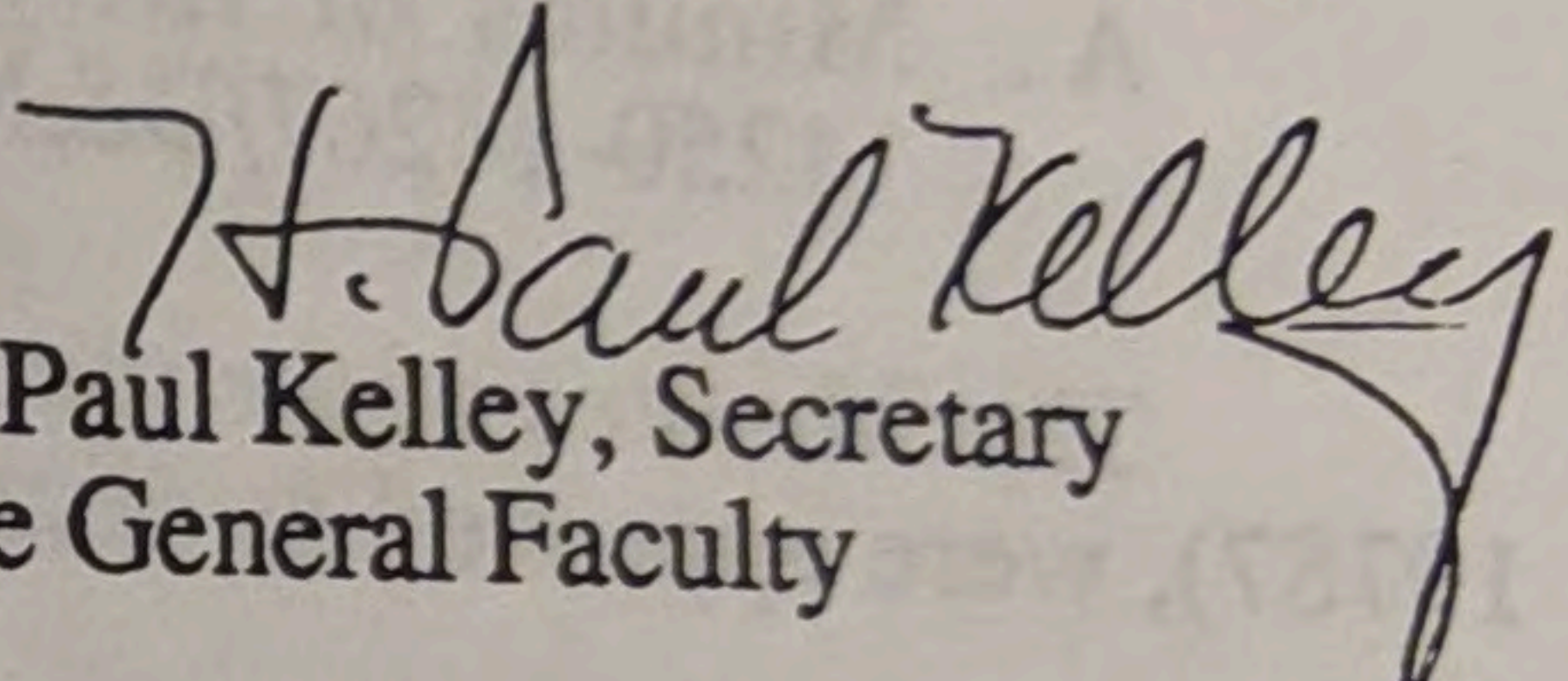


DOCUMENTS AND MINUTES OF THE GENERAL FACULTY
AND
DOCUMENTS AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

The Minutes of the University Council meeting of September 21, 1992, published below, have been prepared for the immediate use of the members of the University Council and are included in its Documents and Proceedings. They are also included in the Documents and Minutes of the General Faculty for the information of the members.


H. Paul Kelley, Secretary
The General Faculty

MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MEETING
OF SEPTEMBER 21, 1992

The first regular meeting of the University Council for the academic year 1992-1993 was held in Room 212 of the Main Building on Monday, September 21, 1992, at 2:15 p.m.

In the absence of Acting President William S. Livingston, Executive Vice President and Provost Gerhard J. Fonken presided.

ATTENDANCE.

Present: David M. Austin, Harold W. Billings, Daniel A. Bonevac, Robert E. Boyer, Oscar G. Brockett, Caryn L. Carlson, Susan W. Clagett, Alan K. Cline, Eli P. Cox III, Donald G. Davis, Jr., Randy L. Diehl, Kenneth R. Diller, John D. Dollard, James T. Doluisio, John R. Durbin, Helen L. Erickson, Gerhard J. Fonken, Alan W. Friedman, G. Karl Galinsky, J. David Gavenda, Mark P. Gergen, Paul D. Gottlieb, Betsy S. Greenberg, Sue A. Greninger, Deanna E. Hayes, George K. Herbert, Joseph M. Horn, Ira Iscoe, John S. Jefferson, Robert C. Jeffrey, Sharon H. Justice, Manuel J. Justiz, Irene Kacandes, H. Paul Kelley, Vickas E. Khemsara, Joseph E. Kruppa, J. Parker Lamb, Wendy B. Marks, Susan E. Marshall, M. Sean Mast, Robert G. May, Christine M. Maziar, Deborah K. Morrison, Howard D. Nirken, Patrick L. Parker, Karen L. Rascati, Peter J. Riley, Dolores Sands, Brooke E. Sheldon, Joel F. Sherzer, William G. Spelman, Waneen W. Spirduso, Madeline C. Sutherland, William O. S. Sutherland, Linda M. Thibodeau, Michael P. Thomas, Jr., James W. Vick, Jon S. Whitmore, Patricia A. Wilson, Robert E. Witt, Dolora A. Wojciehowski, Herbert H. Woodson.

Absent: Shirley F. Binder (excused), Brian A. Bremen, Patrick L. Brockett, Ned H. Burns (excused), Elizabeth W. Fernea, G. Charles Franklin, Stephen T. Gerald, Kenneth J. Hale, Thomas M. Hatfield (excused), Martha F. Hilley, Robert D. King, Dale E. Klein (excused), William S. Livingston (excused), Guy J. Manaster (excused), John D. Martin, R. Ray Mercer (excused), Alba A. Ortiz (excused), Ricardo Romo, Stanley J. Roux, Jr., Alan T. Schauer, Edwin R. Sharpe, Jr. (excused), Max R. Sherman

(excused), Lawrence W. Speck, Sharon L. Strover, Delbert D. Thiessen, Christine L. Williams (excused), Mark G. Yudof (excused).

Total members present: **62**

Total members absent: **27**

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

A. Minutes of the Meeting of April 20, 1992 (D&P 14250-14267/D&M 19770-19787). (APPROVED)

The Minutes of the meeting of April 20, 1992 (D&P 14250-14267/D&M 19770-19787), were approved as distributed.

B. Minutes of the Meeting of May 11, 1992 (D&P 14268-14292b/D&M 19791-19815b). (APPROVED AS CORRECTED)

Secretary H. Paul Kelley (Educational Psychology) noted that the two "attachments" to the Minutes (D&P 14292a-14292b/D&M 19815a-19815b) had not been distributed with the Minutes; they will be distributed separately and should be appended to the Minutes.

The Minutes of the meeting of May 11, 1992 (D&P 14268-14292b/D&M 19791-19815b), were then approved as corrected.

II. SECRETARY'S REPORT (D&P 14345-14371).

The Secretary's written report (D&P 14345-14371) was distributed at the meeting. Secretary Kelley apologized for failing to distribute the written Secretary's Report in advance of the meeting and for the fact that several of the documents that were distributed had not been reproduced as two-sided documents. "We have been experiencing some difficulties with getting materials printed properly and distributed in a timely manner through the print shops at the University; we are continuing to work with that problem, and we will try to resolve it."

