

ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES
(Approved)

March 20, 2002

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Call to Order

Chairperson Curt White called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Senator Crothers called the roll and declared a quorum.

Chairpersons Remarks:

Senator White: The only agenda we have this evening is the President's remarks to the Senate. I would like to remind you all that next Thursday, March 28, Catherine Hales will be addressing the campus at 7:30 p.m. in the Old Main Room as part of the Leading Edge Issues in Technology and Society series. Also, this Friday and Saturday, there is an Iranian Film Festival in the Center for Visual Arts, Room 151.

President's Address to the Senate

President Boschini: I wanted to officially inform you, per the Constitution, that we need a new Provost. According to the Constitution, the President needs to come and make that announcement of the vacancy to the Senate and ask the Senate Chairperson to start the process whereby you would choose the members of the search committee. Tonight, I am asking the chair to begin that process. I am also distributing a transition plan for the change in the Provost's office.

Several things were not changed when we made all of the changes in the Constitution of the last year. There are small parts that we want to recommend changing, but will do that at a later date. The Chairperson of the Senate will appoint six faculty from the different colleges. The Senate will appoint three student members. The President will appoint one of the Vice Presidents to serve as the secretary of the committee. The only broad constitute group not represented in this search would be civil service. I am considering the campus as falling into four broad categories, students, faculty, staff and administration. The search process within the Constitution does not involve the Senate recommending any civil service members for the committee.

Senator White: The policy that you are referring to is actually in the Policies and Procedures Handbook, not the Constitution. We have authority over those policies and we have advised them very recently. Essentially, we actually went through something like this with the Dean of Arts and Sciences search. The Executive Committee attempted to go outside of the policy and gave permission to the Provost to appoint members to that search committee. Subsequently, as you recall, Roger Anderson and Arts and Sciences were a bit miffed because we disturbed the balance on that committee in terms of the faculty majority. What we are going to have to do until we can get back to these documents and debate them in a substantive way is, if the Senate is willing, approve an ad hoc amendment, that is a one time only permission, to add a member to this search committee. I think the President is asking for a voting member, are you not?

President Boschini: Yes.

Senator White: So we need a motion for a voting member from the civil service staff to be nominated by the Civil Service Council and submitted to the President for his approval.

Motion XXXIII-108: By Senator Razaki, second by Senator Baum, that, on an ad hoc basis, the President be allowed to add a voting member from civil service to the search committee for the Provost.

Senator Baum: I would like to speak on behalf of AP staff that there is a similar accommodation made for them.

President Boschini: They will already be on it because that is the person that I appoint.

Senator Baum: Having a Vice President on the committee is not the same as having an AP representative generated in the same way as the Civil Service Council might generate one.

President Boschini: I am trying to change as little as possible. We will still have an AP representative.

Senator Baum: Since we are making changes, why not level it in the interest of shared governance?

Friendly Amendment

Senator Coliz: I would like to propose that we add an additional faculty member to the committee if we are going to add an additional member who is non-faculty to keep the original balance of power.

Senator Razaki accepted the friendly amendment. Senator Baum did not accept the amendment.

Senator Lawhun: The faculty representation will not be off balanced by our one individual that would be added to the search committee. I would like to encourage everyone to give us the opportunity to give our views and input.

Senator El-Zanati: What is the rationale for having a civil service person on this committee? How relevant is the job of Provost to the civil service personnel?

Senator Razaki: Even though the Provost is the chief academic officer, there are people in civil service who work on the Provost's staff. In the spirit of shared governance, every stakeholder should be at the table. Maybe another motion is necessary because I do want to maintain a clear faculty majority on the committee.

Senator Deutsch: I don't oppose putting a civil service person on the committee. I just want to see to it that the proportions remain the same.

Senator Coliz: If we approve a civil service member and don't approve an additional faculty member, we wind up with the chief academic officer of the University being appointed by a committee, which is not in a good majority academic.

Senator White: Lets clarify that. We would have seven faculty, including the chair from the Panel of 10, three students, one civil service, one AP, so the balance would be seven to five.

President Boschini: I want to clarify that this committee would not be appointing the Provost. This committee would make a recommendation to me about who they think the Provost should be. They will most likely submit a group of names.

Vote on Motion XXXIII-108: The Senate voted on the motion. The following members of the Senate voted no: Senators Deutsch, El-Zanati, Armstrong, Coliz and Landau. The following members abstained: Senators

Holland, Pryor, Mitchell and Chang. The motion passed.

Motion XXXIII-109: By Senator Reid, second by Senator Baum, that on an ad hoc, one-time basis, an AP member, nominated by the AP Council, and one additional faculty member, appointed by the Chair of the Senate, be added to the Provost search committee.

Friendly Amendment

Senator Orlando: I request that an additional student member, recommended by the Executive officers of SGA, be appointed by the President to the search committee.

Senator Reid: I would not accept the friendly amendment. We would now have four students, eight faculty, one Vice president, one AP, one civil service. That would just barely give faculty a majority.

Senator Kording: What decisions will the committee have to make by majority vote?

President Boschini: In my general experience with these committees, they act on consensus. It has never come to a point where there has been such acrimony on the committee that they could not come to a consensus. Once the candidates are chosen, everyone will have the opportunity to meet with each of them.

Senator Kording: I would therefore hope that Senator Reid would withdraw his motion. This is a one-time issue and the Provost is bringing back recommendations regarding search committees, which the Senate will have to approve.

Senator Lindblom: If there were no consensus, would the President know for whom each member voted?

President Boschini: Yes. I would put more weight on what the faculty wanted because this is the chief academic officer.

Move the Question: The question was moved by Senator Albrecht. The Senate voted in favor of closing debate.

Vote on Motion XXXIII-109: The majority of the Senate voted against the motion. The Senate members who voted in favor of the motion were: Senators Fowles, Coliz, Clemmons, Baum, Tudor, Hampton, Reid, Lawhun, Crumpler and Crothers. The motion did not pass.

President Boschini: I also want to announce that on Wednesday, April 17 at 4:00 p.m., I am having a general campus wide meeting to talk about the budget and the Provost transition. The final item I would like to report is that I met with the chair of the AP Council and he was fine with what we were doing. I am concerned about Senator Baum's reaction, so I will go back and meet with the chair again to make sure that if there is a way to work this out, that we do that. Please e-mail me with your thoughts on this process.

Senator White: The faculty members of the Senate are going to meet immediately after this meeting to discuss Senate leadership.

Adjournment

Motion XXXIII-110: By Senator Lawhun, second by Senator Bathauer, to adjourn. The motion was

approved by standing vote.

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