

Minutes of the Emory University Senate

April 18, 1995 - 3:15 PM
Room 400 Administration Building

Members and guests recorded as present:

Steven Batterson	Kimberley Detherage	Maureen Kelley	Marie Nitschke
Paula Cattanach	Robert Ethridge	Frank Lechner	Helen O'Shea
William Chace	Ron Frank	Clark Lemons	Donna Owen
Terry Clark	Barbara G-Plauth	Richard Letz	Kay Pendleton
Anne Claxton	Gary Hauk	Robin Luttrell	Roderic Pettigrew
Louise Cook	Milekah Hebron	Bill Mayton	Raghu R. Raju
Pamela Couture	Leonard Hinds	Kate McPherson	Robert C. Schlant
Joseph Crooks	Francis Howard	Marc Miller	Gray Crouse
Luke Johnson	Jack Millgard	Luther Smith	Sidney Stein
Stephanie Schroeder			

Senate President Luther Smith called the meeting to order and mentioned, for the record, that Dean Wilcox, Penny Castellano, Larry Beard, and Louise Cook had called to explain their absence from the meeting. He welcomed Senate guests Robin Luttrell, Francis Howard, and Stephanie Schroeder. He also recognized Kay Pendleton as the newly installed Employee Council President. The minutes of the previous meeting, distributed earlier, were approved with two corrections. ("Secreatry" was changed to "Secretary"; "referring" was changed to "referring.")

A proposal to amend the University's Policy on Discriminatory Harassment, laid on the table at the last meeting, was removed from the table. Richard Letz, President-Elect of the Senate, asked Frank Lechner, who proposed the original motion, if he would accept the addition of a few words to his proposal tying it more closely to the University's policy. Dr. Lechner agreed to the following wording:

Under this policy, all judgments related to freedom of expression shall be consistent with established First Amendment standards.

Dr. Lechner explained that his proposal would demonstrate more clearly the University's commitment to academic freedom and, should there be an incident, it would provide the accused with the same protection which is available at public institutions.

Bill Mayton, Chair of the Discriminatory Harassment Policy Review Committee, spoke against the proposal. Professor Mayton expressed the view that the policy itself was inconsistent with academic freedom, and that Dr. Lechner's proposal would provide a contradiction within the policy. Dr. Lechner sympathized with this view, but said that his proposal aimed at modifying the policy in a manner that would gain the support of the Senate.

Law School professor Marc Miller expressed concern about non-lawyers attempting to interpret First Amendment law in applying this policy. University Counsel Joseph Crooks said that First Amendment law was not clear-cut, that one had to look at the law as approved by the various courts and be concerned with whose rule was involved. Robert Ethridge, Equal Opportunity Programs Director, worried that the proposal would create more ambiguity and muddy the waters even more. Professor Miller saw Dr. Lechner's amendment as an attempt to balance what was unacceptable rather than changing the substance of the policy itself.

Oxford College representative Clark Lemons and University Secretary Gary Hauk both expressed the view that it was not a disadvantage to be a private University where support of freedom of speech can coexist with a protective responsibility. Pamela Couture, member of the Policy Review Committee, voiced confidence in the policy with President Chace at the top of this policy. She noted that there was always pressure not to speak about certain issues and indicated that the elimination of this policy would not change that. She spoke of a private moral ecology at Emory that directs what we want to teach here.

The question was called ending debate, and the amendment to the Policy on Discriminatory Harassment was defeated by a voice vote. Dr. Smith thanked all those who had contributed to the study and debate of this issue during the last two years.

Mission statements from the following committees were distributed and approved with the minor corrections indicated below:

- Library Policy Committee approved after the fourth issue of interest was changed to read "Policy issues such as the effect of considerations of intellectual property rights on the operation of the Library."
- Campus Development Committee approved as submitted.
- Parking and Traffic Committee approved with the addition of "the University Senate" to the first sentence so that it reads "The purpose of the Senate Parking and Traffic Committee is to advise the University Senate, University Administration, Department of Parking and Community Services and Emory Police Department on matters relating to parking and traffic policy on the main Campus of Emory University."
- Campus Life Committee approved as submitted.
- Safety and Security Committee approved as submitted.
- Fringe Benefits Committee approved after the second sentence under Chair was changed to read "The Chair may not be a departmental chair or higher University official, nor a member of the staff of Human Resources."

Dr. Smith informed the Senate that mission statements have now been approved for all standing committees of the Senate except for the Committee on the Environment. That statement will be handled in the fall.

Next, committee chairs reported to the Senate on the activities of their committees during the year. A summary of their activities follows. Written reports from the Committees are on file with the Senate records in the Special Collections Department of the Woodruff Library.