Secretary Kelley then announced two updates to the information contained in his written report. First, item IV.D on D&P 14352 should be changed to indicate that Martha F. Hilley (Music) has replaced Robert A. Duke (Music) on the University Council. Second, the item of legislation on D&P 14367 concerning the non-curricular recommendations that originated with the Faculty Senate Committee on Multicultural Education was acted on by President Cunningham on August 31, 1992; he accepted Recommendations 1.a, 1.b, 1.c, 2.a, and 2.c, but he did not accept Recommendation 2.b. No further approval of these recommendations is required. President Cunningham's detailed explanation will be included in the Secretary's next written report.

Finally, Secretary Kelley announced several changes in procedures followed in the Office of the General Faculty. "Last spring, several members of the Council asked that ...

documents be distributed farther in advance of the meetings than has been the practice in the last year or so. To make this possible, it is necessary that items that are to be distributed to the University Council in [advance] be received by the Office of the General Faculty no later than two weeks before the date of the Council meeting.... [The] Office then will reproduce and distribute those documents as soon as possible.... In addition, I will [ask] the Rules Committee of the General Faculty to consider whether or not minor legislation should be placed under the same 21-day [prior-circulation] rule that major legislation is now under. ..."

III. DISCUSSION OF SECRETARY'S REPORT.

There was no discussion of the Secretary's Report.

IV. QUESTIONS TO THE PRESIDENT.

A. Questions Concerning the Proposal for a Division of Rhetoric and Composition.

John R. Durbin (Mathematics) had submitted in advance the questions set forth below concerning the proposal for a Division of Rhetoric and Composition:

"I have several questions about the recently approved proposal for a Division of Rhetoric and Composition, which I hope you will be able to address at the University Council meeting on September 21. My questions have to do primarily with the role of the faculty in the Division.

"As background let me begin with several quotations from the proposal. (My copy of the proposal was distributed to faculty members in the Department of English. Could copies of the proposal be distributed to members of the University Council before the September 21 meeting? My quotations and questions here are fairly narrow; members of the Council should find the full text of such an important proposal to be of interest, and they may have other questions or comments.)

...The Division will establish the content of these [Plan I lower-division writing] courses, develop and approve appropriate syllabi, pilot test new courses, authorize course variants, and choose textbooks, subject to established review by the College Course and Curriculum Committee....

...The Director of the Division of Rhetoric and Composition will appoint all TAs and AIs within the Division, subject to the approval by the Dean.

Faculty appointments in the Division will be made by the Director, subject to approval of the Dean. In cases of tenure and tenure-track appointments the Director shall consult with the chair of the faculty member's department and the Dean prior to making an appointment....

Director. A faculty member appointed by the Dean of Liberal Arts. The Director will administer the Division's budget and will be responsible for policy, curriculum, AI hiring, staff hiring, teacher supervision, and teacher training within the Division....

Instruction in the expository writing courses offered by the Division will be by tenured and tenure-track faculty, senior lecturers, lecturers, and assistant instructors.

a.. Upper-division staffing. Faculty in rhetoric and composition currently in the English department will teach in the Division and staff most of its upper-division offerings, especially E 325M, E 360M, and E379C....

"I take it as an essential principle of sound university governance that the faculty should have primary responsibility for the curriculum, the choice of new faculty, and appointments to tenure. The proposal raises questions about the degree to which this principle is being followed in establishing the new Division.

"The proposal gives the Director, subject to the approval of the Dean, total control of the faculty appointments in the Division. Is a faculty appointment to the Division comparable to a faculty appointment in a department, so that the Division's faculty will tend to remain constant over time? Or will the faculty in any given year just be those who are teaching in the Division that year? Will the Division have a budget council or comparable group? In traditional departments and colleges the tenured faculty is independent and serves at least as a counterbalance to the chair or dean. Perhaps you can offer assurance that that will be the case in the new Division.

"Will the Division's budget cover salaries for faculty who teach in the Division? If so, what will be the faculty's role in determining those salaries and in awarding merit raises?

"Who will be primarily responsible for recommending tenure and promotion for those who teach in the Division? The Division or the faculty member's department? What if the reward systems of the Division and the faculty member's department are in conflict (which seems not unlikely)?

"In most departments TA and AI appointments are made taking into account the needs and resources of both the undergraduate teaching program and the graduate program. This proposal states that 'the Director of the Division of Rhetoric and Composition will appoint all TAs and AIs within the Division, subject to the approval by the Dean.' This appears to introduce a potential conflict between the wishes of the Director and those of the graduate faculty (in this case, presumably, that of the English Department). Has thought been given to this?

"Finally, could you share with us how much faculty involvement there was in the formulation of this proposal? I have had the impression that new graduate programs or units are discussed by the Graduate Assembly. Is there a reason why the proposal for a

Division of Rhetoric and Composition was not presented to the University Council before it was approved?

"Several members of the faculty have talked with me about these questions because of my role as Chair of the Committee of Counsel on Academic Freedom and Responsibility. However, that committee has not met this academic year and thus has not discussed the questions."

In the absence of both Acting President William S. Livingston and Acting Dean Robert D. King (College of Liberal Arts), Executive Vice President and Provost Gerhard J. Fonken suggested that he respond to the questions only in a very limited way and that the questions then be carried over to the next meeting of the Council. Mr. Durbin agreed to that procedure.

Provost Fonken said: "This concerns the proposal to establish an administrative unit currently referred to as the Division of Rhetoric and Composition. That unit is to be established in the College of Liberal Arts and is to administer and otherwise tend to the instruction in the area of both freshman English and other related rhetoric and composition-type courses offered, I think primarily, at the undergraduate level. I am not totally clear on that yet.

"This was a recommendation which most recently emerged from the Committee on the Undergraduate Experience. The Committee report was first laid out to this Council back in November or December of last year. There was an *On Campus* article about its recommendations in December, I believe. The President's actions, or intended actions, on those many recommendations were printed in the *On Campus* sometime in April or May (I have forgotten exactly when).

"I would like to point out that administrative units somewhat akin to this-- that is, non-departmental units, not a *bona fide* or complete, functioning academic department--are reasonably well known. There are never precisely-identical things in a university; no two courses are identical, nor faculty, nor departments, nor many other things.

"The lower-division biology-type biological sciences courses are separately administered from the departments in the biological sciences area through a Division of Biological Sciences, headed by a director who is appointed by the dean of the college; [that Division seems] to have served useful purposes in the College of Natural Sciences for many years.

"There are interest areas most often shown in the Budget and in Course Schedules under the title 'Center,' but sometimes not even ... that. For example, there are courses listed as Museum Courses [that] are attached to no particular department. We have [the] Center for Asian Studies, [Center for] Middle Eastern Studies, Language and Area Center for Latin American Studies, and probably several others. Those centers are not academic departments but were put in place years ago, I presume for good purposes, to better manage and administer special areas of interest -- courses in, for example, Asian Studies which are rather often cross-listed with ... history or political science or government....

"There are faculty in some of those centers, cross-appointed faculty, things of that nature. And many of these concepts, ranging from the Biological Sciences Division to the so-called academic-type centers, are being considered by Dean King -- at least that is my understanding -- in his efforts to put together a proposed administrative structure and an operating policy ... for this proposed Division of Rhetoric and Composition.

"There have been some comments that this is ... a totally new thing. I did not go through all the University records, but I looked at a few of them; and these are matters that Dean King also is considering. Here is a letter dated May 16, 1985, ... addressed to Dean King from a group of senior faculty in English. It said, 'We have formulated a comprehensive and, we think, workable solution to many of the problems facing the English Department.' I cannot read it in its entirety; I will read you parts of it.... It says, 'We believe our plan can significantly reduce the current disharmony within the department. Many members of the department would like us to get out of the composition business entirely. Well, we can't get out; the University would hardly allow us. But we can employ an administrative structure that places writing courses off in a semiautonomous wing, much like American Studies.' (I forgot American Studies. That is another unit shown in the Budget which has faculty [that are] most often cross-appointed. It is not a department, [and] it is not headed by a chair; it is headed by a director appointed by the dean.)

"This [letter continues with] some comments that are relevant to this new proposal; it says: 'This body [this new writing division, or whatever] would consist of a Director of Writing appointed by and reporting to the Dean of Liberal Arts, and a Coordinator of Upper-Division Writing, and a Coordinator of Lower-Division Writing,' and so on...

