

**Faculty Senate Minutes**  
**April 15, 1996**

Senators present: Beardsley, Bristow, Chandler, Farmer, Goleeke, Kay, Kirchner, Mace, Potts, Rocchi, Smith, Stirling

Visitors: Lisa Nunn

Kirchner called the meeting to order at: 4:00 p.m. The minutes of April 1, 1996 were approved as submitted.

Announcements:

Kay announced that congratulations should be extended to Martyn Kingston, John Lear, and Kieran Nelson for the successful Diversity at the Crossroads Conference held April 10 & 11.

Kirchner noted that the group discussing scholarships is meeting now and that their deliberations are ongoing.

Kirchner noted that the May 6 meeting of the senate is to include a brief (five minutes) report from the Chairs of each Standing Committee. A written report is to have been submitted for distribution before May 6. Kirchner will invite President Pierce to be present at this last meeting of the 1995-1996 Senate.

The error of the ballot for the senate elections was discussed. A nominee was placed in the incorrect category. The senators concluded that the faculty should receive both an e-mail message and a hard copy stating that they may resubmit their ballot with any needed corrections.

**MSP unanimously** that the recommendations for Bylaws for the Academic Standards Committee be accepted as submitted March 18, 1996.

Nunn reported on the recommendations by the Student Life Committee (SLC) for changes in the Faculty Bylaws governing that standing committee. A prolonged discussion followed.

There was continued discussion on whether the committee should be a University Community Committee or a Standing Committee of the Senate. To whom should the SLC be accountable? It was concluded that the duties of the SLC seem to fit those of other standing committees rather than the duties of community committees. Other reasons for maintaining the SLC as a standing committee include, that students seem to perceive the SLC as the last link to the faculty and that the SLC is sufficiently flexible to respond to student issues as they arise. Also, the faculty would continue to have a

mechanism to request the SLC to address long term issues if it remains a standing committee.

Frustration continues for students and faculty who feel that it is difficult for the SLC to implement change. This was not resolved.

The role of the SLC in respect to the Dean of Students office is also an issue of considerable discussion.

Appropriate student membership was discussed, though this topic will be reevaluated when policies are formulated concerning membership to the standing committees as a whole.

**MSP unanimously** that the SLC shall remain a standing committee of the Senate and that the duties of the SLC shall be 1) To act as liaison among students and faculty and the Dean of Students. 2) To serve in an advisory capacity to the Dean of Students. 3) Such other duties as may be assigned to it. This decision was sent back to the SLC for approval.

**MSP unanimously** that the Professional Standards Committee (PSC) be asked to address the concerns raised in the memo by Terry Mace dated 4/12/96. The concerns are (1) potential for conflict of interest for the PSC (2) the role of the PSC in adjudicating grievances (3) the size and representation of the committee which establishes standards of professional performance.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynette S. Chandler