I. Roll - The following Faculty Senate members were absent: Burger, Forest, Greenlaw, Gross, Hiller, McConnell, McHugh, Moynihan, Ossenbruggen, Shotter. Excused was Jolley.

II. Communications from the President - President Leitzel presented reductions in the athletic budget which have been finalized and will include the elimination of baseball, men’s and women’s golf, and men’s lacrosse, as recommended by the Athletic Advisory Committee. Also, women’s softball will not be initiated. UNH has been supporting twenty-eight intercollegiate teams, whereas the area average is twenty-two. UNH will now have twenty-four such teams, including skiing which will have half of its budget paid for by gifts. The university will honor scholarship commitments and coaches’ letters of appointment. Fund raising will be initiated for track and field improvements and for athletic scholarships in order to remove them from fund 1000. A tiering system is planned for all sports with the exception of skiing which will have outside funding.

III. Communications from the Chair - We have named faculty observers for expected budget meetings; and we are appointing two Faculty Senators as new members of the Information Technology Council, which deals with campus computing.

IV. Minutes - The minutes of the previous Faculty Senate meeting were approved.

V. Representation for UNH-Manchester - UNH-Manchester now has two divisions, which serve the same purpose as departments; and so UNH-Manchester would like to have two Faculty Senate seats. At the last meeting, the motion was made that another Faculty Senator from UNH-Manchester should be added to the Faculty Senate rolls. The motion passed today.

VI. Business Service Centers - The Campus Planning Committee will meet with Candace Corvey and Ken Cody on February 7 to discuss faculty concerns about the business service centers. Some of the centers are already being implemented. There will be start-up costs of $1.5 to three million dollars for changes in the physical plant and technology. Proponents of the plan say that $1.5 million per year will be saved and fifty jobs eliminated through attrition rather than firings. In addition to centralized bookkeeping and ordering, a credit card system will be initiated for purchases under one thousand dollars.

VII. Calendar - The student body president asked that the Faculty Senate include reading days in the university calendar, even in the years such as 1998/99 when Labor Day is the latest. He said that students need reading days in order to finish papers and study for finals and that reading days are even more important to students than starting
classes after Labor Day. He added that students also work on Saturdays, Sundays and during the Christmas holidays.

Faculty spoke for and against the priority of reading days over other calendar issues. Some faculty wanted to start classes before labor day and said that a number of universities start in mid-August. However, other senators said that the Faculty Senate had voted last spring for new calendar guidelines and confirmed them this fall and that the reasons for the vote remain valid, including concerns that learning is disrupted when many students miss the pre-Labor-Day classes.

Prior to 1970, first semester exams were held in January, but the current long January break helps to reduce heating costs. Hope was expressed that improvements in electronic registration and larger class sizes will improve student attendance during the drop/add period. After a great deal of discussion about all the proposed versions of the calendar and some new ones such as a quarter system, a motion to send the calendar issue to a Faculty Senate subcommittee for review and a survey of job schedules was voted down.

Another motion to accept the original registrar’s proposed 1998/99 calendar from the old guidelines, including starting classes on August 31 and ending final exams on December 18, was voted down with a sixteen to sixteen tie which was broken by the chair’s negative vote.

When the senate considered the “proposed 1998/99 calendar from modified Faculty Senate guidelines”, the senator from the Department of Nursing said that this version holds Wednesday daytime classes on Saturday and that the Department of Nursing cannot send students to hospitals on Saturday for their clinical work. The motion to consider that calendar version was withdrawn. The original Faculty Senate motion on the calendar remains in effect.

VIII. **Adjournment** - The meeting was adjourned.