"There is a summary at the back of this that says, 'Summary of the administrative structure of our proposed UT undergraduate writing program.' It says, 'A Director of Writing appointed by the Dean of Liberal Arts would administer all undergraduate writing courses,' and so on.... It gives a rationale--improved management, and all of those kinds of things. It is signed by a group of senior faculty of the English Department of that time.

"I bring that to your attention simply because it suggests that this newly-proposed thing titled Rhetoric and Composition, which has yet to be put into final organizational form, with an operating plan and all this other business, is in fact not new. It is at least seven years old, and I am told that these thoughts, or similar thoughts, extend back almost as far as 20 years. But that is for others to speak to.

"That ends my comments.... I think the remainder is probably best left to questions to Dean King and the like, but I will be pleased to answer anything else that I can."

In response to further questions from Mr. Durbin, Provost Fonken agreed that Mr. Durbin's original questions would be on the agenda of the next Council meeting and that copies of the proposal plus copies of President Cunningham's letter would be distributed to Council members prior to that meeting. Provost Fonken concluded: "There are probably many questions. Where will this appear? How will it be structured? ... Many of those things have not yet been answered; they are a subject of discussion within the College of

Liberal Arts in order to develop an operating plan and a structural plan. The proposal itself is mostly conceptual at this point."

William O. S. Sutherland (English) asked if the proposal, in its final form, will come before the Faculty Senate or University Council. Provost Fonken replied: "It is my understanding that it would not come before the Council. It is my understanding that it is not an action that would be in the purview of the Council. But it is certainly open for Council discussion and things of that nature."

Mr. Sutherland then asked if the proposal could be presented to the Council before it is completed. Provost Fonken said: "That is not my prerogative, so I can not speak to that."

Mr. Sutherland commented that having the whole unit under the control of a Director "seems to me to violate the best canons of faculty governance. Also, just so people will know why the questions are being asked, this is essentially a lower-division unit, and yet according to the information that we have gotten, it will have an Executive Committee which will be responsible for hiring, promotions, terminations, and all the rest. That seems to me to be in direct violation of the *Handbook of Operating Procedures* and, it seems to me, ought for that reason to come before the University Council."

Provost Fonken responded: "I think we may be engaged in speculation, because I have not seen a draft operating plan; I do not know that you have. It is my understanding that Dean King and others in Liberal Arts are going to be working on the development of such an operating plan in the Fall and Spring semesters, with the hope of implementing this operational unit by June of next year. But the Council -- I speak here from memory -- did not have brought before it, or approve or disapprove, the establishment of the Division of Biological Sciences, nor the Center for Asian Studies, nor the American Studies Program, and they employ faculty."

Mr. Sutherland: "Do they hire and promote?"

Provost Fonken: "Yes, they do. Their faculties are, for the most part, but not exclusively, cross-appointed between various departments and the centers or divisions, and things of that nature, and they have a role in the evaluation of those faculty. The promotion guidelines require, in the case of a joint-appointed faculty member, recommendations from all of the units in which that individual holds a partial appointment."

Mr. Sutherland: "Well, I can only go by what has been distributed to us, and it seems to me where matters of curriculum and where matters of faculty governance [are] concerned, the University Council ought to be interested and ought to take that into its purview."

Mr. Fonken: "I would respond to that ... only in a very limited sense. The Council ... has not in the past taken it upon itself to engage in disputes within departments about modes of governance and things of that nature, and personally, I suspect it probably should not. Since we do not yet know what mode of governance is going to be proposed for this unit, it may be speculation to suggest that this all needs to come before the Council."

Waneen W. Spirduso (Kinesiology and Health Education) commented: "I think it is certainly not the prerogative of the Council to make decisions that are administrative in nature. But it is obvious that there is a lot of information on this that is in the newspaper-- information that is only partially true, I am sure, and I think it would be very helpful to everyone to have some kind of formal documentation to look at ... to find out what is going on. It also would be helpful to have some type of lists of concerns that people have expressed, because we are also getting these through the newspaper, as well. So from a standpoint of understanding within the academic community, it seems to me that it would be helpful for us to have something documented on both sides of this issue that we could look at and discuss rationally."

