1977 describing background information on the CLEP examination in Mathematics and arguments against and for retaining the current policy of awarding University Studies credit to students who score at a satisfactory level on the CLEP General Examination in Mathematics. He also distributed "The ISU CLEP Policy: A Series of Evaluative Studies" by Ron Halinski and Ross Vogel and "CLEP Exam: Report from Department of Mathematics."

Mr. Rhodes introduced Dr. Albert Otto, Chairperson of the Mathematics Department, who responded to questions concerning the proposal to cease awarding University Studies credit to students who score at a satisfactory level on the CLEP General Examination in Mathematics.

Mr. Carlile asked what differences, if any, exist between the Math CLEP test and the other CLEP tests (in Humanities, Natural Sciences, and Social Sciences). Mr. Otto explained that the Math CLEP covers material which is mostly pre-college level or covered in Math courses which are not available for University Studies credit. He said he could not compare the Science CLEP, for example, with the curriculum in that area and, therefore, could not answer the question.

Mr. Carlile also asked if there had been discussion of counting credit for the Math CLEP toward graduation rather than University Studies. Mr. Otto stated that the Mathematics Department position is that Math CLEP hours should be counted neither for University Studies nor for graduation. Mr. Rhodes added, however, that the question before the Senate is whether or not the Math CLEP hours should be counted for University Studies credit.

Mr. Wilson and Mr. Moonan asked if the Mathematics Department's opposition was to the Math CLEP exam itself or something else, to this Math CLEP or any Math CLEP. Mr. Otto replied that it was this test which concerned them. He could envision another test that would be acceptable. Mr. Sims asked if the Math Department had ideas on how to improve the CLEP exam. Yes, Mr. Otto said, but the external agency is not moving in these directions. Mr. Carlile asked if we could put together our own CLEP exam, but Mr. Otto replied, not and still call it CLEP.

Mr. Quane asked how the committee reporting from the Department of Mathematics was chosen, and Mr. Otto explained they were chosen because of their areas of expertise cover the areas tested in the CLEP examination.

Mr. Wilson asked if it would require more knowledge to get a C grade in Mathematics 104, 5, and 6 than is required to demonstrate proficiency through the CLEP exam. Mr. Otto responded that the content of Math 104, 5, and 6 and CLEP are different. Mr. Ritt added there is no reason to believe that those passing CLEP could get a C in those courses. It is possible that a student passing CLEP could get a C on the basis of other knowledge or a good high school background.

Mr. Moonan asked Mr. Otto to go over what a student misses by taking CLEP and not the math courses. Mr. Otto briefly presented the philosophy of the Math department. It is believed that within the society of today and tomorrow, there is increasing use of Math and that the role of a University Studies course should be one which alerts the student to the role Math takes today. The department would like to develop in the student an appreciation for what Math does for society, probability statistics, computer programming, etc. CLEP does not do this. In addition, Mr. Christiansen, in reference to the Halinski report stated that of the same 36% of students who got credit in CLEP (or about 60 students per year) take no further Math or Science courses.

Mr. Smith asked if there was reluctance to move into the policy against the CLEP exam. Dr. Otto replied that concern was slow at first, but has been building since the Halinski study was completed 5 years ago. Mr. Ritt added that since approximately 1972 or 1973 there have been requests from the University Studies Committee for preparation of an alternative to the CLEP exam which would cover materials of Math 104, 5, and 6. The Math Department had prepared drafts of the proposed proficiency exam then and are now prepared for alternatives to the CLEP exam.

Mr. Goldstein mentioned that caution must be taken when considering the elimination of the exam in the Mathematics department, since other departments might like to do the same thing. CLEP fits into a larger frame to get people who are out of school back in again.

Dr. Otto mentioned that the idea of elimination of the CLEP exam has been brought before national agencies of Mathematics. The response to this proposal is featured in a recent article in Change magazine.

Mr. Rice asked about the status of CLEP and proficiency exams in transferring credit. Mr. Otto answered that the credit would transfer the same as course credit would.

Ms. Kilroy asked what the difference was between the Advanced Placement test

and the CLEP exam. Mr. Cohen explained that the AP is a proficiency test; the CLEP exam is more general and covers a wider range of knowledge.

The question was raised as to whether or not the CLEP credit could be counted toward graduation credit and not to University Studies credit. With reference to the catalog, it was determined that the University policy states that it could not be used for University Studies credit or graduation credit. Mr. Rhodes stated that the Academic Affairs Committee would try to clarify that question and report on it at a later date.

Mr. Otto said that he felt it embarrassing for the Math department to have students majoring in Mathematics who have received six hours credit from CLEP. When asked why he felt this way, he stated that he believed that University performance should be more than performing on a K-8 Math test. If a student has mastered pre-calculus in high school, he should not be given credit on a University level.

Mr. Christiansen asked what are the benefits and harm to both the University and the students in accepting the proposal to eliminate CLEP. Mr. Otto stated that he felt the University would benefit by restoring integrity; the students would benefit by realizing they were not getting cheap credit, and that they would take pride in the credit earned. He felt the University would not be harmed; but that students receiving CLEP credit would be harmed,

Mr. Belshe explained that CLEP has two divisions, one the general examination and the other a series of tests parallel to typical college courses. It's only the general examination that is in question now. Mr. Rutherford asked if the subject matter CLEP, the advanced series, is given at ISU, and Mr. Otto replied in the negative, but he added that University Studies credit is granted for passing certain proficiency examinations.

Mr. Goldstein asked if CLEP is an attractant for returning students. Mr. Otto answered that that number of students is extremely small, although there is no actual report on it.

The discussion was concluded by Mr. Otto's reference to a recent article on CLEP in Change magazine which mentioned the Board's refusal to take a new stance on CLEP.

Committee Reports

Academic Affairs Committee: Mr. Rhodes announced that the CLEP Examination in Mathematics will appear as an action item at the next Senate meeting. The Committee will be sending out information on the proposed new procedures for disestablishment of academic units.

Budget Committee: Ms. Cook reported the Budget Committee met July 6 with Dean Rives to review the Center for Ethnic Studies. In May of 1976 the Senate approved the proposal for a Center for Ethnic Studies with the understanding that the Center be reconsidered by the Budget Committee if new state funds were not forthcoming for the Center. Last month the BHE approved the Center but no funding for it. Mr. Rives recommended and the Committee concurred that the Center be approved with the understanding that funds not be reallocated

internally to support it. Rather the Center should seek outside funding, either from outside grants or future new state appropriations.

Executive Committee: Mr. Christiansen reported that there will be the regular meeting of the Committee at 4:30 p.m. next Wednesday in Hovey 418. The faculty members of the Senate will meet on the same day (July 20, 1977) at 3:00 in Prairie B-C of the University Union.

Faculty Affairs Committee: Mr. Quane stated that the Committee is reviewing the Ethics and Grievance Procedures and it will appear as an information item at the next Senate meeting.

Student Affairs Committee: Mr. Sims reported that the next Committee meeting will be held on July 27, 1977 at 5:30 p.m. in DeGarmo 551 when the student records policy will be completed and the status change in SCERB will be discussed.

Adjournment

VIII, 152 A motion (Emerson/Rice) to adjourn was approved at 8:00.

For the Academic Senate,

Ira Cohen, Chairperson
John K. Boaz, Secretary

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