



The Florida State University
Tallahassee, Florida 32306-1030

Faculty Senate
904/644-6876

AGENDA
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
DODD HALL AUDITORIUM
December 4, 1996
3:45 p.m.

- I. Approval of the minutes of the November 13, 1996 meeting
- II. Approval of the agenda for the December 4, 1996 meeting
- III. Report of the Steering Committee, M. Cowart
- IV. Reports of Standing Committees
 - a. Library Committee, J. McElrath
 - b. Undergraduate Policy Committee, G. Buzyna
Multicultural courses and
oral communication competency recommendations
- V. Old Business
 - a. Proposal to change the name of the School of Library and
Information Studies to School of Information Studies
- VI. Unfinished Business
- VII. New Business
- VIII. University Welfare
- IX. Announcements of Deans and other administrative officers
 - a. Lawrence Abele, Provost and Vice President for Academic
Affairs
 - b. Beverly Spencer, Vice President for University Relations
- XI. Announcements of the President of the University

THE NEXT SENATE MEETING WILL BE JANUARY 15
IN DODD HALL AUDITORIUM



The Florida State University
Tallahassee, Florida 32306-1030

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FACULTY SENATE MEETING
December 4, 1996
Dodd Hall Auditorium

I. Regular Session

The regular session of the 1996-97 Faculty Senate met on Wednesday, December 4, 1996, at 3:45 p.m. Senate President Cowart presided.

The following members were absent. Alternates who were present are listed in parenthesis. R. Allen, C. Barrilleaux, G. Bates, J. Beckham, R. Blazek (B. Logan), D. Boroto, J. Bowman, J. Carbonell, B. Colombo, R. Dunham, I. Eberstein, N. Jumonville, J. Kodras, W. Landing, C. Lynch-B, R. Marshall, T. Moerland, G. Moore, D. Nast, P. Ray (J. Ahlquist), V. Richard, J. Sampson, M. Schall, J. Simmons, F. Standley, J. Standley, D. Summers, J. Teilhet-Fisk, J. Tull, F. Vickory.

II. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of November 13 will be approved at the January meeting.

III. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as distributed.

IV. Report of the Steering Committee, J. Macmillan

Since the Senate last met on November 13, the Steering Committee has met weekly; we also met with President D'Alemberte and Provost Abele on November 25. President Cowart attended the Board of Regents meeting in Orlando on November 14-15. The following issues have been of concern:

1. Distance Learning as an emphasis within the University: We have urged concern for University standards and procedures as this important dimension of University offerings is developed. This is particularly important as money becomes available from special state funds approved by the legislature.

2. Reports from Senate committees, particularly the Undergraduate Policy Committee: we will hear a recommendation concerning "oral communication" requirements from that Committee later in the meeting.

3. With the President and Provost we discussed (a) the ten "priorities" previously developed as a way of focusing the efforts of the administration and faculty; (b) some forthcoming changes in the office of the Provost, including the possibility of the appointment of an Associate Provost to take on some of the duties that have been

assumed by the Provost's office in the last year or so; (c) the problem of who is in charge of the University in the absence of the President and Provost; (d) continuing concerns about FSU's commitment to Distance Learning and our place in the State system of Distance Learning (FDLN); (e) ways in which the faculty can cooperate with efforts of the FSU administration to keep our flagship status within the State University System secure.

4. Finally, at the October meeting of the Faculty Senate, we approved a "Torch Awards" committee to recommend award of awards from the Faculty to those who have contributed to the academic mission of the University. The committee, as established, consists of five faculty members (Jim Macmillan, Bernard Sliger, Gregory Choppin, Mary Beth Schall, and Anne Rowe) and the President of the Foundation Jeff Robison. The Steering Committee believes that the Board of the FSU Foundation be represented, so we propose that the Torch Awards Committee be enlarged to include a member of the Board of the Foundation. For the Steering Committee, I so move. **(This additional member to the Torch Awards Committee was approved by the Senate).**

V. Reports of Standing Committee

a. Libraries Committee, J. McElrath

Professor McElrath's report is addendum 1.

b. Undergraduate Policy Committee, G. Buyzna

Senator Buyzna presented courses (addendum 2) to the Senate for multicultural credit. The list of courses was approved.

After discussion of the proposal from the UPC on establishing an oral communication competency requirement, the Senate approved the proposal (addendum 3).

c. Professional Relations and Welfare, R. Light

Senator Light announced that an open meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 10, 12:30 - 2:00 p.m. in Dodd Hall Auditorium to discuss CAPCO and any concerns you may have over printing course packets.

