

Support doubtful for lecturer plan

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When English lecturer Sharon Wevill introduces a plan for an interim solution to the "lecturer problem" during Friday's English Faculty Senate meeting, she probably will face stiff opposition from department members.

"There is no way the senate is going to discuss in an ad hoc manner this proposal," Wayne Lesser, associate professor of English, said Thursday. He said he will move that English lecturer Sue Rodi's "Plan for Improving the Hiring of Lecturers" be referred to a departmental committee now studying the lecturers' situation.

Wevill, lecturer representative to the senate, will ask the senate to consider Rodi's plan as an interim solution until the lecturer committee reaches a consensus on what the lecturers' departmental status should be.

Rodi's plan proposes that four or five lecturer positions be line items in the Department of English budget, contingent upon enrollment. There are five lecturers whose salaries

now appear as line items in the department budget; the other 65 lecturers' salaries are funded by "soft money" that comes primarily from salaries of vacant faculty positions.

"Steps should be taken to work out in the department and at the dean's level procedures that would allow 75 percent of the number of lecturers projected as needed for the following year to be hired June 1," Rodi said.

Rodi suggests "an appropriate percentage" of lecturers be hired under "multi-year agreements." In contrast with yearly contracts, such agreements "would assure these lecturers top priority among lecturers in hiring for the period of the agreement but not bind the department if there is an unexpected enrollment drop," Rodi said.

"These steps are consistent with University operating procedure and are realistic enough in scope to have a solid probability of adoption at all levels," Rodi said.

However, Lesser said Rodi's plan "is of no value" because "it takes as a given the very things that have to be argued."