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December 9, 1975

MINUTES

1976 Commencement Committee

PRESENT: Massey, Larner, Cassell, Salmon, Ifju, Yongue, Wischkaemper, Forkner, Driscoll (for Catlin), Strother, Mills (for Keller), Hoepner, Osborn, Payne.

The Commencement Committee met November 26, 1975.

Massey and Larner presented a proposed new format for the 1976 Commencement. (These were mailed separately right after meeting to all committee members. Extra copies are available upon request from Payne, Larner, or Massey.)

NEW
FORMAT

After much discussion, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend the new proposal to the Executive Cabinet. Stated briefly, this means that 1) University Exercises would start at 8:30 A.M. in Lane Stadium (half an hour earlier) 2) the contingency plan in event of rain would involve the stage group and the group candidates only so the President can confer degrees on all candidates prior to college exercises.

3) The six larger colleges would alternate using the three large facilities (Coliseum, Burruss Hall, and Squires), while Architecture would continue to use Cowgill.

Massey explained that he had met with the Academic Deans, invited input from just about everybody, and that our proposal would most likely be accepted by the Executive Cabinet.

Hoepner reminded the group we should emphasize strongly that no rain tickets would be available to students anymore, and that there would be no faculty processional for the contingent program in event of rain.

Cassell explained that facilities in the new gym are inadequate, and the fieldhouse has special problems of limitation.

Driscoll explained that Home Ec prefers to schedule their program by departments, and since they would need small rooms only, she hopes that Home Ec can still use Squires at the same time Agriculture uses the Large Ballroom.

HOME EC

Cassell reiterated the Committee's original hope that more departments would plan such programs to encourage more informality and personal touch.

MORE
SMALL ONES

Hoepner reminded college representatives that those in the "second slot" should plan attractive events during free time between the University exercises and last college programs. Coffee hours, departmental visits, etc., have proven successful.

FOR FREE
TIME

(cont. Commencement Minutes)

Wischkaemper stated the College of Business needs about 55 minutes for its program but that the addition of Ph.Ds to college events would require more time. Osborn assumes the new lag time will absorb this. Agriculture announced that it takes about six seconds per candidate to award degrees in their college.

Strother asked how students feel about this new contingency plan.

It was generally agreed that the University would continue its Friday afternoon Wine and Cheese for honors students, plus an informal presentation of the Commencement Speaker that evening. Commissioning will most likely be held Friday afternoon as before; hopefully early enough for those who wish to attend the Wine and Cheese. Good publicity is required for best attendance at the latter.

WINE &
CHEESE

Payne agreed to inform Bob Rapaport, Senior class chairman of student invitations, of the earlier starting hours.

SENIOR
INVITATION

Payne reported for the Program Sub-committee. Three names have been presented to the Executive Cabinet for suggested Commencement speakers: Allistair Cook, Daniel Moynihan, and Virginius Dabney.

SPEAKER

As runner-ups, the committee also presented the following five names: Margaret Mead, Theodore Hesburgh, Walter Cronkite, William Fulbright, and Norman Cousins.

Eight other names were given serious consideration and were shared with the Cabinet. It was pointed out that most students want to stay away from politics during the presidential election year. If possible, the speaker should have some dramatic relationship to the Bicentennial idea.

The sound system in the Stadium was discussed but no conclusions were reached.

SOUND
SYSTEM

Hoepner suggested that Dean Bull may be requested to appoint someone to present Ph.D diplomas in each of the colleges. He suggested a University Professor type.

PH.D
PRESEN-
TERS

The College of Education requested use of the Stadium in event of good weather; it was agreed.

COLLEGE O
EDUCATION

It was suggested that a blank diploma might be presented at College exercises to speed up mechanics and eliminate mix-ups. The problem of uncertainty of graduation in the minds of some candidates was also discussed; no conclusions reached.

Respectfully submitted,

Alfred C. Payne

djt