

MINUTES OF THE SENATE
Department of English

October 15, 1982

3:00-5:15 p.m.

Present: Moldenhauer (Chair); Bertelsen, Bowden, Carver, Duban, Duncan, Faigley, Friedman, Ghose, Jolliffe, Kruppa, Lesser, Lidoff, Megaw, Renwick, Ruszkiewicz, Sipiora, Skaggs, Stott, S. Wevill, Whitbread. Absent: Cable, Farrell, Hairston, Hinojosa.

1. Announcements

The Chair welcomed the newly-elected members of the Senate: James Skaggs and Sharon Wevill (Lecturers) and Edwin Duncan, David Jolliffe, and Phillip Sipiora (Assistant Instructors). The Chair also welcomed Lance Bertelsen and Lester Faigley (Assistant Professors) who replaced Kurt Heinzelman and Michael King.

The Chair reported that President Flawn approved on September 17 the "Proposal by the General Faculty for an Undergraduate University Requirement in English" (D&M 14189-14193) except for that section that authorizes the University Council to approve substitutes for English 346K. The new English requirements will be incorporated into new college catalogs as each is printed and released: the next College of Liberal Arts catalog will be issued in September 1983 (for the period 1983-1985). There was discussion of the mechanics of scheduling and staffing the new courses and the gradual phase-out of existing courses eliminated under the plan (E307, E308, E310, E314K, E317). Some courses (E314L, E318M) will be retained but will not satisfy the English requirement.

In response to action by the Senate at its June 24, 1982 meeting establishing recruitment priorities for junior positions beginning in September 1983 [(1) Lang-Ling and (2) Creative Writing (Fiction)], the Executive Committee placed the following ad in the October 1982 MLA Joblist:

Tenure-track Assistant Professorship in English Language and Linguistics; possibly another in fiction writing. Must have Ph.D., or MFA-MA in CW, by 6/83. Strong commitment to under-graduate teaching expected. Candidates must also have prospects for excellent scholarly or creative publication. Applications (arrival, not postmark) by 8 November 1982. Joseph J. Moldenhauer, Chair, English Dept. EE/AO empl.

The junior position in Lang-Ling is to be funded by the vacated Pavone line. The position in Creative Writing (Fiction) was contingent upon complete funding of the 50% English line occupied by Dwyer; after the MLA ad was placed the Department learned that the 50% Curriculum & Instruction line for Dwyer

had been retrieved by the administration, and full funding of the line in the English Department budget would not be forthcoming. Instead, the 50% of the line in English will become "soft money" for use by the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts. A similar one-time ad will be placed in The Chronicle of Higher Education without the reference to the Creative Writing (Fiction) position.

The Chair announced that the Executive Committee had accepted Horace Newcomb's resignation from the English Department in order to accept a full-time position in the Department of Radio-Television-Film. In a gracious letter to the Chair, Newcomb expressed his desire to continue a close association with the Department. The Executive Committee preferred to keep the Newcomb line (100% at the Associate Professor level) open for a possible tenured appointment; the EC and the Chair urged the Senate to discuss this possibility at a future Senate meeting. In further discussion Dr. William Stott suggested that the department should search for an individual in southern literature. Dr. Alan Friedman suggested that the Department might find it useful to fill the Newcomb line with a creative writer. Dr. Wayne Lesser suggested that the Graduate Program could well use another tenured individual in bibliography. Dr. Stott moved, and Dr. Joe Kruppa seconded, that debate on recruitment be postponed until the next Senate meeting so that interested individuals in the Department could plan to attend and speak. The motion was approved.

The Chair reported on the Centennial Chairs and Professorships established by the Board of Regents. These Chairs (\$500,000 endowment, supports a complete salary) and Professorships (\$100,000-\$500,000 endowment, supplements but does not support a salary) are created by matching funds from the University with individual contributions from the private sector. The English Department has received two Professorships:

- James Kinneavy is the Jane & Roland Blumberg Centennial Professor in English Composition
- William B. Todd is the Mildred Caldwell & Baine Perkins Kerr Centennial Professor in English History and Culture

The Chair said that Dean King was considering changing the Academic Development Fund request deadline from mid-September to late spring or early summer. An earlier deadline would allow the Department to more effectively plan its invitations to visiting speakers and lecturers, who are paid from ADF funds.

