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Spring 4-24-1991

Senate Meeting, April 24, 1991

Academic Senate Illinois State University

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ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES

April 24, 1991

Volume XXII, No. 14

Call to Order

Roll Call

Approval of Minutes of April 10, 1991

Chairperson's Remarks

Vice Chairperson's Remarks

Student Body President's Remarks

Administrators' Remarks

ACTION ITEMS: 1. Election of Academic Freedom Committee

- 2. Approval of Academic Senate Internal Committees
- 3. Approval of Student Appointments to University Programming Board Committees
- 4. Approval of Civil Service Council Appointment to Economic Well Being Comm.

INFORMATION ITEMS: July-December Academic Senate Meeting Calendar

Communications

Committee Reports

Adjournment

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)

April 24, 1991

Volume XXII, No. 14

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Len Schmaltz called the meeting of the Academic Senate to order at 7:10 p.m. in the Circus Room of the Bone Student Center.

ROLL CALL

Chairperson Schmaltz called the roll and declared a quorum present.

Approval of Minutes of April 10, 1991

XXII-82 Motion to approve Academic Senate Minutes of April 10, 1991 by Schurman (Second, DeRousse) carried on a voice vote.

No Chairperson's Remarks

No Vice Chairperson's Remarks

No Student Body President's Remarks

No Administrators' Remarks

Action Items

1. Election of Academic Freedom Committee and Faculty Ethics and Grievance Committee

SPRING 1991 ACADEMIC FREEDOM COMMITTEE

Robert Bradley, Political Science Douglas Hardwick, Psychology Niles Holt, History Eric Johnson, Geography-Geology Barbara Lazerson, Curriculum & Instruction Janice Neuleib, English John Rehm, Music Shailesh Tipnis, Mathematics Alternates: Robert Hemenway, SED George Padavil, EAF Barbara Kurtz, FOR Nzwe Nnakwe, HEC Manhar Thakore, Milner Lib.

Faculty Ethics and Grievance Committee election postponed until May 1, 1991, due to disturbance from protestors.

2. Approval of Academic Senate Internal Committees

XXII-83 Motion by Lowery (Second, Stevens) to approve Internal Committee Assignments for 1991-92 carried on a voice vote.

ACADEMIC SENATE INTERNAL COMMITTEES 1991-92

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

*Paula Pomerenke, B.E.A. *Keith Stearns, S.E.D. Doug Hesse, English Robert K. Ritt, Math Rick Whitacre, Agriculture Catherine Batsche, Provost Office (EX OFFICIO) Dan Cox, Student, (Political Science) David DeRousse, Student (Environmental Health) Matt Hopkins, Student (Political Science)

ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS

*Susan Amster, Art Mark Comadena, Communication Ron Mottram, Theatre Pat Meckstroth, Milner Library Curtis White, English James Alexander, VPBF (EX OFFICIO) John Pitocco, Student (Marketing) Jason Camp, Student (Marketing) Bartt Stevens, Student (GS)

BUDGET COMMITTEE

*Jan Cook, Applied Computer Science *George Tuttle, Communication Wayne Nelsen, Industrial Technology Ken Newgren, MQM James Alexander, VPBF (EX OFFICIO) David A. Strand, Provost (EX OFFICIO) Charles Hall, Graduate Student (Biology) Shelly Adams, Student (Chemistry) Kathy Touhy, Student (Communication)

FACULTY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Thomas Baer, Curriculum & Instruction Glenn Collier, Biology Khalid Razaki, Accounting Paul Walker, Agriculture Harvey Zeidenstein, Political Science Anita Webb-Lupo, Provost Ofc. (EX OFFICIO) Todd Lowery, Student (Communication) *Matt Shimkus, Student (Political Science)

RULES COMMITTEE

*Rob Engelhardt, Student Vice Chair (FAL)
Larry Fryda, Industrial Technology
Lloyd Hulit, Speech Pathology
James T. Parr, Mathematics
Ken Strand, EAF
Bob Young, Physics
Liz Hild, Student, (GS)
Nadia Sadeghian, Student (Political Science)

STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

*Romney Ruder, SBBD Chair, (Political Science)
Neal Gamsky, VPSA (EX OFFICIO)
Mary Nicholas, Music
Robert Rumery, Psychology
Tim Schurman, Student Regent (STE)
Heather Manns, Student (PIB)
Belinda Mazarello, Student (Comm. Rec.)
Amy Nowack, Student (Marketing)

3. Approval of Student Appointments to University Programming Board

XXII-84 Motion by Engelhardt (Second, Hall) to approve slate of committee appointments for University Programming Board Committees submitted by Tim Rasso, Student Center Board carried on a voice vote.

Entertainment Committee Kevin Gross Matthew Harris Christopher Miller Andy Molitor Cebil Riley Sean Hayes Erika Butler Jennifer Tews Jennifer Fricke Angela Watchinski Dennis Lambert

Student Center Board Darla Weber Dayton Smith Dawn DeMaster Randi Arenstein Greg Delafranco Mike Genisio Maria Fontinopoulos Kelly Codner Mary Ryan David Spiwak Cindy Applehoff Shannon Luitjens

University Forum Committee Steve McCarthy Robert Festenstein Michelle Hanson Cindy Hodnick Colleen Gierut Gina Ruge

4. Approval of Civil Service Council Representative to the Economic Well Being Committee

XII-85 Motion by Ken Strand (Second, Cox) to approve appointment of Leon Toepke, Comptroller's Office, as Civil Service Representative to the Economic Well Being Committee carried on a voice vote.

Senate recessed for five minutes.

INFORMATION ITEM

Academic Senate Meeting Calendar for July-December, 1991

Communications

Senator White presented the following Resolution:

XXII-86

"Whereas, Illinois State University is committed to maintaining students' rights to be free from unnecessary discrimination in an academic setting; and

Whereas, the Reserve Officers Training Corps programs offered at Illinois State University discriminate against applicants based on sexual orientation; Therefore, be it resolved that the Illinois State University Academic Senate expresses its disapproval of the practice of discrimination based on sexual orientation toward applicants to Reserve Officers Training Corps programs; and

That the Illinois State University Academic Senate requests the President of Illinois State University to contact and work with the administrations of other concerned universities with the goal of changing the federal policy that allows discrimination based upon sexual orientation in the military.

Understanding: the President or Provost of Illinois State University will report back to the Academic Senate on an annual basis regarding the progress of this initiative; and

If at the end of three years the federal policy which allows discrimination based upon sexual orientation has not been eliminated, the Illinois State University Academic Senate will be free at that time to reconsider the University's contractual relationship with the Reserve Officer Training Corps. (Second, Hesse)

Senator White yielded his seat to the President of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance. The Senate did not object to this.

"Across the country people are joining together John Cain: to call for an end to one of the last legal and institutionalized forms of discrimination in America. Gay, lesbian and bisexual people have served with honor and distinction in every war in American history, from the American Revolution to Operation Desert Storm. Their country and the armed forces have rewarded their heroism by conducting periodic witch hunts through all branches of the armed forces searching for gay, lesbian and bisexual When they are discovered, these service service members. men and women are summarily discharged from military service.

The basis for the military's ability to practice discrimination on such a grand scale is a directive issued by the Department of Defense in 1982. This policy states that homosexuality is 'incompatible with military service' in all cases, without exception., The Department of Defense continues to stand by this policy despite a U. S. Court of Appeals ruling in <u>United States vs. Watkins</u>, barring the army from refusing to reenlist a soldier based on his or her sexual orientation. Despite a report entitled 'Nonconforming Sexual Orientations and Military Suitability,' commissioned and later suppressed by the United States Army, which found no correlation between a soldier's sexual orientation and his or her military performance. Despite one report from the United States Navy which found that stereotypically, lesbians may perform some duties better than their heterosexual counterparts. And despite the everincreasing number of top-rank cadets from the various military academies and ROTC programs who refuse to conceal their sexuality as they proudly strive to serve their country.