Fringe Benefits Committee (Sidney Stein)

- Domestic Partner Benefits proposal submitted to Senate in fall. Approved by Senate for same-sex domestic partners, but not opposite sex domestic partners.
- Made recommendations regarding Hepatitis B vaccinations for at-risk employees which were approved by the Senate.
- Worked with Human Resources to see that dental equipment sterilization fees would be covered by EmoryCare.
- Resignation of Chair of EmoryCare Oversight Committee kept that group inactive during the year, but Dr. Glendon Maberly has agreed to chair that committee so they will be reactivated in May.
- In coming year, will look at short-term disability coverage and group life insurance with cash value feature.

Traffic and Parking Committee (Jack Millgard)

- Committee recommendations approved during the year include:
 - Moving the stop line back at N. Asbury/Clifton intersection.
 - Putting a left turn signal on northbound Clifton at N. Asbury.
 - Signal bells on campus shuttle buses.
 - Replacing speed bumps with speed humps.
 - Instituting booting instead of towing for parking violations.
- New decks, MARTA TransCards, and carpooling incentives have helped eased parking problem. Will look at extending extending Transcard and carpooling benefits to students.

Safety and Security Committee (Donna Owen)

- Concentrated on building committee diversity and commitment during the year.
- Increased interaction with other groups on campus concerned with safety issues.
- Established ex-officio representation from Parking Office and Emory Police Department.
- Will report to Senate next year on concerns about safety across campus.

Campus Life Committee (Judy Raggi Moore)

- Restructured Committee this year.
- Sponsored two forums, one on campus safety and one on financial assistance.
- Concerned with difficulty of communicating across campus via e-mail, voice-mail, news groups, and World Wide Web, and will bring that issue to Senate for discussion next year.

Library Policy Committee (Gray Crouse)

- Sponsored resolution dealing with access to library facilities on campus which was approved by the Senate. In response, a task force, chaired by Dean Woody Hunter, has been appointed to investigate barriers to access in any of the Emory libraries.
- Investigating issues dealing with intellectual property rights.
- Advising principals of the Virtual Library Project.

Athletics and Recreation Policy Committee (Steve Batterson)

- Record of some of Emory's teams this year show that academic integrity can be maintained while strong Division III athletic program is being developed.
- Candler Field lighted this year.
- Chappell Field opened for baseball this year.
- Committee met with representatives from other units on campus to discuss issues of overlapping interests including Facilities Management and SEED (Student Education on Eating Disorders).

Campus Development Committee (Helen O'Shea)

- List of projects approved by Committee was distributed to Senate members, including building sites, roads, recreation facilities, walkways, and other types of projects.

Emory Village Committee (John Bugge)

- Committee, as a fact-finding body, has contacted University administrators, Village merchants, and architects. In summer will contact public officials, other Universities with similar community involvement, and will seek help from MBA students for feasibility study of Village redevelopment.
- Will bring recommendations to Senate at the end of the fall of 1995.

Dr. Smith then summarized the activities of the Senate during the preceding year. The theme for the Senate's year was "Emory: a community in mission" and many of the Senate's discussions revolved around that theme. The Senate worked to clarify the different roles of the Senate and Faculty Council, and as a result some committees of the Senate were shifted to the jurisdiction of the Faculty Council. The Chairs of the Senate's standing committees met to discuss their activities and produced mission statements describing their committees' work. Standing Committee Chairs were recognized as full voting members of the Senate. Senate members voted to increase staff representation on the Senate. Funds were approved by the University administration to more adequately support the work of the Senate and its committees.

Dr. Smith thanked Senate members for their work and for their spirit of debate which treated opposing opinions with respect. He also thanked members of the Executive Committee for their involvement, and the Secretary of the University for his help in following through on

implementing Senate decisions. He also expressed special appreciation to President Chace for considering seriously all the Senate's proposals.

President Chace thanked Dr. Smith for his extraordinary service as Senate President. He stated that it had been a strong and solid year with vigorous debate, and he commended Dr. Smith and the Senate for coming to terms with hard issues. He then called upon the new officers to assume their roles. Richard Letz, new President of the Senate, joined President Chace in praising Dr. Smith's work during the past year. Luke Johnson, new President-Elect of the Senate, and Michele Duncan, new Secretary of the Senate were also recognized.

Gary Hauk, Secretary of the University, reported to the Senate about the status of various Senate actions. He mentioned that the Hepatitis B resolution was in the process of being implemented. Robin Luttrell from the Medical School Administration was present and reported that there were some problems in achieving consistency, but noted that these were known and being addressed. President Chace plans to upgrade the Committee on Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Concerns to Commission status. That will need a policy vote from the Trustees. The Senate's recommendation on parking fees is scheduled for the Board of Trustees to consider at its next meeting. The Senate's recommendation on forest use has been referred to the Board of Trustees' Committee on Real Estate, Buildings, and Grounds. The Senate's recommendation about water used has been referred to Facilities Management to determine what practices are already being implemented.

President Letz asked Senate members to select two temporary members of the Executive Committee so that the Committee could function through the summer. Laura C. Sawyer, new SGA President, and Kay Pendleton, new Employee Council President, were selected to serve until the fall meeting when the new Senate will elect the official committee.

There was no further business, and the Senate adjourned at 5:10 p.m.