I. Roll - The following Faculty Senate members were absent: Bauer, Berenguier, Bocciaretti, Carr, Forest, Freuder, Gross, Halstead, Jolley, Lewis, McHugh, Miller, Quigley, Schmidt, Seidel, Sower, Tomellini, Triplett, Wells. Excused were James, Mejias-Lopez, Nardone, Tucker, and Young.

II. Bylaws - A motion to accept the proposed Bylaws of the Faculty Senate was presented. A proposal was made that the faculty members of the Faculty Caucus whose terms would end in 1996/97 would continue as the faculty senators for their departments for that year. The at-large members of the Faculty Caucus whose departments had no continuing members would also continue as faculty senators. Elections would be held in April, for the faculty senators whose two-year terms would end in 1997/98 and for a few faculty senators who would have one-year terms ending in 1996/97, so that in the future half of the faculty senators would be elected each year. Any department which has more than twenty full-time tenure-track faculty will have two senators, and a second senator can be added whenever a department reaches this level.

The proposed bylaws were read and discussed. Item 2B was changed to refer to faculty members of committees. This sentence would read “The Agenda Committee and the Faculty Senate will coordinate appointments and elections of faculty to all university-wide joint committees....” These faculty members would not necessarily be faculty senators. The committees would include those on the list of committees passed out in the February 26 Academic Senate meeting but would not include ad-hoc committees, college committees, or advisory committees to a dean or provost. The appointment of the General Education and the Writing Committees’ faculty membership would be coordinated and facilitated by the Faculty Senate Agenda Committee. The membership of the standing committees of the Faculty Senate and the Professional Standards Committee is described in the Constitution of the Faculty Senate.

An amendment was made and seconded to change item 3A to say that the Agenda Committee “will call meetings of the full senate whenever agenda items arise but normally at least once a month.” This was accepted as an editorial change.

The motion to accept the revised Bylaws of the Faculty Senate was voted on and passed.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the list of Faculty Senators who would carry over to 1996/97. The motion to adopt the list of continuing Faculty Senators passed.

III. Calendar - A motion was made and seconded to accept the calendar for 1997/98, 1998/99 and 1999/2000 proposed by the Registrar’s Office. Concern was
expressed because the calendars for 1998/99 and 1999/2000 begin in August and because the fall terms now have fifteen weeks. The fall semester used to have fourteen weeks but was changed to fifteen so that fall and spring semesters would have an equal number of weeks. A professor said that fifteen weeks are needed to complete engineering projects. However, students’ summer jobs and faculty’s professional meetings last till the end of August; and class attendance is often less in August. An amendment was made and seconded that the proposed calendar be changed so that fall semester would have fourteen weeks, would start one week later than proposed in the motion, and would not have a fall mid-semester break. Discussion ensued about the current caliber of students and possible options for remediation before fall or spring semesters. The amended motion passed, by a vote of 21 in favor, two opposed and 2 abstentions. The spring semesters would be as in the original proposal.

IV. Library - The library has a $64,000 shortfall, and book purchases would be frozen. However, the Accreditation Report said that “...the UNH Library is too weak to support an institution of 12,000 students....” A motion was made and seconded that the Faculty Senate urges the Administration to guarantee stable funding for the library without midyear reductions. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Communications - The Judiciary Committee of the Faculty Caucus has now accomplished its charge to present a constitution and bylaws for the Faculty Senate. All faculty senators should present their committee preference forms now. The Agenda Committee of the Faculty Senate will meet next Monday and will discuss committee membership.

VI. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned.