

UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
2003-04 FACULTY SENATE

DECEMBER 1, 2003

MINUTES SUMMARY

I. Roll – The following senators were absent: Baldwin, Burger, Giraud, Gutman, Herold, Lugalla, McCann, and Niese. Excused were Mennel, Quinn, Richman and Slomba. Guests were Provost Bruce Mallory and Sam Shore.

II. Communications from the provost – Provost Mallory said that the president has sent a letter to the faculty, on the implementation of the Academic Plan. The provost and each vice president have been charged with implementing the parts of the Academic Plan relevant to their areas of responsibility. The provost said that progress will be reviewed and the plan updated every three years, with strong faculty involvement. A faculty member asked the provost why the president's letter did not refer to the upcoming faculty referendum, and the provost said that the president was conscious of the decision of the Faculty Senate to refer to the faculty as a whole the senate's motion on Academic Plan implementation and continuing consultation between the provost's office and the Faculty Senate. This motion on implementation and consultation is separate from the motion previously passed by the Faculty Senate, to support the goals and ideals of the Academic Plan.

The NEASC report supported the self-study projections and was very positive. It suggested earlier review of responsibility center management than the planned five-year review. The report supports the Discovery Program, more diversity, and the need to increase on-campus residential spaces for students. The Central Budget Committee has met and agreed that central funds available in FY 05 will be fully dedicated to the implementation of the Academic Plan. Students have circulated a web-based petition regarding student recreation, but the names on the petition are not verifiable. Trustee Chair John Lynch has responded to this petition.

A professor asked about a phrase in the provost's letter to faculty, referring to the constitution of the Faculty Senate. The provost replied that the AAUP and the Faculty Senate should discuss how to decide what issues are the purview of each group. The provost had thought that the AAUP would have authority over promotion and tenure processes and that the Faculty Senate would be responsible for promotion and tenure standards, but the AAUP disagreed. As new policy issues arise, there needs to be some way to decide who will take the lead in developing policy on each issue. Only the Faculty Senate can make changes in the senate constitution. The provost said that the administration and the faculty union have agreed to continue negotiations on parking and on the Faculty Handbook. He added that some provisions of the Faculty Handbook relate to the Faculty Senate. The Faculty Senate chair said that, now that the contract is settled, the Agenda Committee has again contacted the AAUP, to talk about how to set up discussions on these issues.

III. Minutes – The minutes of the last Faculty Senate meeting were approved unanimously.

IV. Communications from the chair – The senate chair said that he will send to the faculty a letter about the faculty referendum which will be held on December 11 at 12:40 p.m. in Johnson

Theater. The letter will explain that the quorum required for a vote is 331, that faculty will be required to sign in at the meeting, and that faculty must be present to vote.

V. UCAPC membership – The Faculty Senate considered a motion on UCAPC stating that:

The UCAPC will consist of three tenured faculty members from LA, two tenured faculty members each from CEPS and COLSA, one each from WSBE, SHHS, UNHM and the library, a member of the Faculty Senate’s Academic Affairs Committee, a member of the Faculty Senate’s Agenda Committee or its designee, the president of the Student Body or that person’s designee, the chair of the Graduate Student Organization or that person’s designee, the VPAA or that person’s designee, and the Chair of the Academic Standards and Advising Committee or that person’s designee.

Jim Farrell made and Mark Wrighton seconded a substitute motion, and the original motion was withdrawn. After discussion and amendments, the following **motion was unanimously passed, so that item C about UCAPC membership in the 4/19/99 senate motion forming UCAPC will read:**

The UCAPC will consist of members described by the following:

(1.a.) Tenured faculty members who are not also administrators shall represent the schools, colleges and the library in proportion to the size of their faculties. Specifically, each school, college and the library with less than 75 permanent full-time-equivalent faculty (tenure track and non-tenure track combined) will have 1 representative; more than 75 but fewer than 150 will have 2; and greater than 150 will have 3.

(1.b.) A minimum of two members of the UCAPC at any time must be members of the Faculty Senate.

(1.c.) The faculty representatives from each college will be elected by written ballot by the tenured and tenure-track members of the faculty in that college. If fewer than two members elected by the colleges are also members of the Faculty Senate, the senate will elect from among its members one or two additional representatives to the committee as necessary to meet the requirements of (1.b.) above. If the senate elects two members, they will not be from the same college.

(1.d.) The term of service for faculty is three years, with staggered terms. Committee members may be re-elected. When a member is unable to complete his or her term, the Faculty Senate will appoint a replacement for the balance of the term, provided that replacement represents the same college as that represented by the member who left the seat vacant.

