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Faculty Senate Chronicle October 3, 1996

Heather M. Loughney

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October 3, 1996

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Any comments concerning the contents in The University of Akron Chronicle may be directed to the Secretary, Dr. Gary Oller (+1910).
FacultySenate@UAkron.Edu

FACULTY SENATE MEMBERSHIP

(Update: 10/30/96)

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<div>College of Nursing (4)</div> <div>Cheryl Buchanan, 99 Kris Gill, 99 Karen Reed, 99 K. Ross-Alaolmolki, 98</div>	<div>Polymer Science/Engineering (2)</div> <div>John Frederick, 98 A. Isayev, 99</div>	<div>Wayne College (2)</div> <div>Dan Deckler, 99 Rick Maringer, 99</div>	<div>Contract Professionals (2)</div> <div>Barbara Bucey, 97 Connie Murray, 99</div>
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Note: Term expires in year listed.

Members - 69

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1996-97**

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1996-97**

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Mr. Peter McLinden, 97*	Students
Mrs. Holly Mothes, 97*	SEAC

**THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON FACULTY SENATE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 3, 1996**

The regular meeting of the Faculty Senate was called to order by Chairman H. Michael Cheung at 3:02 p.m. on Thursday, October 3, 1996, in Room 201 of the Buckingham Center for Continuing Education.

Fifty-one of the sixty-nine members of the Faculty Senate were in attendance. Senators Batur, Ely, Erickson, Green, Gunn, Hardy, John, Ross-Alaolmolki, Siloac and Stinner were absent with notice. Senators Newman and Witt were absent without notice.

SENATE ACTIONS

- * RATIFIED A DECISION MADE BY THE CHAIRMAN DURING THE
SUMMER REGARDING A SECTION OF THE FACULTY MANUAL**

I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - The Chairman stated that he wanted to add an accreditation update report by Professor Mark Auburn and Senator Chand Midha after the Provost's remarks on the agenda. Since there were no further changes to the agenda, the body voted its approval of the amended agenda.

II. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 5, 1996 - Secretary Gary Oller said there were a number of corrections which would be necessary for the section of the Chronicle which contained the members of the various Senate committees. These would be taken care of and would appear in next month's Chronicle. He asked that anyone having corrections for that section see either him or Mrs. Quillin after the meeting.

The Chairman noted that Parliamentarian Don R. Gerlach had pointed out that on the cover in the table of contents the meeting was described as "special" rather than "regular." Since there were no other corrections, the body voted its approval of the amended minutes.

III. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS - The Chairman wanted to take this opportunity to congratulate one of our colleagues, Professor Walter Smith, who had been honored in a ceremony at the White House. He had been one of the very first group of sixteen recipients of the newly created Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring. Chairman Cheung had already taken the liberty of conveying the body's congratulations to Professor Smith and had wanted to note this to the body publicly.

The Chairman went on to explain a matter which the Senate would be considering later during the Executive Committee's report. This summer in an 11th hour meeting before the pre-Board at

which prior to the actual Board meeting the Faculty Manual was finally to be considered, he had been called upon to make a decision regarding some of the language in the "Chair Review" section of the Manual. As members would recall, there had been a fatal flaw in that section in which it was possible and had been proven experimentally in fact for a department to not adopt any of the three possible recommendations by the required two-thirds majority. This situation had in fact occurred. When it had, he and the Provost had discussed it at length and had come to the conclusion that what it did not mean was that if none of the recommendations could be adopted, then the Chair went on as if nothing had happened. The 2/3 vote of the department to continue the Chair was required for the Chair to continue. That was an interpretation. He had gone back and revisited the original language of the proposal when this had been discussed in the Senate three years ago. Those Senators who had been members at that time would remember that we had tentatively approved a somewhat simpler section, and that at a subsequent meeting had approved a substitute motion that had given us the language which we had up until his decision. That decision was sparked by an exchange between him and Counselor Mike Sermersheim in the legal office to the effect that the Board would not approve the broken language. He had panicked that the Faculty Manual would not go to the Board and therefore had approved what he could not simply call an editorial change. This was why he wanted the body to consider this change in which the language was simplified to require the 2/3 approval. He confessed that he had been uncomfortable doing this and had probably walked right up to the line regarding his authority in these situations. He had had fifteen minutes to think about it and now thought that he had made the right decision. However, it was now up to the body to decide whether he had or not. This would be coming up under the Executive Committee report.