At ISU, the Defense Department's policy is maintained by the Reserve Officers Training Corps program. ROTC refuses to offer commissions and scholarships to gay, lesbian and bisexual students. This policy is in conflict with two governing documents of ISU, the ISU Constitution and its Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity statement, both of which prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation at ISU. It was in large measure because of the work of Academic Senate that these documents were so amended.

Academic Senate has the obligation to protect the rights of all ISU students and uphold ISU policy. The Department of Defense has been made aware of its conflict with ISU policy and has refused to correct the situation. It therefore falls to the Academic Senate to exercise its authority to uphold ISU policy and protect ISU students. As a representative of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance, I ask Academic Senate to fulfill its responsibilities and vote in favor of this resolution."

Senator Zeidenstein: "Point of order. Without prejudice or support for the merits of this resolution, certainly not with the merit of DOD policy, I would submit that if this resolution is adopted, it would violate the ISU Academic Senate Statement on Politicizing the University which was approved by the Academic Senate March 1, 1972, reprinted on April 16, 1982; and revised by the Senate on September 9, 1987. Everyone at this table has a copy of this statement."

Chairperson Schmaltz: "The Chair will rule on your Point of Order, but before I do, I would like the senators to look at the asterisk on the back of the Politization Statement: "*This resolution need not preclude the taking of institutional positions on issues of public policy which -although narrowly construed -- still clearly and directly threaten undesirable changes in the internal operations and policies, budgetary priorities, or academic and other standards and practices of Illinois State University." "I would call your attention to that as well as the University Policy Manual, the section on Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity, the first paragraph:"

"Illinois State University is committed to non-discrimination and equal opportunity in programs, activities, and employment* (*Except where sex, age, or lack of handicap is a bona fide occupational qualification.) for students and employees regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, sexual orientation+, (+The expansion of Illinois State University's policy is within the scope of law except for sexual orientation. This form of invidious discrimination is based solely upon University policy and is to be resolved within existing University procedures.) ancestry, age, marital status, physical and mental handicap, unfavorable discharge from military, or status as a disabled veteran or a veteran of the Vietnam Era, or other factors prohibited by law."

"Given both that statement and the asterisked material in the Statement on Politicizing the University, the Chair is going to rule that Senator Zeidenstein's Point of Order is out of order, and is not appropriate."

Senator Zeidenstein: "Mr. Chairman, a point of order is not debatable, however I noted some debate entered into this before you made your point. However, I will abide by the XXII-87 rules. I simply challenge the ruling of the chair." (Second, Ritt)

> Senator Schmaltz: "The Chair was not debating, merely explaining. A challenge to the Chair is debatable, and requires a simple majority to pass."

Senator White: "I have a number of points to make about the so-called "Politization Statement". This isn't the first time that we have ended up discussing this on the floor of I hope that Chair and the Senate will be the Senate. indulgent in allowing me to make a number of points. First, it seems to me that the anti-politization policy is scurled. It is not invoked whenever any political issue is on the floor, it is only clinically invoked when a progressive issue is on the floor. For example, two or three meetings ago, we discussed the Philosophy Statement for Undergraduate Education. That document made repeated reference to the values of democratic liberalism and to the value of individualism. No mention was made in that document to socialist democracy or the values of Buddhism, or the values of Muslim, or the values of Reaganism, The only sense in which that document was not a politietc. cal document was that it spoke in the name of the status quo.

