

Tuesday, October 23, 2001, 4:00pm, Goodwin Forum (NHE 102)

Chair Bicknell called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. on Tuesday, October 23, 2001, in Goodwin Forum (NHE 102); a quorum was present

Members Present

Bicknell, Bockover, Braggs, Fulgham, Goodman, Jenkins, Kenyon, Klein, MacConnie, Martin, Mayer, McFarland, Meiggs, Mortazavi, Novotney, Oliver, Paselk, Paynton, Sheppard, Smith, Stokes, Thobaben, Thompson, Travis, Wang, M. Wilson, Yarnall

Members Absent

Burroughs, Christensen, Little, McCrone, F. Wilson

Guests

Steve Butler, Student Affairs; Ron Fritzsche, Academic Affairs; Carolyn Mueller, President's Office; Donna Schafer, Research & Graduate Studies

Announcement of Proxies

Snyder for Bockover; Vrem for Stokes; Siering for Varkey

Approval of Minutes from the Meeting of October 9, 2001

M/S (Wang/Meiggs) to approve the minutes from the Meeting of October 2, 2001

Motion passed

M/S (Klein/MacConnie) to approve the submitted minutes of October 9, 2001.

Motion passed

Reports, Announcement, and Communications of the Chair

Chair Bicknell announced:

- The three faculty members of the search committee for a new president [Susan Bicknell, as chair of the Academic Senate; and Milt Boyd and Rollie Lamberson, who were elected by the general faculty] decided to hold a forum for each of the three colleges. Given the short notice and the importance of this issue, a university wide forum also has been scheduled for Noon on Thursday, October 25, in Goodwin Forum. The purpose of the forum is to provide input to the search committee members regarding what characteristics they should look for in a new president and what they should be telling candidates about Humboldt State University so that a good match is found. All faculty and staff will be invited via email; Elexis Mayer, President of Associated Students, also is invited. Students did not receive an email invitation but are welcome to attend.
- The entire search committee will be on campus Friday, October 26, for an 8:30 a.m.

meeting to be held in the Klamath River/Mad River Room in Jolly Giant Commons. This has been billed as a public meeting.

- The CSU International Programs is recruiting faculty to fill several resident director positions. China, France, Israel, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Spain and Zimbabwe are countries with open positions. Additional information is available from the Academic Senate Office.
- A letter from President McCrone has been received indicating his receipt of the resolution on the procedure for proposing a new degree program approved at the May 08, 2001, senate meeting. President McCrone approved the resolution with two clarifications to the procedure. Chair Bicknell will review the revisions.
- Also received from President McCrone is a letter referring to the Academic Senate the issue of noise from the Quad interfering with instruction. Comment on the draft policy for the University Quad by December 14, 2001, has been requested. This item will be referred to the appropriate subcommittee.
- Senator Jennifer Sanford, newly-elected representative from Counseling, was introduced and welcomed to the Senate.

Committee and State Senate Reports

Student Affairs: There is a resolution on today's agenda regarding CR/NC grading for undergraduate courses for level 5 students.

State Senate: No report

Associated Students: The fee referendum for the field house renovation (the Student Recreation Center) started today and will continue through Thursday. It would be appreciated if faculty would announce the referendum in their classes and encourage students to learn about it.

Faculty Affairs: The Committee is working on a response to the intellectual property policy; a resolution will be brought to the senate soon. The next issue for discussion will be the workplace violence policy

CFA: Chapter President Travis announced that mediation continues stating that this process is different from the regular bargaining process. For example, there is no formal exchange of proposals so the only thing to report is that not much headway is being made. It has been reported that the Chancellor has been putting pressure on student associations to stay neutral on the issue of bargaining, and the CSU administration has been sending reports that are disturbing. However, ground rules of mediation prevent the CFA from addressing such reports. In one case, the claim was made that one of the major issues of the bargaining process is parking, and that the administration's position was that faculty should have to pay the same amount as other groups of parking users on the campuses--that it was a matter of equity. In fact, parking was not discussed except to mention it as a bargainable issue at the last session. On all CSU campuses with parking, faculty and staff pay more than students or in some cases, they pay

the same. Members were distressed at such distortions and at the obvious attempt to drive a wedge between CFA and the student groups on campuses.