IV. SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS - The Chairman welcomed the following new Senators: Michelle Scott and Derwin Hammonds (ASG); Peter McLinden (Law and Graduate Students); Holly Mothes (SEAC); and James Buchanan (Arts and Sciences).

V. REPORTS

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT - President Marion Ruebel made the following remarks:

"Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm delighted to announce that at the Board of Trustees meeting last week the Board voted unanimously to add the fourth ERIP window for the years 1999-2000. The Board also changed the internal rules at my recommendation governing the allocation of the ERIP positions. For this new window, as well as the third ERIP window in 1997-98, 100% of the ERIP vacancies will be returned to the responsible vice-presidents for allocation. Previously if you recall, half of the ERIP positions were returned to the individual units and half was held in the President's office. I see no necessity for any of the positions to be returned to the President's office unless they come originally from the President's office.

Another point - our new Vice President for Business and Finance, Mr. Paul McFarland, started work here on Tuesday. Mr. McFarland holds an MBA from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and has been Loyola's Chief Financial Officer since 1981. Before that he worked at Tulane University, Vanderbilt University, Xerox and IBM. He comes to us with a great deal of experience and I welcome him. He was not able to be here today; however, he will be with

us next month. I also would like to announce that I've appointed Dr. Edwin Wilson to serve as a special assistant in my office, and one of his prime responsibilities will be to work specifically with the Faculty Senate and my office.

I'd like to bring you up-to-date on three searches that are going on on campus right now: The Search for the Executive Director of University Communications has completed its internal phase; however, I have not heard from this committee yet and am waiting for the results. The regional search for the Vice President for Public Affairs is ongoing; we've received around 50 applications so far and the committee will begin to review these applications very shortly. I expect to receive a recommendation from the committee within the next several weeks. The regional search for the Executive Director of Human Resources is continuing. Applications are coming in and I would hope to make this appointment in November or December.

Board members also accepted a new concept for the Student Services building and I would like to spend a little time discussing this with you. When I came on campus in April I was presented with a plan to build a new Student Services building. I really didn't like the location of the new building, so I went to the campus planners or the firm that had been contracted by the University to work on this particular project and indicated such, because it was just in the parking lot right next to Bierce Library. You'll have to pardon me with a mixup of my directions when I'm on campus - some of you may think I'm more mixed up than with just my directions, but I don't know if that's east or west. But anyway, I felt that this would take up too much open space as far as the central part of the campus is concerned. So we mulled this over at great length, as we were trying to look at something that we could do that would be conducive to the enrollment and the students as far as the University is concerned.

We came up with this tentative plan that has to be approved by the Board of Regents and so on, but the Board of Trustees did approve taking the existing Olin Hall, making a few renovations to Olin Hall and making this the Student Services building. In return for this then we would build a new Arts & Sciences building at a location yet to be determined specifically, but in this building we would house everything dealing with Arts & Sciences with the exception of the Natural Sciences.

This would involve moving some of the units that are now in Polsky's back to this part of the campus, and there's a reason for doing this also. I've noticed in the six months I've been back that the student traffic on this side of the campus has been greatly reduced from what it was 10-12 years ago. I think this has had a direct effect on our auxiliary services, our food service and so on, and I think if we can bring this day enrollment back to this side of the campus, this would enhance all of these parts of our operation. Not taking anything away from Polsky's, because there are some units we can add to that particular building that would be conducive to evening classes and so on. This is the tentative plan we have right now for the new Student Services building, and I think it would make sense that we make good use of the facility we have right now; it's right at the entrance of the campus so people coming in to register or apply for financial aid or make application, all of these units would be housed in this particular building. To me it just makes good financial sense and it makes good sense as far as the student enrollment is concerned.