(2) Two students, consisting of the chair of the Graduate Student Organization or that person’s designee and the president of the student body

or that person's designee. The students will have a term of service of two years.

(3) Two members of the administration, consisting of the vice president for Academic Affairs or that person's designee and the chair of the Academic Standards and Advising Committee or that person's designee.

VI. Thompson School numbering – Sam Shore, the chair of the University Curriculum and Academic Policies Committee, submitted two recommendations to the senate. First, UCAPC recommends against a proposal made and tabled in the 4/21/03 senate meeting “that Thompson School of Applied Science courses follow the UNH course numbering guidelines for courses taken for baccalaureate credit, eliminating the 200-299 numeric designation.” UCAPC recommends rejection of this proposal, because the issue has been resolved within the COLSA Academic Affairs Committee. UCAPC would only review the matter if COLSA were unable to resolve it. Secondly, UCAPC requests that, in collaboration with the provost's office, the Faculty Senate clarify the appropriate channels and procedures for the development and review of curricular proposals. For example, what roles do the University Curriculum and Academic Policies Committee and the senate's Academic Affairs Committee play in these procedures? At what point is the UCAPC expected to weigh in on potential disagreements or matters of academic merit?

Don Quigley, who had proposed the Thompson School motion in the 4/21/03 senate meeting, said that the Thompson School is in COLSA but that Thompson School has seven programs, including several technical and applied business management courses which make the COLSA designation not a good fit. Many students sitting in the same classroom in Thompson School courses are registered under different course numbers. The 200 course-numbering system was established in 1963 by the senate; but UNH students can now take those courses for baccalaureate credit; and the courses can also be transferred into baccalaureate programs at full credit by Thompson School students, as approved by Faculty Senate motions. Under the plan proposed to the senate on 4/21/03, the course prefix would serve as the identifier for Thompson School courses; and the Thompson School courses would no longer have numbers lower than courses which do not qualify for UNH baccalaureate credit and which are designated 300-399 for associate's degree or non-degree students. Don Quigley said that Thompson School professors had not been allowed to make a presentation to the UCAPC, which rejected their motion on procedural grounds only.

Another professor said that the decision on the original numbering system was made by the senate; and so the current decision on the numbering system should also be made by the senate, not the college. Last year, the senate's Academic Affairs Committee unanimously approved bringing this issue to the Faculty Senate, although at that time COLSA did not have a college Academic Affairs Committee, as it does now. Steve Hardy, the interim vice provost and a member of UCAPC, said that UCAPC felt that, since Thompson School is a part of COLSA, that college's Academic Affairs Committee should make the decision on Thompson School course numbering. He said that the provost's office asks that the senate clarify channels and procedures for curricular development and review.

Baccalaureate students can now take Thompson School courses; but the courses only count for credit in the major if the UNH department accepts the courses; and few UNH departments accept the Thompson School courses for credit in the major. Thus, many of the credits which transfer can only be used as electives. The COLSA dean and the COLSA Academic Affairs Committee are not favorable to the motion on Thompson School renumbering which was proposed in the 4/21/03 Faculty Senate meeting. A professor said that, if the faculty in a department want change, the department submits a request for the change to the college for approval. Therefore requests for individual course changes should be submitted to the departments. Thompson School is working on articulation agreements with some departments but not with all departments. When the senate originally established the Thompson School numbering system, Thompson School credits transferred in block credits; and that has changed. A professor said that Thompson School students are UNH students, but people do not realize that because of the numbering system. Another faculty member stated that the faculty of the UNH department should decide whether a course will be accepted for credit in the major.

A motion to refer the UCAPC report to the Faculty Senate's Academic Affairs Committee passed unanimously, by a voice vote. A professor said that UCAPC does not often meet and asked if UCAPC members receive course reductions. The clause in the 4/19/99 senate motion which discussed course reductions was not accepted by the president, and so faculty do not receive course reduction for service on UCAPC.

VII. McNair Program – The aim of the McNair Graduate Opportunity Program is to “increase the number of individuals from first-generation, economically disadvantaged and/or racially underrepresented groups who are interested in pursuing and obtaining doctoral degrees and careers in academia.” Students from UNH and other universities participate in an eight-week graduate school preparation program with summer research fellowships, and academic-year internships are open to UNH students. The summer program includes direction in designing a research project under the guidance of a faculty mentor, a research methods course, and a course on introduction to college teaching. More information on the program is available from www.unh.edu/mcnair.

VIII. Academic Affairs Committee report – The interim report of the senate's Academic Affairs Committee will be sent to the senators along with the minutes of the 12/1/03 senate meeting.

IX. Adjournment – The Faculty Senate meeting was adjourned.