Provost Fonken agreed and said that he "will get copies of the proposal and the President's response to that proposal out to the Council, and then discussions can begin. I will offer again ... my opinion ... that at this point in time it may be advisable to allow this matter, which is a matter concerning the College of Liberal Arts, at least at this point in history, to be discussed extensively within the College of Liberal Arts. It is my understanding that will take place.... But the Council, of course, can bring before itself anything it wishes."

Joseph E. Kruppa (English) asked: "Are there any plans to bring this before the Educational Policy Committee? ... I noticed in the same report in which the recommendation for this Division is contained [that] there are lots of nice sentiments about how anything regarding educational matters that are of University-wide concern should go before the Educational Policy Committee. We were told two years ago when we wanted to simply change the syllabus in [an English] 306 course that this was a University-wide matter and had to be looked at by a wide variety of people. Surely a division like this is a much, much bigger change ... with much wider ramifications than simply changing a syllabus, and yet there has been no talk at all about taking this before the Educational Policy Committee. And I wonder if we are not rushing this process a little bit too much and acting as if this is simply a College of Liberal Arts matter when indeed this is going to affect the University in a very, very sweeping way."

Provost Fonken responded: "It is very desirable to act when we know what we are acting upon. At this point we have a conceptual proposal which has been approved by the President and remanded back to the Dean and [the College of] Liberal Arts at this point to work up an operating plan. So far I have seen nothing in there that would necessarily suggest taking it to the Educational Policy Committee. There has been no proposal that there be some change in the curriculum itself; at least, I have not seen it. It is at this point a matter referring to the administration of an established curriculum."

"Nonetheless, I think that these are questions that can be better addressed by the Dean and those who are working on this proposal, and you should probably take them up at the next Council meeting."

V. SPECIAL ORDERS -- None.

VI. PETITIONS -- None.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

A. Reconsideration of Resolution Concerning Distinguished Speakers/Visitors (D&P 9814; D&P 9874/D&M 15757; D&P 9912-9913). (POSTPONED UNTIL NEXT MEETING)

Secretary Kelley pointed out that the Resolution Concerning Distinguished Speakers/Visitors (D&P 9814; D&P 9874/D&M 15757; D&P 9912-9913) is very, very old unfinished business. Because background documents had not yet been distributed to current members of the Council, he planned to MOVE to postpone this item until the next meeting. But before making that motion he briefly reviewed the legislative history of the proposal.

In 1984, student members of the Council proposed a resolution that called on the University Public Lectures Committee to do four things: to identify new funding sources to increase the quantity and quality of speakers coming to U.T. Austin; to evaluate the means by which that committee publicizes its existence and purpose; to evaluate the need for a more centralized process for choosing distinguished speakers/visitors; and to identify new means of coordinating publicity for distinguished speakers/visitors. The Council referred the proposed resolution to the Public Lectures Committee for its comments and suggestions. Later that year, the Chair of the Committee reported to the Council that he had discussed the matter with the student who had formulated the proposal, that he felt that the student was confused between the purposes of the Public Lecturers Committee and the Committee of the Student Union that brings all sorts of speakers to the campus, and that he had recommended that the student take his concerns to the people that fund the Student Union Committee. In response the student representatives on the University Council insisted that they were not confused between the purposes of the two committees and that, instead, what they were proposing was a new mission for the Public Lectures Committee. The University Council then voted to send the proposed resolution back to the Public Lectures Committee again for further consideration and comments.

There the matter rested until 1988, when the Public Lectures Committee was abolished by the Council upon recommendation of the Committee on Committees. Last spring, a student representative noticed that this proposed resolution had been referred to a committee that no longer existed and asked about its status. The Council then voted to put the proposal back onto the agenda of the Council for further consideration.

Secretary Kelley then MOVED that the proposed resolution be carried over as Old Business to the October meeting of the University Council. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously by voice vote.

VIII. REPORTS -- None.