The Assembly was held this past weekend and passed a resolution authorizing a strike vote to be conducted some time in the spring. Details will be discussed by the Board of Directors at its December meeting. The California State Employees Association has requested PERB to certify them to impasse for the four bargaining units they represent. The issues are similar to issues that CFA is facing and as a consequence, it is expected that CSEA will be entering mediation soon. CSEA and CFA are coordinating their activities on this campus.

Educational Policies: No report

OAA: Dean Vrem announced that the campus will be receiving some additional lottery funds: \$120,000 for academic technology and \$60,000 for the Library. Guidelines on the use of the academic technology funds should be received soon. The President forwarded the senate's recommendation on the Athletic Program to the Vice President for Academic Affairs and to the Joint Council for comment. The Joint Council met and discussed this issue at its October 17 meeting. There is every indication that the funding for next year will be very tight, which is reinforced by the correspondence from the President indicating the possibility of budget cuts up to 10 percent.

General Faculty: The election for a member to the Professional Leave Committee is scheduled for tomorrow and Thursday. On December 10, the joint holiday social at Plaza Grill will occur; this is a joint effort by the CFA and the general faculty at Humboldt State University. Senators were encouraged to review Training Bulletin No. 01-06, which includes information on terrorism readiness in the State of California, and has been distributed through campus mail.

Resolution Regarding CR/NC Grading for Undergraduate Courses for Level 5 Students (#09-01/02-SA)

M/S (Wang/Klein) to move the Resolution

Motion passed

Senator Wang introduced the resolution stating Humboldt State University has labeled as a graduate student everyone who holds a degree and is admitted to the University. The Committee believes that students in this category, who are not seeking a graduate degree and just wish to take an undergraduate class, should not be held to the same standards as those who are seeking a graduate degree or a teaching credential.

Discussion ensued and is summarized below:

- If the resolution passes, then an unclassified post-baccalaureate student would receive credit for a grade of C or C-; could that person then count that course toward a graduate

degree if admitted to candidacy? [This was a concern expressed by the Graduate Council, and the members of the Student Affairs Committee believe this should be an issue with a specific graduate committee when a particular class is to be considered as part of graduate program.] [Since students taking graduate classes are required to have letter grades, then the CR/NC indicator would not apply.]

- The CR/NC grading should be used for undergraduate courses regardless of whether one is a graduate student or not; why should we discourage graduate students from taking undergraduate courses by holding them to a higher standard?
- Through friendly amendment, the first whereas clause was changed from Humboldt State University policy to Humboldt State University practice.
- If admitted as a graduate student, that individual has to be held to a higher standard.
- Through friendly amendment, the first whereas clause was revised to include master's degree students.
- It was suggested to strike the second Whereas clause; this was not accepted as friendly. It would be better to change most to many. The problem with this is that teaching credential students are not seeking graduate degrees either so this is a distinction that is counter to the distinction that we are attempting to make in the resolution.
- Objection to the friendly amendment was removed and the second Whereas clause was stricken.
- A classified master's degree student has been accepted into a master's degree program and an unclassified student is one who has a bachelor's degree and is taking classes. Why treat these individuals differently? [Since many of the unclassified students are not seeking a graduate degree and are taking undergraduate courses for general interest for example, they should be held to undergraduate standards.]

Voting occurred and the Resolution passed as amended with 2 No votes

Resolution on Elections of Representatives and Officers of the General Faculty (#10-01/02-EX)
M/S (Fulgham/Goodman) to move the Resolution

Motion passed

Senator Snyder introduced the resolution stating that its intent is to have all representatives or officers of the general faculty be elected through a majority vote process, rather than a plurality vote. This resolution came about after the last general faculty election where the two faculty members of the presidential search committee were elected through a plurality vote and some faculty were not satisfied with this process. The resolution recommends that this issue be put to the faculty for a vote. The suggested additions to the current Constitution show in the resolution as double underlined text.

