

Student Life Committee Minutes
November 15, 1996

Present: Barry Anton, Laura Folkwein, William Haltom, Sunil Kukreja, Elizabeth Mileti, Helen Schurke, Laura Thornburg, Carrie Washburn [*ex officio*]

Guests: John Hickey, Barbara Racine

The minutes not kept during the Committee's previous meeting [November 1, 1996] could not be presented. The November First meeting concerned the recent "graffiti-incident" and no business was transacted.

The Committee launched immediately into an informal, information-gathering session with Mr. **Hickey** and Ms. **Racine**. Ms. **Mileti** contrasted the prominent displays of school spirit [through pennants, sweatshirts, and so on] and of books at other schools with the tendency of U. P. S. to hide its books and spirit. She advocated that we "surface" the bookstore. **Hickey** responded that the bookstore once occupied its present location **and** what is now the Murray Board Room. While the unification of the bookstore was thought in the mid-Eighties to be a good idea, **Hickey** said that he was open to new suggestions. **Washburn** noted that other schools had multi-leveled buildings but used student mail boxes and other incentives to draw students to less apparent levels.

Ms. **Schurke** and **Mileti** wondered why so many items were so expensive. **Racine** said that clothing cost so much in the bookstore because items were high-quality and that the U. P. S. Bookstore operates at a lower profit than most. She said that the bookstore **does not** mark up the price of books over the publisher's list-price.

Schurke observed that students whose classwork keeps them busy all day have great difficulty using the bookstore. **Hickey** noted that the Budget Task Force did not fund staffing for longer hours. **Racine** noted that the bookstore is self-supporting and has already stretched its staff to cover current hours. Ms. **Folkwein** stated that she thought that opening the bookstore more Saturdays should have the highest priority.

Schurke agreed with **Racine** that the "Book Nook" had been a great success. **Folkwein** hoped that the bookstore could find ways in which to stock more contemporary fiction.

All present seemed to agree that mailboxes for the students, if manageable, could induce far more patronage of the lower floor of the building.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Haltom

Scriba pro die, scurra pro vita