The Chair reported that President Flawn was very concerned that all faculty members take seriously the advising function of the faculty. At a meeting of the Liberal Arts chairs with the Dean in September, it was suggested that means be found to encourage the faculty to be available for advising duties during regular registration periods as well as during pre-registration.

2. Lecturer Recruitment

The Chair reported on the results of the national recruitment effort for

Lecturer positions in English. Of thirteen applications received in response to the Department's ad in The Chronicle of Higher Education, five offers were made and three were accepted.

3. Minors for English Majors

A proposal to change the requirement for the Minor in the B.A. Plan I degree with a Major in English was presented by Dr. James Garrison, the Undergraduate Advisor. A minor is any area of study encompassing six hours of lower-division and six hours of upper-division credit. The current College of Liberal Arts Catalog requires each English major to receive individual approval from the English Dept. Undergraduate Advisor for his chosen minor; current practice, however, has been to give blanket approval for all minors. The proposed change would eliminate the required departmental approval. Dr. Garrison believed that such a change would benefit both the department and students because it would decrease unnecessary paperwork and eliminate a burdensome and time-consuming task. Dr. Larry Carver moved, and Dr. Kruppa seconded, that the College of Liberal Arts Catalog copy be changed in such a way as to remove the requirement for approval by the department of the minor for English majors. The motion was approved.

4. Library Project

The Chair distributed a suggestion by Dr. John Farrell (who was unable to attend the meeting) for a library project to be undertaken by the Senate on behalf of the department:

Although the General Libraries now have a Serials List in print-out form, it will be several years until the list includes call numbers. I would like to suggest that we help ourselves out by bringing up-to-date and vastly expanding the list of serials, call numbers and locations of periodicals that AGSE developed several years ago.

The project wouldn't require very much work if twenty or so people would each look up numbers for about twenty-five serials. It occurred to me to bring the project to the Senate simply because the key step, of course, is to decide which serials the list should include, and so the group of volunteers should represent as many of the Department's fields of specialization as possible. As a body, the Senate makes an ideal group for this purpose, though it would have to be supplemented in some fields.

If there is sufficient interest in the project, I would suggest that we begin by using the MLA annual bibliography's "Master List of Periodicals." This list currently runs to approximately 3,000 items. I estimate that twenty or so volunteers could winnow that number to a useable 500 by the simple expedient of having each person strike out any periodical he or she never reads or has never heard of.

After the numbers and locations of the fortunate 500 have been

determined, the list could be done up in mimeograph form and made available to the whole department.

I'm not, of course, making a motion, but rather a call for volunteers. Please leave me a note if you're interested.

Jack Farrell
10/15/82

The Senate agreed not to take any official action on the proposal; volunteers should speak directly to Dr. Farrell.

5. Subcommittee on Lecturers

Dr. Neill Megaw moved that the Senate re-appoint a Senate subcommittee on Lecturers; Dr. Alan Friedman seconded the motion. Such a subcommittee would act as a liaison between the Lecturers and the Senate and would investigate problems and issues affecting the Lecturers as a group. Dr. Clifford Endres, a member of last year's subcommittee, said that there were significant issues to be dealt with: lecturer workload, for example. Dr. Moldenhauer thought that the 1981-82 subcommittee had had a certain psychological value but had not yielded practical results. Dr. Kruppa wondered if it might not be more useful to deal with sensitive issues on an ad hoc basis. Dr. Megaw explained that the Department, which has one of the largest lecturer groups in the country and which faces so many difficult problems in connection with the lecturers, should certainly have a standing committee to deal with these sensitive issues. After further discussion, the motion was defeated.

6. Senate Calendar of Activities

The Chair announced that the next Senate meeting would be held in about three weeks. Expected items on the agenda will include recruitment and the Undergraduate Course Committee report if available. The Senate agreed to discuss peer evaluation at the next meeting. The Executive Committee had worked on a method of evaluation for faculty in the Department. After two years of discussion, the EC in spring 1981 had decided that the subject was a policy matter and that it rightly belonged in the purview of the Senate. Materials previously developed by the Executive Committee would again be distributed to Senate members.

Other possible items for the next meeting were the TLC subcommittee report, tabled by the 1981-82 Senate, and Senate Minutes distribution. Dr. Friedman asked that the Senate discuss the possibility of distributing Senate Minutes in their entirety to members of the teaching staff in addition to the brief "Actions of the Senate" now distributed to the teaching staff after each meeting.

Distributed to Senate Members 10/27/82.