VI. Old Business

a. Proposal to change the name of the School of Library and Information Studies to School of Information Studies

Senator Macmillan, on behalf of the Steering Committee, moved that the Senate approve the change of name of the School of Library and Information Studies to "The School of Information Studies." This motion was seconded and discussed. The Faculty Senate, by a show of hands, overwhelmingly voted **NOT TO APPROVE THIS PROPOSAL.**

b. Motion presented by Senator Patricia Martin in response to action taken at the November Senate meeting.

Senator Martin presented the following motion:

Whereas many departments and schools/colleges wish to have summary figures to compare a given faculty member's scores across courses, in semesters and/or years, therefore be it resolved that:

1. Evaluation Services should be instructed to report both means and standard deviations and medians and the inter-quartile range for each SIRS item and the five clusters of items: value for the means and standard deviations will rounded to tenths. SIRS summary results will be accompanied by a warning that the summary figures have no literal meaning and should be interpreted with caution.

2. Evaluation Services should report medians and the inter-quartile range for each SUSSAI item. SUSSAI summary results will be accompanied by a warning that the items have no established validity or reliability, the summary figures have no literal meaning, and all SUSSAI evidence should be interpreted with caution.

This motion is offered in the spirit of allowing departments and other academic units that choose to do so to have the Evaluation Services Center provide them with the SIRS summary figures, as it has done for years. The motion does not represent basic disagreement with the principles and rationale that the Evaluation Committee expressed.

After discussion, this motion was approved.

VII. Unfinished Business

There were no items of unfinished business for today's meeting.

VIII. New Business

There were no items of new business for today's meeting.

IX. University Welfare

Senator Billings requested that he be allowed to have access to contracts made with donors. Senate President Cowart responded that the Steering Committee would address this issue.

X. Announcements of Deans and other administrative officers

a. Provost Lawrence Abele

Provost Abele was not available for today's meeting.

b. Vice President for University Relations Beverly Spencer

Vice President Spencer talked about the celebration activities planned for the 50th Anniversary of our name change from The Florida State College for Women to The Florida State University. In the spring semester several week-long activities will take place. The Academic Expo will include 'Jazz Under the Stars', 'Government Day', 'Emeritus Week-end', just to mention a few. During Springtime Tallahassee we hope to have a Pep Band, sponsor a run, Seminole Day with Chief Billy and many other activities. Announcements and information will be sent to deans and departments as dates and activities are finalized.

XI. Announcements of the President of the University

President D'Alemberte remarked on the national honors received by Professors Joseph McElrath and Jeff Owens. He wished everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

X. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.



Janis D. Sass
Secretary to the Faculty

Report to the Faculty Senate
4 December 1996
by Joseph R. McElrath, Jr., Chair
Faculty Senate Libraries Committee

Addendum 1
Approved

This report will take less time than others that I have delivered to the Faculty Senate over the past two years. As you may know, the news for 1995-1997 is good and, in some respects, great.

Let me take you briefly through the major developments of the past year.

- The most important one was the Provost's formation of a Task Force on the Future of the Libraries in response to (a) what was seen as a funding crisis directly related to the cost of serials subscriptions and (b) the Libraries Committee's preparation of a technological upgrade proposal. Before summer's end, the Task Force headed by Jane Robbins recommended an expanded electronic access to data bases plan including OCLC's FirstSearch as well as a rapid document delivery system as a means of complementing the serials resources in the libraries. Both recommendations were honored by the Provost who, in addition, initiated an experiment in accelerated inter-library loan deliveries of books and other materials for faculty.

- Funding was also made available for the purchase and installation of a server enabling us to mount a number of CD-ROMs that can be accessed from one's office or home, or from one of the 300 PCs that the Provost had installed in the libraries by the start of the fall semester.

- The next major development was that the Provost made it possible for the Libraries Committee to refrain from calling for subscription cancellations this year. The cost escalation, of course, continues; but, for this year at least, we have been able to maintain the subscriptions in effect last spring.

- Another has to do with our monographs budget. While it is not what it was before last year's 27% cut, the allocation has risen from \$893,000 to \$918,000. And, as has been noted, the improved inter-library loan borrowing system in place mitigates the effects of our still-reduced purchasing power.