We're currently in the midst of preparing an institutional self-study to be submitted to the NCAA Certification Committee. This certification process is similar to the accreditation process that all of us go through but it focuses specifically on the institution's intercollegiate athletic

program. The self-study has been directly involved with about 45 of our faculty and staff members broken down into various subcommittees.

I'm pleased to report that the work under the leadership of Dr. Frank Kelley is progressing well and that much effort and deliberation has been put into this self-study. As with our accreditation, our goal is clearly to emerge from this process with an affirmative decision on behalf of the NCAA. It will be incumbent upon us to demonstrate a legitimate institutional commitment to achieving compliance with the guidelines of Title IX, and we specifically do not meet these guidelines right now.

Like many other institutions, our women's athletic program is not as broad in its offerings as it should be and I think we have to make a concerted effort so that we are in compliance in this area. I would like to officially inform you as the Senate that it is my intention to address these inequities in our women's athletic program in a proactive manner and recommend to the Board of Trustees that we commit resources necessary to put a plan in effect that will move us forward and also toward compliance as required by the National Collegiate Athletic Association. Mr. Chairman, that concludes my comments. I'll be happy to entertain any questions any of you might have."

* Senator ~~Mark Fausig~~ ^{Don Deckler} wanted to know what the timetable was for the new Student Services Building and the new Arts and Sciences Building.

President Ruebel answered that this would be taken to the Board of Regents within the next two to three months for approval. We had looked at many different avenues as to how to approach this. Members were probably familiar with what the University anticipated doing with Central-Hower High School, and it had been thought that some space could be gained there. Then possibly Zook Hall or a portion of it could have been available for a Student Services building. However, the location of Olin Hall, at the front door of the University coming off the expressway, seemed better to conveniently allow students in one stop to get the financial aid, admissions and academic advising, and everything else they required. Also, we needed a new Arts and Sciences building which could also serve as a multi-purpose classroom building. He did not know when either the renovated Olin Hall or the new Arts and Science building would be open for business.

Senator Devinder Malhotra, noting that this was a self-serving question since his department was housed in Olin, wondered where those departments now located in Olin would be placed while the new building was being constructed and Olin was being remodeled. Would the college have some say in this?

President Ruebel replied that he anticipated that Zook Hall might be where they would be housed. Zook had been considered as a possible Student Services building, but it was not conveniently located since it was in the center of campus. If people wanted to get in and get right out again, they would have to park on the perimeter of campus and walk to Zook. He hoped and anticipated that as the program with Central-Hower began to roll, this would free up space in Zook which could be used as revolving space.

Senator Tim Norfolk wanted to know whether this meant that the College of Education was going to be moved to Central-Hower.

President Ruebel said that a portion of that college would be moving there. If you really wanted to integrate the programs, you had to move some people there.

REMARKS OF THE PROVOST - Provost Randy Moore wanted to state very briefly that we had gotten our 14-day final enrollment numbers late last week. We had come in down 3.4% which was better than we had budgeted. Considering all of the events of the past year, this was quite a feat. In light of that and as per recommendations of the Long Range Planning Committee's report that the Senate had adopted last year, the letters had gone out yesterday distributing most of the \$1.5 million that had been set aside as a hedge on enrollment. These recommendations had included several positions for General Studies to reduce our dependence on part-time faculty, redistributing some indirect cost money for student retention, rebuilding the fund for matching money for equipment grants as well as some other things. He noted that the University had also saved some money on the tents which it was going to put Devinder's department in during the Olin Hall renovation. (Senator Malhotra replied that this was going to be better than he had thought.)

The Provost went on to say that all of the dollars had gone out with the exception of about four positions' worth. He was holding on to those as one-time savings in his office. All those savings would be invested in the programs for which the dollars had originally been intended. He was holding them because he did not want to flood departments with faculty searches. There were only so many that departments could do at one time and keep candidates straight. Those dollars would be returned to the same departments.

