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# Senate Meeting, December 9, 1992

Academic Senate Illinois State University

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## ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES

December 9, 1992

Volume XXIV, No. 7

Call to Order

Roll Call

Approval of Minutes of November 11, 1992

Chairperson's Remarks

Vice Chairperson's Remarks

Student Body President's Remarks

Administrators' Remarks

- ACTION ITEMS: 1. Faculty Affairs Committee Proposed Amendment to "Guidelines for the Use of Non-Tenure Track Faculty Lines"
  - 2. 1995-96 and 1996-97 Academic Calendars
  - 3. Election of Student Non-Athletes to the Athletic Council
  - 4. Rules Committee Appointment to the Library Committee: Angelo Caperella

INFORMATION ITEMS: NONE

Communications

Committee Reports

Adjournment

Meetings of the Academic Senate are open to members of the University community. Persons attending the meetings may participate in discussions 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)

December 9, 1992

Volume XXIV, No. 7

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Len Schmaltz called the meeting of the Academic Senate to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Circus Room of the Bone Student Center.

ROLL CALL

Secretary Jan Cook called the roll and declared a quorum present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 11, 1992

XXIV-36 Motion to approve Academic Senate Minutes of November 11, 1992, by Stock (Second, Zeidenstein) carried on a voice vote.

CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Chairperson Schmaltz had no remarks.

VICE CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS Vice Chairperson, Matt Shimkus, had no remarks.

SBBD PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Student Body President Randy Fox wished everyone a good break and holiday season.

#### ADMINISTRATORS' REMARKS

President Wallace: During the last few months members of the Board and the staff of the Illinois Board of Higher Education have singled out, directly or indirectly, this University as not being cooperative or responsive to the IBHE's Priorities, Quality, and Productivity initiative. Clearly, Illinois State University has been critical of the IBHE's data, its process and the resulting recommendations. A number of IBHE Board members have made it quite clear that for a campus to disagree with the Board staff is impudent and that they view the IBHE staff as infallible. More recently, public and private statements by IBHE membership and staff have attempted to redefine the P.Q.P. history in an attempt to make fuzzy the flaws that this University has criticized. Thus, I wish to state a number of important points regarding the IBHE P.Q.P. process.

1. The IBHE data that have been publicized for the last year were outdated and flawed. We are told that it is university data that have been used and if it is wrong, then it is our fault. Our data have been used by the IBHE staff but in many cases, they are outdated and in some cases they have been reconstituted and misused; as, for example, administrative expenditures from 1980 to 1990.

2. The IBHE staff did not review the University's year-long study and our recommendations for program elimination prior to making its own recommendations. In addition, there were no financial goals established for the University to meet in its report to the IBHE this past October. To this date, there has been no response by the IBHE staff as to their review of the University's recommendations, specifically as to whether the scope of reallocation met some unknown staff expectation.

3. The University has met every request made by the IBHE staff for the P.Q.P. process, which has been only to submit the October 1, 1992, report.

Recently, the Executive Director of the IBHE has publicly mentioned institutions that had done a good job with the P.Q.P. process, but at least some of these institutions have indicated that they have no basis for knowing what they did right. The Chairman of the IBHE has even indicated that these institutions will be rewarded financially for their good work but do not know the basis for this positive assessment.

Apparently the communication of the IBHE staff with the General Assembly is as bad as it is with this university. The result is that the IBHE was the subject of a resolution submitted and passed by the House last week which told the IBHE that the General Assembly was not going to allow them to gain the power for elimination of campus programs. One of the sponsors of the bill, Mike Weaver, is quoted as saying that the IBHE threatened to cut university budgets if presidents don't adopt the board's recommendations. Representative Weaver threatened to slash the IBHE's funding if it doesn't back down and allow schools to make their own decisions.

The University will continue to seek a meeting with the IBHE staff to obtain their formal evaluation of the University's response to the P.Q.P. initiative and, hopefully, to obtain a better understanding of expected outcomes of this process. The University does not view the IBHE staff as infallible. Thus, we will continue to insist on a greater role for the campus in making the appropriate program decisions and for updating the data used in decision making as well as improvements in the process itself.

