I. Roll - The following Faculty Senate members were absent: Bauer, Boccialetti, Forest, Freuder, Gross, Jolley, McHugh, Nardone, Sample, Seidel, Wells and Young. Excused were: Schwab and Vagts.

II. Thompson School Credit Policy - Marvin Karson, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, made a motion that: each Thompson School course transfer at either full credit or zero credit. Every Thompson School course is to be evaluated as to its transfer value, under the direction of the provost. We advise the provost to appoint committees of faculty in the various subject matter fields. The catalog will show each course’s transfer value, full or none.

The provost said that the mission of the Thompson School is distinct from that of the rest of UNH. Thompson School offers associate degrees and an applied curriculum. Some students go on for a baccalaureate degree in companion programs at UNH, but these students reapply and lose some credits when they transfer. Baccalaureate tracks were set up, which were groups of courses that would transfer to UNH departments. These courses were reviewed to see if they were valuable to students in a certain program, rather than to see if a Thompson School course were equivalent to a UNH course; but some students who were accepted into a program on that basis wanted to transfer to another program. Currently most Thompson School courses transfer to UNH at sixty percent credit.

Thompson School faculty point out that their students receive full credit when transferring to other institutions such as Keene, Plymouth, and the Universities of Maine, Massachusetts, and all others except UNH. Thompson School proposes that credits should be accepted as already deemed appropriate by the faculty of the receiving program in the review for the baccalaureate track program. Over one hundred Thompson School courses have been accepted at full credit in the baccalaureate track agreements. Some UNH students take Thompson School courses and get full credit, while Thompson School students only get sixty percent credit when they transfer those same courses to UNH. Some departments have agreed to allow certain Thompson School courses to fulfill some requirements, even though the credit transfer of the course may be at sixty percent.

The original motion was seconded by David Feldman. Don Quigley proposed an amendment, seconded by Cindy Gannett, to add “recognizing previously evaluated courses” to the third sentence of the motion. A professor said that, although the same faculty would be asked to review the Thompson School courses, the question asked in the review would be whether the course should be accepted for a baccalaureate degree in general rather than for a specific major. Also, course content is dynamic and changeable; and so the amendment would be too binding. A professor who is coordinator of transfer credit for the UNH College of Engineering and Physical Sciences said that civil engineering majors take required courses from Thompson School and that this is working well. Many courses are dual numbered, and UNH and Thompson School students take the same course and the same exam. The amendment did not pass.

The General Education Committee will still approve which courses are accepted for general education credit, independently of this review process. This motion would not void the baccalaureate track agreements and would not bind the General Education Committee or any department to accept courses as fulfilling its requirements. The motion carried unanimously.

III. Calendar Guidelines - Karl Diller presented a motion from the Agenda Committee to add to the current calendar guidelines for the fall semester, as item three, that classes would begin after labor day; and as item ten that, if necessary, reading day(s) would be eliminated; and as item eleven that, if necessary, a Saturday exam day would be added; and to approve the calendars for 1998/1999 and 1999/2000 prepared by Kathy Forbes on the basis of these revised guidelines. The guidelines are to be followed in priority order. State law prohibits university classes on Veterans’ Day, and so this holiday cannot be eliminated. The motion was seconded by Kondagunta Sivaprasad.
Item five says that no classes are to be scheduled on Saturdays, but UNH-Manchester is instituting Saturday classes; and also the executive MBA program at WSBE meets on Saturday. This motion means that classes which are normally scheduled Monday through Friday will not be moved to Saturday. There is no time limit of years in these guidelines, and at least through the academic year 1999/2000 would be covered.

The administration is concerned that, in some years, students would not have study time between the last day of classes and the first exam and also that there would not be enough time before the next semester starts to complete procedures regarding students with poor grades. The motion passed with one nay and two abstentions.

Betty Hageman moved to approve the 1997/98 fall calendar which includes the mid-semester break. Carolyn Mebert seconded the motion. Acceptance of the mid-semester break in that year would not be taken as a precedent. The motion carried unanimously.

Betty Hageman moved to approve the 1997/98 fall calendar which includes the mid-semester break. Carolyn Mebert seconded the motion. Acceptance of the mid-semester break in that year would not be taken as a precedent. The motion passed with one nay and two abstentions.

IV. UNH-Manchester - Consideration of recommendations regarding UNH-Manchester will be postponed until the Faculty Senate meeting on next Monday.

V. University System - Timm Triplett, Chair of the Committee on the University System, moved that:

The Faculty Senate wishes to express its concern over governance and budgetary matters raised by the existence of the University System of New Hampshire as presently structured. The Faculty Senate endorses the goal to ‘Eliminate duplication of administrative services between UNH and USNH’ - Goal 1.9 of the First Priority Recommendations in the Final Report of the Planning Council. Such a goal is best realized by returning essential functions to UNH and eliminating support for unessential functions. To this end, the Faculty Senate recommends eliminating the UNH financial contribution to the University System.

The Faculty Senate also endorses the continuation of the Systems Committee on an ad hoc basis at least through the 1996-97 academic year, so that the committee may further its work with the State Legislative Committee that is studying all aspects of USNH.

The motion was seconded by Carolyn Mebert. Curt Givan proposed a friendly amendment to add “deep” before concern, in the first sentence. This was accepted. Discussion ensued, and a motion was made by Elizabeth Stine-Morrow and seconded by Todd DeMitchell, to carry this issue to the next meeting. That motion did not carry. A motion to call the vote was made, seconded and approved. The original motion on the system, with the friendly amendment, carried unanimously except for three abstentions.

VI. Motion on a Successor to the Faculty Council - A motion was made by Chris Balling and seconded by David Feldman that the Agenda Committee of the Faculty Senate be the successor to the Faculty Council, for the collective bargaining clause regarding termination of programs. The question was moved, seconded and carried. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned.