



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

University Senate Consultative Committee
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DRAFT
MINUTES

FORUM

MORRIS CAMPUS FACULTY AND THE ALL UNIVERSITY FACULTY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

October 18, 1984

3:00 - 4:20

Recital Hall, Fine Arts and Humanities Center
University of Minnesota, Morris

Present: A number of members of the UMM faculty and the following members of the Faculty Consultative Committee: Joseph Latterell, Cleon Melsa, Jack Merwin (Chair), Irwin Rubenstein, Deon Stuthman, Burt Sundquist.

Professor Merwin expressed the committee's pleasure at being at UMM. He made a presentation to Professor W. D. Spring from Professor Spring's most recent colleagues. He thanked him, on behalf of the present and past committees for Professor Spring's keen insights and for both bringing a valuable all-University perspective to the Consultative Committee over the past six years, and well-representing Morris on the committee. He noted also Professor Spring's numerous and continuing contributions on task forces and other Senate committees.

Professor Latterell had asked the chairpersons of the Morris Campus committees each to say a few words about their agendas and concerns. Those are summarized below.

1. Andy Lopez: Resources and Planning Committee.

Committee addresses the allocation and reallocation of resources in planning. They believe Morris still does not have full core funding, and hence moving the existing resources around is very difficult. They want to come up with flexibility in their program so they can adapt to change. They try to integrate with all-University planning. They appreciate the support of the all-University system, but note at the same time that UMM's size and funding level limit it more than they like.

2. David Hoppe, 1983-84 chair of the Campus Consultative Committee.

Professor Hoppe described the committee as being more reactive than instigating. Issues include:

- (a) responding to a suggestion from some faculty to form a financial committee to watchdog financial issues;

- (b) clarifying committee responsibilities on campus;
- (c) the selection, salaries, and evaluation of part-time faculty -- committee continues to interact with the academic dean on this;
- (d) special salary monies: some faculty express concern with central administration's apparent merger of merit money increment with the marketplace retention fund; the Morris sentiments are that there ought to be separate funds for meeting these two different needs.

3. Bettina Blake: Curriculum Committee.

Dean Blake said the committee is approving courses and preparing copy for the next two-year bulletin. Last year the committee focused on four areas of concern they want to feed into UMM's overall curriculum:

- an international dimension
- telecommunications and technology
- ecological concerns
- perspectives of groups not always represented in curriculum deliberations.

When the campus assembly's bylaws were changed, the Curriculum Committee got added responsibility for services which support the academic work, such as the library and the computer center.

Dean Blake described the UMM curriculum as a single fabric where the excellence of a program depends upon the excellence of the whole. It is important that all the parts be strong. They may have a different way of deciding how to use faculty resources. The support services too must be strong.

Educational Development Programs are very important for this campus, she stressed. Morris has regretted the reduction in EDP funds. The available funds don't provide for much innovation and experimentation. She spoke of the importance to Morris' strength of single quarter leaves and Bush sabbaticals.

4. Robinson Abbot spoke in place of Jim Gremmels, who was away from campus, for the Scholastic Committee.

Last year's policy decisions included revising the grading system from one of A-B-C-No record to A-B-C-D-N.

The agenda includes academic progress requirements for maintaining eligibility for financial aid. The committee will study the policy just put into effect for the Twin Cities, especially to see how it relates to the Morris Campus. UMM will also be looking at the admissions process and entrance requirements.

5. Tom Wojciechowski: Student Services Committee.

The committee was formed just last year. It has responsibility for policy within the student services. The committee grants official recognition to student organizations, conducts student elections, and monitors

student fundraising. There is a continuing press for a student center.

The committee may look at ways of improving the overall living and learning environment. It considers the level of cultural activities available for students. They have been looking at additional sources of funding and have a small Regional Arts grant. They believe there is a need to improve the campus cultural offerings and generally to enhance out-of-class living and learning activity. They are undertaking some massive fundraising efforts.

Professor Merwin inquired what takes the place of a student center. Professor Wojciechowski noted that Edson Hall's new cash cafeteria provides a place for faculty and students to meet informally. Otherwise there is nothing. Student offices are scattered among many buildings.

The committee presentations being completed at this point, Professor Merwin invited individuals to raise their concerns and identify any issues they would like the Senate Consultative Committee to keep in mind.

Dean Blake asked to hear something on the topic of high-ability students and the University. Professor Merwin noted that the thrust for more specific attention (in recruiting and in program offerings) came out of the report of the Task Force on the Student Experience. There now seem to be efforts going on that there haven't been in some time to attract the highest ability students.

Professor Sundquist reported that the College of Agriculture has picked up in its efforts to attract the best undergraduate students. This represents a change from the past when the effort was largely on doing this only with regard to getting good graduate students. Our faculty believe we will thereby make it a better student experience for the whole student body, he said.

As the president and regents have said, he added, the University will continue to be open and accessible to Minnesota students.