Given that this review of public higher education in Illinois is supposedly focused on priorities, quality, productivity, undergraduate education and improving student access in an era of restricted resources, it is truly ironic that Illinois State is being singled out as resisting this IBHE exercise in areas in which it has already demonstrated its level of commitment and accomplishment. Specifically, the University has the best record in the State for baccalaureate and master's disciplines for both the number of degrees conferred per discipline and cost per program. In addition, the University has the highest percentage of total degrees conferred at the bachelor's level and the highest average credit hours per faculty member for the past ten fiscal years.

The University would welcome a written response from the Executive Director of the IBHE on our October recommendations and also on our rankings within the state public system with regard to such appropriate measures of productivity and quality as:

- The percentage of total degrees that are awarded at the undergraduate level;
- The increase over the last four years in minority student enrollment;
- The increase in individual and corporate donations during the last four years;
- The increase of external program and research support during the last four years;
- 5. The number of FTE students per dollar of appropriation;
- 6. Student to faculty ratio;
- Efficiency of space utilization;
- The improvement in modern campus telecommunications during the last four years;
- 9. The reduction of central administrative positions during the last four years; and
- The plan already in operation this fiscal year to eliminate appropriated dollars from the athletic budget.

There are not many, if any, public institutions in Illinois that rank higher than Illinois State University in the above measures. But this type of productivity simply doesn't count in the process being conducted by the IBHE because it is a political process to eliminate the necessity of incremental tax dollars being needed for public higher education budgets during the next few years; not a process of educational reform.

Provost Strand: I would like to read the text of my statement to the Illinois Board of Higher Education at the November 23, 1992, meeting in Chicago, Illinois, as a followup to the comments which have been offered by President Wallace.

"The State of Illinois is at a critical juncture in its effort to preserve its status as a leader in the economic development of this nation. The decisions we make in the next few months will have a dramatic influence on the viability of this state for years to come. While financial circumstances will influence how we plan for the future, we must not substitute management for leadership in this time of introspection.

A recent report completed by the SRI Center for Economic Competitiveness in Menlo Park, California, and Data Resources, Inc., an economic forecasting company in Cambridge, Massachusetts, concluded that Illinois needs to return to the fundamentals and work to rebuild and link the basic ingredients for economic growth. In addition, the report, which was prepared for the Department of Commerce and Community Affairs, concluded that Illinois' strengths lie in its institutions of higher education, basic research, venture capital, and infrastructure. The problem facing Illinois, as cited in the document, is an erosion of the "vital cycle" needed to sustain growth and competitiveness. That vital cycle requires cooperation between government, industry and education to revitalize mature and aging industries and generate new growth industries.

This study is cited for three reasons. First, we must be cautious in the P.Q.P. initiative not to place so many constraints on higher education that our meaningful partnership in the economic revitalization of Illinois is compromised. Setting priorities, goals, and objectives for higher education should be more than a zero sum exercise. The decline of economic support for public higher education in Illinois, as evidenced by national comparison studies, compromises the ability of our universities to devote sufficient resources to the priorities of the 1990's without damaging portions of the academic infrastructure. While higher education is willing to reallocate funds for higher priorities, and has been doing so for several years, the state needs to infuse more resources into higher education rather than depend primarily on reallocation to solve the ills of education and the state's economy.

The second reason for citing the SRI-Data Resources study is that the proposed revisions in the mission statement for Illinois State would prohibit us from remaining full players in the cooperation between government, industry, and education, as envisioned in the study. The presence of Illinois State as a comprehensive university with a well established education, research, and public service mission was a major factor in attracting Diamond Star Motors and its more than 3,000 jobs to The research and public service components of the Illinois. University coupled with its excellent educational programs provided the advantage the state needed to compete for the world's most technologically advanced automotive manufacturing plant. Illinois State needs to retain its mission as a comprehensive university to continue its major role in this type of economic development activity.

The third reason for citing the study relates to some of the program elimination recommendations contained in the P.Q.P. documents. Illinois State is providing valuable services for individuals enrolled in programs identified in IBHE documents for possible elimination. To close these programs would affect not only students but also the educational infrastructure of the University and preclude us from providing services that can assist in the economic revitalization referenced earlier in this testimony. In addition, some of the recommendations emerged from inaccurate assumptions based, in part, on obsolete data. More current information and careful analysis will cast a different light on these programs.

