

Minutes of the Emory University Senate

September 6, 1994 - 3:15 PM
Third Floor, Carlos Museum

Members and guests recorded as present:

Maxwell Anderson	Susan Frost	Jack Millgard
Steven Batterson	Billy Frye	Judy R. Moore
Larry Beard	Barbara Greene-Plauth	Marie Nitschke
Penny Castellano	Gary Hauk	Helen O'Shea
Paula Cattanach	Susan Hubbard	Harvey Ragsdale
William Chace	Eddie Irions	Luther Smith
Gray Crouse	Luke Johnson	Sidney Stein
Michele Duncan	Maureen Kelley	Dan Treadaway
Eliza Ellison	Kara Knowles	W. Dean Wilcox
Rich D. Freer	Frank Lechner	

Luther Smith, President of the Senate, called the meeting to order. He welcomed new members to the Senate and explained the charge of the Senate as defined in the Senate By-Laws. He encouraged all members to participate fully in the activities of the Senate. Continuing the policy of centering the Senate's discussions for the year around a particular theme, he distributed a copy of the University's mission statement (see [Attachment A](#)), and noted that this year the Senate would focus on the "Emory: a Community in Mission."

Dr. Smith then introduced Maxwell Anderson, Director of the Carlos Museum, who told the Senate about the Museum's mission and mentioned some of its current programs involving many segments of the Emory community.

Dr. Smith expressed his appreciation to Frank Lechner, immediate Past-President of the Senate, and Billy Frye, who served as Acting President of the University last year, for their work towards helping the Senate and Faculty Council become stronger voices on the campus. He then welcomed the new President of the University, William Chace, and invited him to address the Senate.

President Chace emphasized that no body like the Senate can be too strong if the institution is strong. He said that he hoped that the Senate would continue to deal with important issues because it would make the University even stronger. He indicated that he would like to attend the Senate meetings and he looked forward to working with the group.

Dr. Smith recognized Susan Frost, Chair of the University Priorities Committee, who reported on the University's self-examination process, begun last year, to determine what kind of university we want to become. Dr. Frost explained how, through luncheon discussions, retreats, and a University-wide symposium, issues of concern were identified. Dr. Frye categorized these into five groups:

1. balancing teaching and research,
2. developing a sense of community,
3. giving greater attention to interdisciplinary research,
4. dealing more adequately with external relationships, and
5. improving the University's infrastructure.

Dr. Frye said that the Senate and Faculty Council would be called upon to advise and participate in the discussions and decisions that will follow this year.

The minutes of the April meeting, distributed earlier, were approved.

Next, Dr. Smith brought the Senate up-to-date on the status of Senate actions from the preceding year. At its July meeting, the Board of Trustees approved the changes to the Senate By-Laws recommended by the Senate in February. The forest use policy, approved by the Senate at its April meeting, has been sent on to the Board of Trustees for consideration. A committee has been appointed to further examine issues raised in the Senate's discussion of the University's discriminatory harassment policy. Committee members include students Donna Apostle and Jeremy Berry, staff members Ed Graham and Kay Pendleton, and faculty members Pam Couture and Bill Mayton (Chair). They will report back to the Senate in the spring.

Members of the Faculty Relations Committee were elected. These include Rich Freer (Chair), Sue Jinks-Robertson, Luke Johnson, Clark Lemons, and Carolyn Mervis. Eddie Irions, SGA President, and Paula Cattanach, Chair of the Employee Council, were elected to the Senate Executive Committee. One additional elected member is needed to join Senate President Luther Smith, President-Elect Richard Letz, immediate Past-President Frank Lechner, and Secretary Marie Nitschke. Senate members suggested that the co-Presidents of the Graduate Senate be consulted, and that one of them be elected to complete the membership of the Executive Committee. The Senate will vote on this last member at its October meeting.

Senate Committee Chairs reported on their areas of responsibilities and their plans for the coming year. Sidney Stein, Chair of the Fringe Benefits Committee, said that his committee would be focusing on the proposal for extending benefits to domestic partners, and its sub-committee on EmoryCare Oversight would continue to be very active. The Athletic Policy Committee, chaired by Steve Batterson, will look at academic concerns about athletic travel, gender equity issues, eating disorders related to athletics, and the adequacy of the athletic facilities in meeting the demands of the Emory community. Judy Moore noted that the Campus Life Committee, which she chairs, has good representation

from students and staff, but not faculty, and expressed hope that more faculty members would be willing to serve on this committee. This year, her committee will be looking at more effective ways to communicate financial aid information to students, ways of improving the academic advising process, and issues related to multiculturalism and diversity. Among the discussion forums that they plan to sponsor is a town hall meeting with President Chace.

Helen O'Shea, Chair of the Campus Development Committee, reported that her committee was concerned with a wide range of issues that relate to the appearance and function of the campus. In doing this, they work closely with Robert Williams, the Vice-President for Business, and other Senate committees. The Environmental Policy Committee, under the leadership of Harvey Ragsdale, will be following the progress of the forest development policy approved by the Senate last year, and now in the hands of the administration. They will consider a water policy this year covering issues related to water run-off from the University. The Committee will also look at ways to enhance the use of energy efficient transportation by the Emory community.

Gray Crouse, who chairs the Library Policy Committee, said that his committee will continue to look at plans for the virtual library, the new library building, and questions of equity of access to computerized resources. They will also investigate the issue of intellectual property rights of electronically available information. Penny Castellano reported for Donna Owen, Chair of the Safety and Security Committee. This group will be looking at security issues in known problem areas such as the hospital, libraries, and athletic facilities, and also trying to determine other problems which need to be addressed. Traffic and Parking Committee Chair, Jack Millgard, said that a major issue facing his committee is how to get fewer people to drive to campus because after the completion of the parking decks currently underway, the parking space on campus will have reached its peak. He hopes to work with the Environmental Policy Committee on this. He also mentioned that his committee would welcome faculty volunteers since there are none on the committee at the moment.

The problem of recruitment for Senate committees was mentioned by several committee chairs, and Dr. Crouse suggested that the Senate set up a nomination committee to try to get better representation on all the committees. Dr. Smith said that the Executive Committee would discuss that possibility.

Finally, Dr. Smith brought up the attendance policy, mentioned in the Senate By-Laws, and said that the Executive Committee had voted to establish one for the coming year in order to assure good representation. The policy (see [Attachment B](#)), copies of which were distributed to all members before the meeting, specifies that Senate members with two unexcused absences in a row will be expelled from the Senate and their constituencies will be notified to elect a new member. Because this first meeting of the year coincided with Rosh Hashanah, Dr. Smith said that the attendance policy would not go into effect until the October meeting.

The meeting adjourned a few minutes after 5:00 p.m.