

Minutes of Senate Meeting, Department of English, March 28, 1984

Members present: Burch, Cable, Cook, Carton, Cullingford, Gaines, Friedman, Gordon, Gribben Kruppa, Lesser, Lidoff, Megaw, Reed, Rossman, Ruszkiewicz, Scheick, Westbrook, Wevill, Jarratt

Members absent: Faigley, Farrell, Jolliffe

Professor Sutherland called the meeting to order at 3: 08 p.m.

Professor Kruppa moved the acceptance of the recommendations of the EC with regard to the hiring of Lecturers. (Second Professor Friedman) Professor Sutherland remarked that the four recommendations explain the conditions under which the department finds itself--particularly the discrepancy between the Regent's rules and those of the AAUP. After some discussion, it was agreed by consensus that the EC's four recommendations would be discussed and voted on one at a time, after which a further vote on the entire set would be taken.

Discussion commenced regarding recommendation #1. Professor Megaw said that we should make the distinction between the Regent's rules, which are clear and not open to discussion, and the EC's recommendation, which amounts to a change in the department's understanding and policies. In particular, Megaw continued, after some brief comments by Professors Gordon and Westbrook, the EC is going beyond the Regent's rules in its first recommendation. The message to the Lecturers would be that their appointments are absolutely for one year and that, should the Lecturers be lucky in the role of the dice, they might get another year.

After discussion of the intention and tone of the first recommendation, Professor Rossman moved that the EC's wording be modified by the addition of the phrase "with the possibility of renewal." The revised EC recommendation would then read: "The Lecturer position is a temporary, one-year or one-semester non-tenure accruing appointment, with the possibility of renewal."

After the usual long and searching discussion, the amended EC recommendation was accepted by a vote of twenty to zero.

The Senate then took up the matter of EC recommendation number two. Professor Cullingford asked why the first part of the recommendation called for a maximum of four years as full-time Lecturer, rather than any other length of time. Professors Friedman and Kruppa explained that four years was a compromise between the national habit--averred to be three years--and our own maximum possibility of seven years.

Cliff Endres opened a new direction of discussion when he asked why Lecturers should not, after all, be given tenure. Neill Megaw explained the AAUP attitude--that all teaching service be tenure-accruing and that service in an eighth year presumes tenure--and went on to argue against the EC recommendation on that basis.

Charles Rossman moved that the EC recommendation for a maximum of eight long-session semesters as a full-time lecturer be changed to fourteen semesters. (Seconded by Max Westbrook). He argued that fourteen semesters allowed the department maximum flexibility, guaranteed Lecturers at least the possibility

of seven year's of teaching, and still left the department free not to renew any given Lecturer any given semester.

Professor Friedman, following extensive discussion of Rossman's proposal, offered a "friendly amendment" that would retain the fourteen semester maximum for current Lecturers, but would allow new Lecturers (those first hired for the 1984-85 long sessions) to teach no more than three years.

The amendment was accepted by Rossman and Westbrook. After further discussion, and after voting down a motion to adjourn made by Professor Gribben, the Senate voted separately on the two parts of the EC's second recommendation.

The amended wording for the two parts:

Part one: "A person hired for the 1984-85 long session, or after that, may serve in the position of Lecturer no more than a total of six long-session semesters at full time."

Part two: " Anyone currently serving as a Lecturer may serve no more than fourteen long-session semesters at full time."

The first part of the amended recommendation passed by a vote of fifteen to three. The second part of the amended recommendation passed by a vote of eleven to eight.

The meeting adjourned at 5:24 p.m.

Submitted by Chuck Rossman