In closing, I believe we want the P.Q.P. initiative to be viewed over time as an exercise which helped position Illinois for renewed economic growth, and not be faulted as intensifying the serious problems faced by the state. We are encouraged by the opportunity for dialogue which is outlined in the documents prepared for this meeting. Illinois State University stands ready to discuss with you its mission statement, programs, and how it can work with government and industry in the revitalization of the economy of Illinois.

#### Questions:

Senator Zeidenstein: Has more recent data or data sets been submitted to the Illinois Board of Higher Education staff? Since they say it was outdated data, has more recent data been made available to them? President Wallace: If you recall, we submitted our report on October 1, 1992, and the IBHE had already made their recommendations with their document. The new data will be part of the exercise we go through with basic information being submitted to the IBHE.

Senator Zeidenstein: Would it be accurate to say that the calendar of events did not overlap sufficiently so that it was feasible for them to get more recent data. They started taking positions before they received our report.

President Wallace: Our report did not have data in it. You have to keep in mind what we were asked to submit. It was not budgetary information. Our submission did not include data. The activity was to reduce and eliminate programs. We will be updating that data in the new year.

Senator Zeidenstein: I had a comment about the radical politician mentioned from the 20's and 30's. He was respected for the enemies he made.

Provost Strand: I would like to express appreciation to the members of the university community who testified at the hearing on November 23, or attended the hearing representing Illinois State University. We are very proud of the people who were present and the testimony given at that hearing. There are people who are present tonight who provided testimony.

Vice President for Student Affairs, William Gurowitz, had no remarks.

Vice President for Business and Finance, James Alexander, had no remarks.

#### ACTION ITEMS

## Faculty Affairs Committee Proposed Amendment to "Guidelines for the Use of Non-Tenure Track Faculty Lines"

#### XXIV-37

Motion by Newby (Second, Pomerenke) to amend the policy statement, "Guidelines for the Use of Non-Tenure Track Faculty Lines" as follows:

"At the first Academic Senate meeting (of each November) <u>after</u> <u>February 15th</u>, the Provost shall distribute a written report tabulating date by academic department of the University listing for the (10th day) <u>end of the Fall Semester...."</u> -- carried on a voice vote.

### 2. 1995-96 and 1996-97 Academic Calendars

Entire Senate concurred in unanimous consent to have this item as both Information and Action on the same Senate Agenda.

XXIV-38 Curtis White, Chair of the Administrative Affairs Committee, moved that the Academic Calendars for 1995-96 and 1996-97 be approved as presented (Second, Semlak).

Chairperson Schmaltz: Senators received a sample copy of the 1993-94 Academic Calendar, which has already been approved; and a copy of the Calendar Guidelines.

Senator Insel: I have a question about the Spring Calendars. They do not meet the calendar guidelines number two: "2. A minimum of 750 minutes of instructional activity shall be required for each semester hour of lecture credit and 1500 minutes for each semester hour of laboratory credit, excluding final examinations." Both Spring calendars are 50 minutes short. There are only fourteen Mondays.

Senator White: I was out of State, so I would like to appeal to one of the other members of the committee to respond to this question.

Senator Zeidenstein: If it is a Monday night class that meets for three hours; it would be 150 minutes short.

Senator Gurowitz: I would like to ask for the consideration that a fall break be reinstituted in the middle of the fall semester. This is based on educational grounds. First of all, we have very long Fall Semesters. Experience with students has shown that having a fall break is educationally beneficial. Last year when I saw the upcoming two year calendar with no fall break, I wrote to Roy Austensen about the Academic Calendars, stating:

"I have reviewed your recent memo on the above subject and would like to take this opportunity to comment on the lack of a fall break (long weekend) in the middle of the fall semester. I understand that the lack of a fall break apparently is a fait accompli for FY94 and 95.

It is a documented fact that a break of (at least) a long weekend midway through the fall semester is beneficial in terms of the academic development of students, especially freshmen. To go from the third week of August until Thanksgiving without a break is too long. It affects students in many ways -- in their ability to study and learn effectively, in their overall mental outlook and in their behavior. I personally have heard from students who marveled at how refreshed and (once again) eager to learn they were after only a few days off. As I mentioned, this is especially true for freshmen. They will do better academically and will persist to graduation at a higher rate. These are valuable and important goals. We should acknowledge these goals and reinstitute the fall break.

