

MINUTES OF THE SENATE
Department of English

Ruszkiewicz

29 January 1982

3:05-4:27 p.m.

Present: Moldenhauer (Chair); E. Bowden, Cable, Duncan, Endres, Farrell, Heinzelman, Lindfors, Meyer, Newcomb, Ohle, Renwick, Ruszkiewicz, Saldivar, Webb, Westbrook, Whitbread.

Absent: Flowers, Kinneavy, Kruppa, MacKay, Megaw, Reed, Rodi, Simon.

1. The Senate Subcommittee on Lecturers did not have a report. The Chairman announced that the resolution on Lecturers' workload had been sent to the Dean in mid-December [note: 21 December--JM].
2. The Chair announced the assumption of vacant seats by two new members of the Senate: Bernth Lindfors, succeeding Gayatri Spivak on leave of absence for the spring semester (Professor representative); and Horace Newcomb, replacing Kate Frost on leave for the spring semester (Associate Professor representative).
3. The Chair noted that the leave of absence of Professor Spivak had also reduced the size of the Governance Committee to two, namely Joe Malof and Jim Shay, and that Professor Malof had asked him if he might not amplify the committee for the spring. In consultation with Malof, Moldenhauer had identified Professors Whitbread and LeClercq as prospective additions to the Governance Committee who were willing to serve, and asked the Senate to advise him individually within the next week if they had any reservations or better suggestions; any such reservations or suggestions would be taken into consideration.
4. Professor Malof introduced the second agenda item, Governance Committee recommendations for alterations in the EC Constitution, namely:

- (1) In Section III(B), delete the underlined sentence:

All voting members of the Department's faculty are eligible to vote in Executive Committee elections. Members who are on leave shall be permitted to vote, although they shall not be entitled to have ballots sent to them through the U.S. Mail. Visiting faculty shall not be eligible to vote.

- (2) In Section III(C)(4), delete the underlined sentence:

All members of the Department eligible to nominate are also eligible to vote. The final balloting shall be conducted according to the Hare system

Reason: Dean King and Vice-President Fonken have approved the department's EC mode of governance for another three-year period, providing the above two changes be made. The first change is necessary in order to bring the EC Constitution into conformance with the H.O.P. (pp. 27-28), which states that a faculty member can vote on departmental matters if "he holds a full-time appointment in that department as detailed in the budget and holds the rank

of Professor, Visiting Professor, Associate Professor, Visiting Associate Professor, Assistant Professor, Instructor, or Lecturer." The second change eliminates a confusing redundancy, since voting eligibility is established in Section III(B).

These proposals were moved by Professor Bowden, and seconded by Paul Meyer. Professor Farrell asked about the status of changes that had been effected during his leave of absence last year. The proposed changes passed unanimously. The Chair observed that the EC Constitution with the adoption of these changes is on a more secure institutional footing that it has been at any time since its inception in 1968. There was a brief discussion as to the functions and purposes of the Governance Committee.

5. The Teaching Awards Subcommittee had no report.
6. Although the TLC Subcommittee had no report, Professor Megaw announced the names of those colleagues who had agreed to serve with him on this subcommittee: Professors Hilfer and Friedman (see minutes of Departmental Senate, 4 December).
7. At the Chairman's request, Professor Lindfors gave a nutshell report on this year's recruitment for junior positions, indicating that two highly ranked candidates had visited Austin this past week and that two more are scheduled to visit in the coming week. He answered a variety of questions with regard to the number of applications received and the procedures of screening employed. It was suggested that the Senate might consider whether to reinstitute the procedure of ranking of candidates in an area by the interest group, for the advice of the EC, rather than the mere rating of candidates by individual readers from the interest group. The Chair suggested that an appropriate time to discuss recruitment procedures would be after the annual discussion of recruitment policy.
8. The Chair summarized the timetables and basic procedures for budget preparation in December and January of this academic year. In response to a question about the proportion of the anticipated total merit increase for the department on which the EC was instructed to recommend to the Dean, Moldenhauer observed that it was a very large proportion; the monies reserved by the Dean for his distribution would be used for promotion raises (as announced in the budget instructions), special teaching excellence awards, chairmen's salaries, and the supplementation of some empty lines such as the Lecturer lines, as well as additional merit raises assigned by the Dean. Questions were posed about the origin of the Lecturer lines, the mode in which they would be filled, the significance of a Lecturer's being hand-written into the budget and paid with "soft money" the additional degrees of permanence (if any) accompanying the designation of a temporary faculty member as a "hard money" Lecturer, etc. The Chairman foresaw that the means of filling these lines would be by EC recommendation to the Dean and decanal recommendation to the President; that the criteria would most likely be consistent excellence on the part of veteran members of the temporary staff; that the process of filling such lines would be more

analogous, therefore, to promotion procedures than to recruitment; that the title Lecturer remained by Regents' Rules definition a non-tenure-accruing title and assured no necessary continuation; that vacancies in the Lecturer lines caused by resignations, etc., of persons whose names were printed on them would presumably be filled by the same procedures as initial appointments to those lines; and that occupancy of a named Lecturer line was a recognition of particular excellence of classroom teaching over the long haul.

There succeeded a protracted discussion of various broad subjects including the changing role and proportion of temporary faculty in the department over the past few years; the conditions under which the expansion of the temporary faculty occurred; the insecurity of temporary appointments; the insecurity (of another sort) of tenure-track Assistant Professor appointments; the purposes and constituencies of this large state university; the various approaches adopted by other universities to meet swelling institutional needs without increasing the tenure-track faculty to the point where "tenure-track" became a revolving door and a mockery (continued heavy dependence or increased dependence upon A.I.s or definition of tenure-track in terms of percentage of appointment so that temporary faculty would have to take part-time positions at two or more institutions).

9. The Chair remarked on two endowed positions which had been adopted by the Regents in their December meeting--a Presidents' Associates Teaching Fellowship in English Composition (presumably for a graduate student), and a Jane and Roland Blomberg Centennial Professorship in English. Two other endowed positions were to be presented to the Regents in the future for their acceptance: a second Blomberg Centennial Professorship in English and an Ellen Garwood Professorship in Creative Writing.

Professor Farrell asked whether either of the endowed Blomberg Professorships specified a particular sub-discipline as did the Garwood Professorship and the President's Associates Fellowship. Mr. Moldenhauer did not remember but invited Professor Farrell to his office to look at the papers that have come to the Department.

10. The Chair presented a brief report on spring semester registration and staffing, noting that no significant reduction in enrollment figures from the fall semester was evident and that the size of the teaching staff in FTE remained fairly constant although two Lecturers were newly appointed to make up for two resignations and that some new A.I. appointments were made.
11. Professor Megaw moved that the Senate have its next meeting on 19 February, 1982. The motion passed unanimously and adjournment occurred at 4:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph J. Moldenhauer, Chair