University Council Meeting, November 11, 1969

Academic Senate
Illinois State University

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TO: The University Council
FROM: The Committee on Committees


In accordance with the University Council's instructions to the Committee on Committees of October 15, 1969, we informed the various committees and boards affected by our initial report of the recommendations made concerning them, invited and received reactions from members of these bodies as well as from members of the University Council, and reviewed these communications part of our preparation of a final report, which is herewith submitted to the University Council in the form of "Amendments" superseding corresponding points in the initial report of October 15. The communications we received have been delivered to the Secretary of the Council for your perusal.

A few specific comments should be made before listing the Amendments. These statements hopefully will clarify some aspects of the initial report which were puzzling, and will answer some procedural questions which the initial report left vague.

1) The decision of the Committee on Committees to make administrative representatives on committees ex officio and non-voting has occasioned considerable comment. A statement of our rationale is called for, since we have received inquiries regarding the underlying reasons for the recommendation. One correspondent has suggested that implicit in this recommendation is a concept that the administration is "the enemy." This charge must certainly be responded to, for nothing could be further from the truth.

The unanimous decision of the Committee on Committees to recommend that administrative representatives be non-voting members did not arise from any feeling that the administration was "the enemy." Rather, it was formulated in a desire to protect administrators serving on committees from allegations of conflict of interest which might arise from their voting on policies which they are charged with implementing.

2) In several of our specific recommendations of committee membership, we stipulated the position of "chairman." We did not explicitly indicate how the "chairman" was to be appointed since we thought that this was something that could be worked out by the governing body (University Council or Academic Senate) implementing our recommendations. The idea occurred to us that the "chairman" might very well be the Senate representative who is to serve on each committee. However, many correspondents have been puzzled by this open-ended recommendation; and as a consequence, the Committee on Committees wishes to add a general recommendation to its report: that these "chairmen" be appointed by the President with the advice of the Executive Committee (or Council) of the University Council (or Academic Senate), and whoever else is appropriate.

3) In the case of the committees and boards we recommended abolished, we stipulated that the administrative agency assuming their duties would be required to arrange some provision for guaranteed faculty and student input. We wish at this time to recommend that the governing body (University Council or Academic Senate) be responsible
for guaranteeing that this faculty and student input is effected, and that the governing body take whatever steps are necessary to assure such input, such as the formulation of guidelines for all agencies subsuming the functions of abolished boards and committees, the requiring of periodic reports from the agencies, and instituting formal ratification procedures for all advisory groups proposed by the administrative agencies in question.

4) There has been some feeling expressed that an increase in student participation on committees will decrease the opportunity for faculty participation, and that the increased ratio of students to faculty will be detrimental to the decisions reached by the committees. Our basic assumptions and rationale are expressed in Part II of our initial report of October 15. It should also be pointed out that "chairmen" (in most cases) and administrative representatives (in all cases) will be experienced professionals. Thus, the proportion of students on committees as proposed is not as great as it at first glance might appear. For example, on a committee with a proposed membership of 8 faculty, 8 students, chairman, and 2 administrative representatives, the effective ratio of student input into policy formulation would, in all likelihood, be 8 to 11.

5) We desire and request that President Braden ask the present membership of such committees as are to be retained to continue to serve in their posts through the academic year 1970-71. This procedure will serve to stabilize the committee structure during the period of transition to the new system of governance framed by the new constitution.

AMENDMENTS TO THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES (these to supersede the corresponding recommendations in the initial Report of October 15, 1969)

ACADEMIC STANDARDS COMMITTEE

That the membership be expanded to twelve, as follows: six faculty; four students; a chairman; an administrative representative ex officio without vote. That the functions remain unchanged.

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

That the membership be modified to stand as follows: fifteen--seven faculty; five students; a chairman; two administrative representatives from the Dean of Faculties' Office ex officio without vote, one of these to serve as Executive Secretary. (From this point on, refer to the initial Report of October 15.)

REINSTATEMENT COMMITTEE

That the membership be expanded to eleven: six faculty; three students; two administrative representatives, one from the Dean of Faculties' Office, one from the Office of the Dean of Student Services. (From this point on, refer to the initial Report of October 15.)
ATHLETIC BOARD

That the membership be expanded to fourteen: six faculty; six students; conference representative; the Director of Athletics, to serve as Executive Secretary and administrative representative ex officio. The Conference Representative to have voting privilege.

STUDENT HOUSING BOARD

That the board be abolished. Each dormitory, co-op, etc. should submit for approval to the Office of the Dean of Student Services their policies through the appropriate housing agency which will have a student advisory group to help formulate policy.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

That the committee be merged with the Student Publications Board, the name of the combined committee to be changed to something like the UNIVERSITY PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE; that the new combined committee be composed of eighteen members: nine faculty members; nine students.

(NOTE—This excludes the publications such as Register, Report, etc. that reside in News and Publications Services reporting directly to the President.)

HOMECOMING BOARD

That the board be retained in its present membership and functions, but that it henceforth report to the Alumni Office.

RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS BOARD

That the board be abolished, and its functions not be retained, since they have been assumed by off-campus agencies.

HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE

That this committee be constituted as a student advisory group under the Office of the Dean of Student Services; it should be instrumental in the formulation of policies regarding the operations and functions of the Health Center; it should recommend policy changes as necessary and study their effects when implemented; it should function as a hearing panel to receive and investigate complaints from students regarding the Health Service.

All other aspects of the initial Report of October 15, 1969 to stand as originally submitted.

Members of the Committee on Committees:

George Collins  E. Joan Miller
F. Louis Hoover   Margaret Parret
Harry Jackson    William Zeiler
Willard McCarthy Robert Sutherland, Chm.

Consultants:

Representing Dean Bond: Paul Wisdom
Representing President Braden: Charles White
Representing Dean Hulett: Miriam Wagenschein