I would point out that spring break falls in the middle of the semester and provides the kind of respite for the spring that is needed for the fall."

By happenstance this week, I received a letter from a colleague at Vanderbilt University: "We have just returned from Fall break and everyone is in good spirits. However, the Thanksgiving Break is really too late in the semester to be of help to all the students."

Again, I ask for consideration of reinstituting the Fall Break around the middle of the fall semester. It would be beneficial to the educational programs and activities.

Senator Insel: Can the Academic Senate pass a calendar that does not adhere to its own guidelines?

Parliamentarian Cohen: The Academic Senate can do anything it wants to do. However, it would look silly to set up a guideline and then violate it. You cannot violate the Constitution.

Chairperson Schmaltz: There has to be some give and take in any guideline.

Senator Semlak: I would like someone to speak to the reason for this. I was not on the Senate when the Fall Break changed from the mid-semester fall break to the day before Thanksgiving. It seems the same Monday, Wednesday, Friday schedule hours are affected. What is the rationale for that change?

Chairperson Schmaltz: I was on the Senate when they changed it, and there were a number of reasons at the time. If you have the Fall Break on a Friday independent of Thanksgiving, you loose effectively that weekend -- all the students go home. You cannot have a home football game that weekend; the College of Fine Arts cannot schedule performances, etc. There was also a cost efficient argument.

Senator Nelsen: There was another concern about how one would handle Saturday classes. The old Fall Break Day ran into a number of Saturday classes. The University was closed because of fall break. Senator Kaiser: The current academic calendar for Spring is the same as the 1993-94 Calendar and the Proposed new academic calendars for 1995-96 and 1996-97. They are all missing 50 minutes.

I am very concerned about the Wednesday before Thanksgiving and the effect it has on an entire week of classes. The enticement for students to take the whole week off is very great, especially if they only have classes on Monday and Tuesday. They go home the weekend before Thanksgiving and miss the whole week. This probably does not affect big lecture classes as much as it would small group discussions like foreign language classes. They come back on the next Monday and do not know what the rest of the class has done. It has a bad effect on instruction.

Senator Zeidenstein: I asked for the information mentioned in Dr. Austensen's cover letter, and received a copy of Dr. Gurowitz's letter, and also a copy of Ron Wellman's letter where he says we have a lot of big football players who eat a lot and they have to feed them ("Finally, feeding the athletes for an entire weekend, if Fall Break is scheduled on a Friday in October, is extremely expensive for our department.") He wants to continue scheduling the Fall Break Day on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. We have on the one hand research asking students if they would like to go home, and on the other hand that the athletic department can't afford to feed them. I would also like to point out that a Monday night class missed means 150 minutes.

Senator Gurowitz: The research was not just asking students if they want to go home. Freshman coming out of high school are in transition. Fall Break in the middle of the semester would be based on educational grounds. The first concern is the student's educational program.

Senator Nelsen: This is the second or third calendar coming up that we do not have enough Mondays in the Spring semester. The problem we ran into was that the Martin Luther King Birthday Holiday always falls on a Monday. The options are going back a week which would run into the Christmas Break. You could go a week forward which makes it after the middle of May when the Spring Semester ends. We never found a solution for the starting and ending dates. Residence Hall dates have to be considered, too. We could not find a solution that was acceptable to everyone.

Senator Weber: Just looking at the first semester, it seems that we have fifteen weeks plus a Tuesday (one Monday is Labor Day Vacation), and in the second semester we have fifteen weeks minus a Monday, so the first semester is really two days longer than the second semester. One possibility to try to make them consistent with each other is to extend the Thanksgiving vacation to a full week, or to have two-day fall break at some time. There are two additional class days in the fall semester.

Senator Winchip: I would like to hear some reactions from student senators.

Senator Hoffmann: About a month ago I asked several students if we did have the Wednesday off before Thanksgiving, if they would go home, and a number of students said no, that they would stay because they had jobs here in town and other commitments. I would like to see fall break stay as it has been, at the end of the first half of the semester. It gives the professors more flexibility.

Senator Fox: I think that from only having Thursday and Friday off this year for Thanksgiving and attending my classes on Monday and Tuesday and being only one of twenty people in a 300-person class; its a perfect example that no one is going to be here Thanksgiving week with Wednesday off. Students are already gone on Tuesday; and if they get Wednesday off, they will be gone Students might as well be gone the entire week. Monday. Τ agree wholeheartedly with Senator Gurowitz that if there is going to be a break, it should be in the middle of the semester --There is really no benefit whatsoever in having around October. an extra day off during Thanksgiving. We are not even talking academically, another day off to have more free time. This doesn't weigh with any rationale.

Senator Shimkus: I agree with Senators Fox and Gurowitz about the fall break being in the middle of the semester. One thing is that there will be no fall break next year, regardless of what we do here tonight.

Senator Insel: Senator Weber made a good point that we have an extra Monday and Tuesday in comparison to the Spring Semester. One possibility is to take that Monday and Tuesday cut them from perhaps the start of the semester, so that classes begin on Wednesday rather than Monday.

Senator Barker: It would be better to have Fall classes begin on a Monday or Tuesday, because parents move their students in over a weekend. It is not always convenient for parents to take time off work to move their children into the residence halls.

Senator Cook: In addition, we have another Monday off very soon after the beginning of the term, namely the Labor Day Holiday.

Senator Insel: That Monday is factored into the planning of the

calendar. We do have fifteen Mondays and sixteen Tuesdays.

XXIV-39 Senator White: I move the previous question. (Second, Stock). Motion carried 18 to 9.

Vote on Academic Calendars for 1995-96 and 1996-97 failed.

Calendars will be returned to the Administrative Affairs Committee for further consideration.

Senator Zeidenstein: Are we under time constraints to pass these calendars?

Chairperson Schmaltz: Big time football games need to be scheduled way in advance. Fine Arts events also need to be scheduled in advance.

Senator Zeidenstein: Football games are on Friday nights and Saturdays, how does that affect the academic calendar?

Chairperson Schmaltz: They cannot schedule games when students are not going to be here.

3. Election of Student Non-Athletes to the Athletic Council

The Academic Senate elected two non-athlete students to the Athletic Council: Kim Stash, Sophomore, Public Relations Major; and Kevin Conlin; Senior; Production Agriculture Major.

#### Rules Committee Appointment to the Library Committee: Angelo Caperella

XXIV-40

Motion by Nelsen (Second, Johnson) to approve the Rules Committee Appointment of Angelo Caperella to the Library Committee, carried on a voice vote. (1994 term to replace Jeff Wood)

NO INFORMATION ITEMS

NO COMMUNICATIONS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE - no report.

ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE - Senator White announced that the committee would hold a short meeting after Senate. The committee will have to reconsider the academic calendars. It seems to me that our committee considers the calendars after receiving them from the administration. To have us approve what the administration gives us and then have members of the administration lobby against it seems to be a bit awkward. This was given to us with a bomb in it, and they knew that there was a bomb in it. We end up wasting a lot of time and end up looking rather silly. I would appreciate it if the administration before sending things to our committee would try to have some reconciliation among its own members.

Senator Gurowitz: I sent the memorandum that I read tonight to Roy Austensen last year and he forwarded it to the committee that looks at the calendar. I thought I would be invited to the committee meetings to discuss the memo.

Senator White: We could invite both Senator Gurowitz and Dr. Alan Dillingham to the meeting. We seem to have plenty of tempests in teapots at this University.

BUDGET COMMITTEE - Senator Cook announced that the Budget Committee had received new materials, and would meet shortly this evening.

FACULTY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE - Senator Newby reported that the Faculty Affairs Committee had no report and did not need to meet.

RULES COMMITTEE - Senator Nelsen announced that the Rules Committee has written to the Deans to try to find volunteers for committee service. We need to meet for a short time following Senate.

STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE - Senator Hoffmann had no report.

#### ADJOURNMENT

XXIV-41 Motion to adjourn by Hoffmann (Second, Stock) carried on a voice vote. Academic Senate adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

> FOR THE ACADEMIC SENATE JAN COOK, SECRETARY

Date: 12/9/92 Dolume No. XXIV No. 7

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