Professor Nathaniel Hart, chair of the Humanities Division, spoke of the UMM goal of attracting more and better students, which would bring about the need for more teachers in the classrooms. But Morris is operating in a closed system at this time, he said. If UMM should succeed in increasing its enrollments, it would have to reduce upperclass support to provide for lower division needs. We are in a very difficult spot, he said, in responding to a rise in enrollment and to the changing national educational picture, such as the new emphasis on foreign language acquisition. Morris does not have a foreign language requirement. But they recognize they must respond quickly to the changed perspective on foreign language study. UMM should be taking a leadership role, not being reactive. Yet within their fixed system of resources, they can only rob Peter to pay Paul. Morris ought to have some resources to make such a change.

Professor Rubenstein asked if there are any incentives for alumni giving or other endowment-type activity. Provost Imholte noted that UMM's alumni at this point are a younger-than-average group of adults. He said that Morris has put all available resources into the freshman academic scholarship program (President's Club).

The University at Morris has sought a particular kind of matching grant fund of \$250,000. If the campus should get it, it would have to work hard to raise the other half; then UMM would for 20 years be able to spend only half the interest earned. The principal would be theirs after 20 years.

Individual fundraising efforts are being made in music and science, Mr. Imholte added, but almost all of the money raised goes into scholarship support.

Professor Stuthman noted that legislators are promoting increasing cooperation among the state's institution of higher education. He inquired about the possible use of tele-lectures to help alleviate some of the restrictions of the described closed system. Professor Craig Kissock noted the existence of the microwave system and other systems and said the opportunity should be there for interactive transmissions.

Professor Sundquist reported on the work of the advisory committee to the regents on the presidential search. The committee is getting out a letter to the faculty to solicit nominations and suggestions regarding the criteria for selection. The committee is presently trying to determine its preliminary screening criteria. The committee has the help of Regent Emeritus Neil Sherburne, who is advisory to both the regents and the committee and serves as liaison between the two.

The committee hopes to expedite things so the regents can name a new president before the legislative session adjourns, he reported. Meanwhile, he noted, Interim President Keller is a very, very knowledgeable person regarding the whole range of University finances.

Professor Tom Turner remarked that President Magrath had made a fine commitment regarding the internationalization of the curriculum and other steps to strengthen the international character of the University. He asked whether it is thought a successor will continue that commitment.

Professor Merwin reported that the Senate Committee on Educational Policy had written an assessment of the task force report on internationalization: it was favorable to some recommendations and sharply questioning of others. It raised a concern about the sources of financial support. Professor Merwin sees no sign that Vice President Keller is any less interested in moving in this direction, and noted the vice president's support of the task force's recommendation for an assistant vice president for international education.

Professor Turner asked if such a commitment were a factor in the presidential search. Professor Sundquist said the committee has not addressed that yet. He said he thinks the committee would like to see openness in a president to the international aspects of education.

Professor Sundquist described one particular international program in the College of Agriculture. For five years the University has had a USAID strengthening grant to build its ability to meet international challenges. Now a smaller subset of universities will write memoranda of understanding with USAID. We will have to make some significant commitment on what we are

going to do regarding training grants, he noted. We will probably be in association with a black land grant institution. The work has had a heavy emphasis on agriculture, food, and natural resources, but Agriculture is also working to involve the College of Liberal Arts.

Professor Stuthman remarked that there remains unfinished business to address regarding the University's international perspective. A basic question is whether to just advertise better what we do in that realm, or to increase what we do.

Provost Imholte asked Professor Sundquist if there is any thought among faculty members on the search advisory committee about who would be involved after the finalists among the candidates have been identified. Would coordinate campus representatives have the opportunity to meet with the finalists?

Professor Sundquist noted that the search committee is meeting with some Senate committees which include coordinate campus representatives (it will meet November 1 with SCC, and it plans to meet with Educational Policy and with Planning). The broad invitation to the faculty will invite suggestions regarding criteria and any other considerations that should go into the screening process. He said he would bring Provost Imhote's question back to the advisory committee.

Professor Arne Henjum said the Morris administration has been very supportive and encouraging of research activities. At what level of the University, he asked, do we deal with the question of teaching loads vs. research. Professor Merwin replied that that is decentralized to colleges and even to departments. He knows of no all-University definition of workload. Professor Rubenstein added that the norm for comparison has been comparable units in comparable institutions.

Dean Blake asked if Professor Merwin could outline what he saw as the major agenda items for the All University SCC this year, such as the suggested calendar change. Professor Merwin listed (1) the presidential search; (2) Vice President Keller's reservations about the tenure code as approved by the Faculty Senate and the likelihood therefore of having to take the document back to the Senate; (3) recommendations from SCEP for progress in course evaluation and in improving the quality of teaching; (4) inloading of credit instruction and its implications for the faculty; (5) the semester system conversion study for the Twin Cities.

Professor Sundquist added that a continuing concern of both FCC and the Finance Committee is faculty salary improvement, and Professor Stuthman pointed out that it is the top priority in the University's biennial budget request. Issues of planning will continue to be important, added Professor Rubenstein.

Professor Merwin noted in closing that the Consultative Committee appreciates the quality of people like Donald Spring and Joseph Latterell that the Morris faculty send to work with the committee. He thanked the University at Morris for their hospitality and participation on this day.