REPORT ON NCA ACCREDITATION - Professor Mark Auburn presented the following report:

"Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As most of you know, a team of consultant-evaluators representing the North Central Association will be in Akron in the Fall on October 27, 28 and 29, 1997. Most of you are familiar with programmatic accreditation. We have many accredited academic programs at Akron approved by NCATE, NLN, ABA, Social Work or the American Chemical Society, for instance. But there is only one institutional accrediting process and it occurs usually only once every ten years. Like some kinds of programmatic accreditation, institutional accreditation implies more than simple quality control. The United States government has decided that in order to receive federal funds an institution must be accredited by a recognized regional accrediting organization such as North Central. No institutional accreditation, no Pell Grants, no Stafford Loans, no NSF or NIH research grants. We would be shut down.

Happily, The University of Akron has a long and rich relationship with North Central, and our accreditation in my judgment is not in jeopardy. We have had full accreditation since 1914 and North Central has upgraded our standing on many occasions, such as when we moved from being a master's-granting institution to being a doctoral-granting institution more than thirty-five years ago. Our accrediting visit has been delayed by about six months, from March 1997 to October at our request, following the two focused visits last spring and the brief, unpleasant threat of probation. We are now on track for a successful comprehensive evaluation. Our institutional accreditation is not in jeopardy.

As a mature institution, The University of Akron is constantly involved in planning; that is, thinking consciously about who we are, what we have accomplished and what we aspire to become. When North Central was here in 1987, they specifically praised our planning processes. The

- b) determine whether or not the proposed title and/or contents of a new course or proposed changes to the title and/or contents of an existing course (essentially) duplicate an existing course or "infringe" upon the academic domain of an academic department in another college.

Proposals that (a) conform with University and OBR requirements and (b) to not duplicate existing course content or infringe upon the academic domain of another academic department shall be approved by the Curriculum Review SC, recommended to the Faculty Senate for approval, and submitted (upon approval) to the Provost. Otherwise, i.e., for proposals in violation of (a) or (b) above, current CRC procedures will apply.

Respectfully submitted by
John Hebert, Senator CBA

APPENDIX C

Dr. Michael Cheung, President
 Faculty Senate
 WHIT 222
 UA Campus Mail

Sept. 16, 1996

Dear Dr. Cheung,

Whereas, language in the Faculty Manual section 3359-20-02(B)(5)(v)((a)) concerning faculty review of department chair is:

1. confusing,
2. could lead to a condition in which an overwhelming majority of faculty vote for continuation of department chair, but may not make this recommendation to the dean because of disagreements over other "recommendations" within the category "continued with recommendations",
3. could lead to a situation in which a small minority thwart the will of the majority, and
4. create an environment for department chairs that would be detrimental to the effective leadership of the department,

we, the undersigned, make motion to amend the Faculty Manual by replacing 3359-20-02(B)(5)(v)((a)) paragraphs 2 and 3 with the following:

The committee shall conclude its evaluation by presenting to the faculty a recommendation, and the faculty shall adopt by majority vote of the entire full-time faculty of the department, a recommendation that the chair be continued or not continued as chair.

Any evaluations, observations, and/or recommendations attached to the faculty's recommendation to continue or not continue, shall be approved by a majority vote of the entire full-time faculty, and the faculty's recommendation, with attachments, shall be reported to the dean and communicated to the chair.

Signed:

<u>James Ryan</u>	<u>Stephen L. ...</u>	_____
<u>George S. Pryn</u>	<u>Alvin Bodman</u>	_____
<u>Earl Gahr</u>	<u>Stephen L.</u>	_____
<u>Richard Shirey</u>	<u>Ken ...</u>	_____
<u>William ...</u>	<u>Richard ...</u>	_____
<u>Richard ...</u>	<u>Michael ...</u>	_____
<u>George Peoples</u>	<u>Barbara MacLennan</u>	_____
<u>James P. ...</u>	_____	_____
<u>Scott ...</u>	_____	_____
<u>Debra ...</u>	_____	_____

