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Minutes, November 2, 1995

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MINUTES
Faculty Senate
Thursday, November 2, 1995
12:00 Noon
College Center Board Room

1. **The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by Robert Haak, Chair. Roll was taken.** Members unable to attend: David Hill, Norm Moline, Bob Tallitsch, Jim Winship, Karin Youngberg, Cathy Goebel, Lori Scott, Taddy Kalas, Nirmala Salgado, Rebecca Wee, and Jana Holzmeier.
2. Upon a **motion** by Ellen Hay and **seconded** by Heidi Storl, the **Minutes of October 5, 1995, were approved.**
3. **Report from EPC -- Arne Selbyg**

(a) **Policy on Academic Progress**

Dean Selbyg addressed the policy on Academic Progress. This change is required by the State of Illinois. The current policy was translated based on grade point average rather than quality points. Dean Selbyg maintained that this change would not result in disadvantaging students. The motion was **seconded** by Janet Novak and **approved**.

Discussion ensued over the issue of suspension. It was noted that with the new system, students were more likely to face suspension than under the old. Mike Kirn informed the senate that part-time students would not be affected. It was noted by Dean Selbyg that the new system was more likely to improve the GPA of new students than those of old students. One point was noted by Provost Nelson: as part of this state/federal imposed policy, suspended students are not eligible for financial aid their first term back. He also noted that the quality point system is fairer, and is easier to understand, and that this translation is the closest we can get to our previous policy.

(b) **Revised Assessment Plan**

Dean Selbyg discussed the assessment plan for the NCA. He informed the senate that the previously written plan had been turned down, because several items did not meet their standards. EPC and a new committee met to revise the plan, incorporating basically three changes, which included:

- (1) a change in the use of language which involved less tentative expressions;
- (2) an altering of the assessment review committee from a six-year term of office to a three-year term. Also, that the Academic Dean will be the chair of this committee; and
- (3) the establishment of goals for general education. The college's desire was to draft goals now with the expectation that the faculty would add extra material later.

The motion was **seconded** by Roger Crossley and **approved**.

Several editorial and grammatical questions were fielded. Dean Selbyg advised the meeting to send these questions to the committee.

(c)**ADD: TH 350[F] Play Production / 1 credit**

Students work as a group to produce a series of short plays, doing everything from selecting the scripts, casting, designing, and directing. The plays are then presented to a public audience and evaluated by the faculty supervisors.
Prerequisite: TH 142, 144, 212, 242, or Instructor Permission.

and**CHANGE:**

TH 445[F] Practical Theatre from 2 credits to 1 credit.

Seconded by Peter Xiao and **approved**.

4. Report from AS&D -- Mike Kirn

(a)Mike Kirn presented the list of candidates for winter term graduation, pending completion of all requirements.
Seconded by Ralph Troll and **approved**.

(b)Mike Kirn next presented recommendations regarding graduation honors. Those students earning honors are:

Matthew Canfield Beattie - Summa cum laude
David Michael Hyser - Magna cum laude
Jeremy Luke Paschke - Magna cum laude
Christopher J. Bourdon - Cum laude
Sean Alan Hahn - Cum laude
Leanne Kay Wezeman - Cum laude

Seconded by David Crowe and **approved**.

A discussed ensued over the awarding of honors and the issue of grade inflation. It was questioned whether awarding roughly 1/3 of the students with honors makes the award truly an 'honor'.

One member argued that grade inflation was a separate issue that should be looked at separately. Another member of the faculty maintained that the problem may not be actual grade inflation as much as a bi-polar method of grading. The point was raised that the college could not know whether there was grade inflation or bi-modal grading unless the campus grades were examined.

David Crowe **moved** that the necessary grade related materials be examined in order to address this issue more thoroughly. The motion was **seconded** by David Dehnel. Further questions were raised regarding the similarity between the number of students receiving honors at Augustana and other schools. Robert Haak appointed David Crowe and David Dehnel to explore these issues and report back to the senate. The motion was **passed**.

5. Response to High Enrollment -- Doug Nelson

Provost Nelson responded to the situation over the current high enrollment. He maintained that the College was contending well with the increased enrollment, in part by opening up new sections of courses as needed, and in part by encouraging first-year students to enroll in three classes for winter term (rather than the customary 3/4/3 plan, a student will take 3/3/3).

Students are able to carry the unused credits in their credit bank, so the credits can be picked up in a later term(s).

Ellen Hay thanked the advisers for their help and commended their efficiency throughout registration. Provost Nelson noted that the extra sections are being taught by faculty through overloads, thanked the faculty, and reiterated his commitment to not have an overloaded faculty. Provost Nelson also responded to an inquiry about housing, stating that even with the increased student population, there does not appear to be a housing problem.

6. Announcements -- Bob Haak

(a) Bob Haak reported on the October 20th Board Meeting. Specific points of interest included:

(1) A \$3 million project to increase the capacity of the heating and cooling plant (including a new boiler and re-routing of piping). This project will lower by \$1 million the cost of the new science building.

(2) Efforts on the new science building are progressing; construction bids will be in soon.

(3) The new PepsiCo recreation center. A brief discussion ensued over the choice of the name of the center.

(b) Provost Nelson made an announcement regarding the mission statement, indicating that there will be a faculty open meeting on the mission statement before Christmas, probably December 14th. As the date is somewhat uncertain, confirmation will follow.

There being no additional business, and upon a **motion** by Janet Novak and **seconded** by Ruth Ann Johnson, the meeting was **adjourned** at 12:35 p.m.

Susan Zickmund
Secretary