- Next, researchers who have to work with microforms will have noticed that the antique film and fiche readers, as well as the worn-out printers, are being replaced with an adequate number of new, quite superior machines. And this may prove an important development in another respect, in that some journals are less expensive when purchased in microform, and future financial constraints may result in an increase in their number.

This campus, in short, is quite a different place from the one

it was less than a year ago.

The present preoccupation of the Libraries Committee is devising the means of preserving the progress that has been made. To that end, and in light of the fact that this year some of the gains were made possible by non-recurring funding, we are seeking to diminish present costs—particularly with regard to databases accessible from PCs. We are now examining the most economical ways of making them available, the choices being access: through FirstSearch; through LUIS; through CD-ROMs mounted on a server; through CD-ROMs at a dedicated PC; and, lest we forget, through printed volumes. During the present experimental year, we have some duplication and thus waste. We will eliminate duplication. We will also attempt to determine the most economical means of providing access, in light of how much actual demand there is for particular data bases. In addition to cost, we will also take into consideration two other factors when deciding whether to select an on-line data base or its CD-ROM equivalent: the convenience of the means of access for the greatest number of users; and the superior quality of search experience provided by some CD-ROM versions of data bases. Given our budgetary situation, however, it is only fair to mention now that cost will be the primary factor in our determinations.

In my next report to the Faculty Senate, at some time during the spring semester, I will provide the specifics of our plan. In the meantime, I hope that the faculty will not only be patient but remain supportive with regard to the Libraries Committee members, whose motto has to be "the greatest good for the greatest number." They will be trying to maintain our present high level of improved service. To keep it affordable is their charge, though; and we hope that all individuals with special needs will remember what I have repeatedly learned over the past two years: that, not surprisingly, all faculty members have as special needs—some of which can be honored and others of which cannot.

Addendum 2

MULTICULTURAL COURSES APPROVED BY THE UPC TO BE PRESENTED TO THE
FACULTY SENATE, DECEMBER 4, 1996

"x" courses

Approved

AFH 4302x Modern North Africa
ASH 4223x Modern Middle East
ASH 4530x Modern India
ASH 4520x Traditional India
ARH 452-x West African Art and the Diaspora
CPO 2002x Introduction to Comparative Government and
Politics
CPO 3034x Politics of Developing Areas
CPO 3403x Comparative Government and Politics: The
Middle East
CPO 3541x Comparative Government and Politics: China
CPO 3553x Comparative Government and Politics:
East Asia-Japan
CPO 3614x Eastern European Politics
FRT 3140x Masterworks of French Literature in
Translation
GET 3130x Masterpieces of German Literature in
Translation: 19th and 20th Centuries
HOE 3330x Human Sciences and Human Development: Global
Perspectives
HUN 2125x Food and Society
LAH 3100x History of South America
LAH 3203x History of Mexico, Central America and the
Caribbean
LAH 4430x History of Mexico
LAH 4470x History of the Caribbean
LAH 4600x History of Brazil
LAH 4748x Social Revolutionary Movements
PHM 2300x Introduction To Political Philosophy
REL 3170x Religious Ethics and Moral Problems
RUT 3110x Russian Literature in English
URP 4615x Planning for Developing Regions

"y" courses

AMH 4561y Women in Nineteenth-Century
AMH 4562y Women in Modern America
AMH 4571y Black America to 1877
AMH 4572y Black America Since 1877
ARH 458-x American and Folk Art
CLA 3501y Gender and Society in Ancient Greece
REL 3370y Afro-Caribbean Religions
SOP 3742y Psychology of Women
SOP 3782y Psychology of the African American
URP 4402y Substantial Development Planning in the Americas

Addendum 3

Approved

December 4, 1996

TO: FACULTY SENATE

FROM: Undergraduate Policy Committee

RE: Report on Demonstration of Oral Communication Competency

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

The Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) established standards ("must" statements) which all colleges and universities must meet in order to achieve and maintain accreditation. One of the "must" statements from the last re-accreditation visit involves competency in oral communication. The standard of the Commission on Colleges is, "The institution must demonstrate that its graduates of degree programs (undergraduates) are competent in reading, writing, oral communication, fundamental mathematical skills, and the basic use of computers."

The report from the team that visited FSU said: "Although the institution systematically assesses the reading, writing, and computational skills of its undergraduates, there are no formal stipulations regarding competency in oral communication. The Committee recommends that the Florida State University incorporate an oral communication competency requirement in all (undergraduate) degree programs."

