

Minutes of the Faculty Senate  
Monday, Oct. 28, 1996

**Senators attending:** Beardsley, Farmer, Haltom, Hummel-Berry, Kay, Kiehl, Kirchner, Lind, Matthews, Nagy, Potts, Robertson, Sloane, Smith

**Minutes:** The minutes of Oct. 7, 1996 were accepted as modified

**Chair's Report:** There was no report from the Chair

**Announcements:** Kirchner announced that over 50 colleagues had been nominated for the special Code Review committee

**Secretary's note:** Matthews was the secretary of record for this meeting, but arrived late (during discussions of the election and replacement of senators) and left early (during discussions of the way in which members to the FAC are elected and appointed). Smith kindly took over before the arrival of Matthews and his departure. It was agreed that Matthews owes Smith. Any errors are the responsibility of Matthews.

**Election and Replacement of Senators:** The Senate moved to a discussion of the election and replacement of senators (bylaws draft submitted earlier). The proposal is to change the term of office from two to three years, staggered so that approximately one third of the elected positions would be open each year, with replacements. Kirchner presented the details of the proposal, pointing out that the three year term should reduce turnover. All newly elected senators would serve full three-year terms. Some concern was expressed that this might result in the election of the entire Senate in one year, but this was thought unlikely. The Senate will still have the option of finding temporary replacements when a senator needs to leave the Senate for a short period of time (not more than five months).

**Action:** The Senate agreed that the Chair would move forward with these proposals.

**Election of members of the Faculty Advancement Committee:** The discussion then moved to proposals to modify the method by which colleagues are elected and appointed to the Faculty Advancement Committee (FAC). The primary changes proposed are designed to (1) ensure staggered terms, (2) clarify language specifying when faculty can not serve on the Committee, (3) require a minimum two-year commitment on the part of prospective members (the term is three years), (4) to address the problem of terms that end in mid-year, and (5) to permit a colleague to recuse him or herself if there is a conflict of interest.

Haltom raised the issue of the method by which senators are elected and selected, suggesting, as one option, the direct election of colleagues to the FAC. Nagy asked how diversity could be ensured. After several possible approaches were discussed, Sloane asked Potts how he made the selection from the elected pool. Potts discussed three factors: the vote counts provided to him at the request of the Senate executive committee, gender, and departmental balance. After further and wide-ranging discussion on how diversity on the FAC could be achieved in a direct election process, Haltom **M/S/P** that "**The Senate authorizes the Secretary (of the Faculty Senate) or the Executive Committee to report the total number of votes and the number of votes each of the final nominees to the Faculty Advancement Committee, effective Spring, 1997**".

The Senate adjourned at 5:15

Respectfully submitted,  
Bob Matthews