Discussion ensued and is summarized below:

- The unexpired terms clause pertains to cases where there may be more than one term

available, giving first choice of term to the candidate with the greatest number of votes.

- The three descriptive paragraphs, titled With one position to fill, With multiple positions to fill, and Unexpired terms, replaced the stricken six words found at the end of the first paragraph in Section 114.
- It was offered as a friendly amendment to add the language (50 percent plus one vote) after the word majority in the descriptive paragraph titled With one position to fill. [This language is redundant since that is the meaning of majority.]
- Does including representatives to the Academic Senate in Section 114 mean that the General Faculty Elections Committee will run college elections in order to insure that the election process is being followed? [The Academic Senate reference is current language so one assumes that if people are not currently following this process, then they are not in line with the guidelines.]
- Past practice has been that if the top percentages, when added together to constitute 66.7 percent or more of the votes cast, fall short of the 66.7 percent mark, and the next top percentage to be included is held by more than one candidate, then all candidates holding that percentage are included in the runoff election. This practice will be continued.
- The friendly amendment adding the language (fifty percent plus one vote) was withdrawn

Voting occurred and the amended Resolution Passed Unanimously

Resolution Regarding Ombudspersons at Humboldt State University (#11-01/02-EX)

M/S (Wang/Fulgham) to move the Resolution

Motion passed

Chair Bicknell introduced the resolution stating that the Senate Executive Committee reviewed the ombudsperson positions last spring and provided President McCrone with some recommendations. The President sought counsel from the Chancellor's Office and was informed that having ombudspersons from a collective bargaining unit could possibly create problems of conflict of interest. One ombudsperson has been appointed for the current term, instead of two ombudspersons as has been done in the past, and the resolution recommends returning to the practice of having two ombudspersons in Spring 2002. It also recommends that an evaluation of the practice of using ombudspersons be conducted and other methods of alternative dispute resolution be explored.

Discussion ensued and is summarized below:

Is it intended that the ad hoc committee will submit a report to the Senate Executive Committee and the Senate Executive Committee then will consult with the full senate? [Such details are not included, but something similar to this would occur.]

No details were provided regarding what the potential conflict of interest would be with an ombudsperson belonging to a collective bargaining unit; however, the Senate Executive Committee and the Student Affairs Committee believe that such potential conflict of interest had been avoided in the past by having two ombudspersons because if one had a potential conflict of interest, the other could step in. [According to Carolyn Mueller, Executive Assistant to the President, one example of this potential problem would be a situation where a student was grieving a faulty member, the ombudsperson was involved, and eventually the case went to court. The ombudsperson might be called upon to testify against a colleague which could create a problem, especially if they were in the same department and the ombudsperson were asked to comment on the faculty member in the course of the RTP process. It is important to be aware of this as an issue and know that there may be other circumstances where this may occur; and it would be desirable to have an alternative to putting a faculty member in this position.] [Obviously the two ombudspersons need to be selected from different departments.]

Perhaps language suggesting that the selected ombudspersons be from different departments should be added. [Rather than revising the resolution now, if it is approved, Chair Bicknell could include in a transmittal letter to the President the statement that the Senate recommends that when the two ombudspersons are appointed, they be from different departments.]

Concern was expressed that the administration is worrying about a very low probability and it is better to work on high probability issues. The appointed individuals would follow the practice of not getting involved in cases where there is a potential conflict of interest.

Chair Bicknell will take all comments under advisement and write a letter of transmittal to the President describing the conflict of interest and methods by which it may be avoided.

Voting occurred and the Resolution passed unanimously

M/S (Fulgham/Bockover) motion to adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 5:02pm