

MINUTES
1981 COMMENCEMENT COMMITTEE
March 30, 1981



NEXT MEETING: Monday, Noon, April 27, Cardinal Room, Squires

Present: McDaniels, Payne, Savage, Huffman, Talbutt, Bowker, Holt, Siburt, Rogers, Lane, Keller, Osborne, Forkner, Hunt, Robertson, Haines.

McDaniels welcomed Lon Savage and Jenks Robertson to the meeting, and announced that Jim Faiszt would receive invitations (and minutes) to future meetings as well. FRESH MEAT

McDaniels described visits to the new library, and suggested the possibility of using the upper floors of the library for the President's reception on Friday afternoon before Commencement. This would precede the commissioning exercises, and would concentrate on an informal opportunity for parents and graduates to meet President Lavery, as well as some of their own Deans and Department Heads. Tom Sowder of the library is working with McDaniels. The sixth floor, particularly, offers a beautiful view of the Campus, and it is felt that graduating seniors and their parents would appreciate the opportunity of being the first to actually utilize the new library facilities. NEW IDEA

There will be problems, of course: Traffic control, fire safety, special care to protect the rugs from refreshments, elevator, bottlenecks, etc.

The evening hour was discouraged due to competition with the University band and the usual sell-out of the New Virginians.

There will be an additional problem of publicity; i.e., getting out invitations to make sure graduates and their parents know of this new innovation. The library, incidentally, will be air-conditioned!

It was confirmed that the Committee at its last session agreed that the playing of the Gobblers' gobble at the conclusion of the University Commencement exercises is no longer appropriate or needed. OLD STUFF

Holt asked for input concerning the scholars' reception on Friday evening, May 29, from 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. We agreed we want to go first class all the way; therefore, we should use the best in music as well as refreshments. KEEP IT GOOD

Generally speaking, the pattern will follow the same as last year except that Dr. Wilson will make a brief statement prior to Dr. Lavery's informal welcome and greeting.

Last year, it was pointed out, Comley prepared the invitations, Keller provided gummed labels, and Strother's telephone received RSVP.

This year, as in the past, books will be autographed in advance by Kinnear.

No--invitees cannot bring their friends, but there will be additional invitations to appropriate University personnel such as Deans to make sure students have a chance to meet and say farewell to their advisors. A photographer should be present.

Huffman gave a positive report on the sound system. He emphasized, however, colleges who may need sound equipment should get their requests in pronto, and directly to Huffman. We can make no promises, but will do our best.

NOW
READ
THIS

About 90 percent of the equipment for improving the sound system has arrived. Most of the engineering work is completed. We will need good weather, of course. May 1st has been designated as the target date for completion, and we hope to try it out on Parents Day.

There will be improved sound as well as a backup system. Special attention is being given to the speakers on the stage.

If the AC power goes out, however, it's just too bad! A reminder--the stadium sound system is for voices, not necessarily for music.

We also discussed the inclement weather plan and decided that we would need to go over this in detail at our next meeting. Huffman agreed to provide information in advance. This year, there will be only one camera, and this from the colliseum. Controls will be centered in a truck and fed directly to Burruss Hall. Stan is concerned with the color of the back-drop in the Colliseum.

BAD
WEATHER
PLAN

A stage rehearsal, usually called by Dr. Lavery, is tentatively set for Thursday afternoon at 2:00 p.m.

Huffman has even reserved June 10, 1982 to make sure things go well next year.

GOOD
PLANNING

McDaniels underscored the importance of getting accurate information for the printed program directly to Jenks Robertson. Robertson explained that improvements have been made, such as inclusion of a campus map, information on colors of hoods, the alma mater, the college programs, etc. Beginning last year, we included names of University Distinguished Professors, Wine and Sporn awardees, and members of the Academy of Teaching Excellence. This year, we will include the two Alumni Distinguished Professors.

PRINTED
INFO

To save time, we will include names of the Commencement Committee in the printed program.

Robertson asked for specific information concerning titles, program sequence, etc. Savage and McDaniels will get the one-page sheet of Order of Exercises directly to Robertson soon. Meanwhile, Savage will be responsible for the detailed commentary from the stage.

Smoot was unavailable to report on his research concerning protocol in order of the processional.

McDaniels urged members of the Committee to attend Founder's Day Program.

GO

We were reminded that much thought is being given to the possible shifting of certain events from Founder's Day to Commencement and vice versa. For example, which awards for students and faculty should be made where and when.

MORE
CHANGE