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But no one invoked the anti-politization statement for that document. The second point that I would like to make is that in the September 9, 1987, meeting of the Academic Senate, we discussed the anti-politization statement at great length. I asked at that time if the policy meant that we could not discuss issues of racism or sexism on the floor of the Senate. Then-President Watkins replied that: "....anyone who thinks clearly can distinguish between partisan and political issues. Positions such as racism, sexism, and all the isms are not partisan and political positions. He stated that he would never be able, regardless of what this body or any other body says, to not take a position against harassment both of women and minorities or any one person against another." A third point that I would like to make is that the original intent of this policy was to curtail discussion of issues such as the Viet Nam War in the Senate. It was originally passed in 1972. In this case we are discussing no an extrinsic political matter, but a policy of the current academic program and efforts that are already being made by the University administration to confront that problem. Are we going to put ourselves in the situation of not being able to comment on programs and initiatives that already exist within the University. Such a precedent does not make the Senate apolitical, it makes it irrelevant. The antipolitization policy claims that its purpose is to protect the interests of all students: "Because the rights of all students, faculty members, and administrators as citizens acting individually or through non-university groups and organizations are guaranteed by the bills of rights and the constitutions of the State and Federal governments;" and further down it says: "(1) that no representative faculty member, faculty body, officer or agent of Illinois State University shall take an institutional position on any partisan issue for the simple reasons that taking such a position reduces the ability of the University to serve impartially all the people of the State of Illinois and produces conditions and results not in agreement with University Policies as stated in Articles II and III of the Illinois State University Constitution;" -- so this document was initially drafted to protect the interests of all the people, and yet it is here being invoked in order to deny ten percent or more of the students here at this University equal rights. My final point is that this is a rather absurd document because it is not directed only at the Academic Senate. The policy forbids "faculty members, bodies, officers, and agents of Illinois State University" to take an institutional position on any partisan issues. Should we understand then that Gloria Jeanne Davis in Affirmative Action is forbidden from speaking on issues of discrimination from her The wording of this document would seem to indicate office. that was the case. That to me makes it an absurd document."

Senator Walker: "I would like to point out in the Statement on Politicizing the University, paragraph nine, item (2):

"that, in clarification of this policy, the Academic Senate defines a 'partisan issue' as a subject of political, social, religious, or similar import on which the members of society outside the University are in serious disagreement or polarized and are in the process of resolving the issue through regular democratic channels;" On this issue, there are regular democratic channels for it to be debated. I therefore move the previous question." (Second, Tuttle)

Senator Schmaltz: "A move for the previous question is nondebatable, and requires a 2/3 majority to pass. If you vote yes, it effectively cuts off debate on the challenge to the chair. Debate on the challenge to the chair will be over immediately, and we will move instantly then to a vote on the challenge to the chair. We are not voting on the challenge to the chair, rather on whether to cut off debate or not on the challenge to the chair."

(XXII-88)Motion carried on a voice vote.

Senator Hesse: "A yes vote on this motion would suppress debate on the main motion?"

Chairperson Schmaltz: "A yes vote would support Senator Zeidenstein's challenge to the chair."

Senator Hesse: "Right, and the effect would be to suppress debate on the question."

Senator Tuttle: "Clarification, Mr. Chairman. Either I misunderstood, or it wasn't clear. On the parliamentary procedures sheet, appealing the decision of the chair, there is an asterisk after the vote which says, a yes vote is to sustain the chair's position, a no vote over-rules the chair."

Senator Schmaltz: "That is correct. A yes vote would sustain the chair, which means we would debate the issue. A no vote would in effect, support Senator Zeidenstein's challenge to the chair and we would cease debate."

(XXII-86)Roll call vote on the motion: 15 yes; 22 no.

Senate recessed for ten minutes because of disturbance from protestors.

After ten minutes, Senate reconvened during disturbance.

Adjournment

XXII-89 Motion by Zeidenstein (Second, Walker) to adjourn. Motion carried. Academic Senate adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

FOR THE ACADEMIC SENATE JAN COOK, SECRETARY

Date: 4/24/91 Volume Ko. XXII Ko. 14

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