In its deliberations, the Undergraduate Policy Committee sought to develop a policy which maximized flexibility while maintaining accountability and assuring a meaningful demonstration of competency in oral communication. The UPC recommends the following policy be adopted by the Faculty Senate:

RECOMMENDATION:

Competency in oral communication is indicated by demonstrating the ability to clearly transmit ideas and information orally in a way that is appropriate to the topic, purpose, and audience. It also involves demonstrating the ability to discuss ideas clearly with others, to hear and respond to questions, and to assess critical response appropriately.

A student will satisfy the requirement for competency in oral communication in either of two ways:

1. Petition to have prior demonstration of oral communication competency accepted in place of an approved Florida State University Course.
Students may petition the Office of Undergraduate Studies to have prior demonstrations of oral communication competency accepted in place of a course at Florida State University.
Acceptable substitutes may include but not be limited to:
 - a grade of B or above in a high school oral communication or speech class;
 - verified successful participation in a forensic or debate program in high school, community college, or college; and/or,
 - passing with a C- or higher a course in public speaking or argumentation in another college or university (including community college).

The need for specific oral communication skills (such as formal lecture/presentation, interviewing skills, or group dynamics) will vary from discipline to discipline, and while a minimum level of oral competency is required, means of assessing such competency must remain flexible. Thus, several courses will be identified as including basic tests of oral competency, and students passing these courses with a grade of C- or higher will automatically be assumed to have completed the requirement:

2. Earn a grade of C- or better in a course which has been approved for oral communication competency credit:
 - 2.a. Earn a grade of C- or better in a course (1-3 hrs) in the major or minor which has been certified by the Undergraduate Policy Committee as meeting the standards for oral communication competency.
 - 2.b. Earn a grade of C- or better in one of the following courses: SPC 3601, Public Speaking; SPC 1600, Fundamentals of Speech; or SPC 3513, Argumentation.

- Departments may wish to develop and submit new courses designed to test oral competency or they may submit existing courses to the UPC for consideration as a course designated for Oral Communication competency.

- Whether new or existing (modified), the syllabus for each of these courses must contain a statement that satisfactory completion of the oral competency examination portion of the course is required to receive a grade of C- or higher in the course.

- Departments may elect to require one of the three listed communication courses.

- Regardless of the vehicle, to successfully complete the oral communication competency examination, the student must demonstrate the ability to:

1. generate an original oral message which clearly presents ideas and/or information;
2. make effective use of both vocal and physical delivery in the presentation;
3. use standard American English;
4. adapt the presentation to the particular audience; and,
5. be receptive to questions and/or criticism.

- The department chairperson will certify the names of faculty in the department who have the experience and/or training to evaluate the oral communication competency examination. These faculty will teach the courses which satisfy the oral communication competency requirement.

- Courses in drama or the oral performance of literature will not satisfy this requirement.

****[New courses must first be approved by the Curriculum Committee; existing courses which are substantially modified must also be submitted to the University Curriculum Committee.]**

HYPOTHETICAL SCENARIOS

Oral Communication Competency

Student A has taken a public speaking class in high school and received an A; she successfully petitions the Office of Undergraduate Studies to have the course count as having satisfied the oral communication competency requirement.

Student B won the state championship in original oratory; he also successfully petitions the Office of Undergraduate Studies.

Student C competed in dramatic interpretation while in high school and again in community college. Her petition is unsuccessful.

Student D has transferred to FSU after completing one year at another university. She took argumentation at that institution and received a B in the course; she successfully petitions the Office of Undergraduate studies.

Student E received a grade of D in a course in public speaking at a community college. His petition is not successful and he must satisfy the oral communication competency requirement while enrolled at FSU.

Department A decides to develop a new course which will satisfy the oral communication competency requirement. After identifying the skills most needed by their graduates, the department prepares a syllabus that integrates oral communication with disciplinary course content by requiring activities such as in-class debates. The course is submitted to the University Curriculum Committee and simultaneously to the Undergraduate Policy Committee for approval.

Department B decides to modify an existing course to satisfy the oral communication by adding a 1-credit lab which will test oral communication skills. The student must receive a satisfactory grade in the lab in order to pass the oral communication requirement. The course is submitted to the University Curriculum Committee and simultaneously to the Undergraduate Policy Committee for approval.

Department C decides that it does not have the resources to commit to testing oral communication competency and instead requires that its majors and minors enroll in one of the three speech course designated as fulfilling the oral communication requirement.