

MINUTES  
Commission on Student Affairs  
316 Squires Student Center  
November 12, 1987  
4:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Dr. Sandra Sullivan, Dr. Landrum Cross, Mr. Dave Baker, Mr. Andre Wormley, Ms. Meg Tomlinson, Mr. Walter Lundy, Dr. Robert Morrill, Mr. Ralph Kopera, Mr. Rex Donnelly, Dr. Rosemary Goss, Gen. Howard Lane, Ms. Maggie Stemann, Mr. David Lush, Ms. Shari Savage (for Mr. Kimble Reynolds), Mr. Cecil Jacobs (for Ms. Denise Shuster), Mr. Gerald Hampton, Mr. Greg Battaglia, Mr. Alan Baird

ABSENT: Dr. John Hillison, Dr. Mike Ogliaruso, Dr. Charlotte Davis (Commission Parliamentarian)

Dr. Sullivan called the meeting to order at 4:09 p.m.

1. Announcements

It was brought to the Commission's attention that the remaining Commission meetings for the 1987-88 academic year will be moved back to Room 316 Squires Student Center now that the facility will be available.

2. Adoption of Agenda

A motion was introduced and approved to adopt the agenda.

3. Approval of Commission Minutes of October 22, 1987

A motion was introduced and passed to approve the Commission minutes of October 22, 1987.

4. Reports of Subcommittees

A motion was introduced and passed to file the Student Media Board minutes of October 7, 1987.

Mr. Wormley called to the Commission's attention item #9 of the October 27, 1987 Student Budget Board minutes. He stated that the Board tabled the action on the request to allow the Extramural Sports Club to investigate other resources. There is concern among the Board members that there has been an insufficient annual increase in the club's operating budget and that this problem is outside the scope of the Student Budget Board. The Board is also concerned that allowing the club to re-allocate its funds to purchase equipment sets a precedent for future requests by the Extramural Sports Club and other organizations. Mr. Wormley stated that because of the unique circumstances of the Extramural Sports Club, the Board thought it worthy of special mention to the Commission.

A motion was introduced and passed to file the Student Budget Board minutes of October 27, 1987.

5. Resolution CSA 1987-88 B: Resolution Concerning the University Traffic Committee

Mr. Baird introduced a motion to adopt the resolution. The motion was seconded.

The Chair provided some background information regarding the resolution stating that CSA 1987-88 B serves as a substitute amendment replacing Resolution 17(CSA 5-7-87) which was returned to CSA by University Council on 11/2/87 for rewording. The wording of the current resolution does not change the spirit of the original resolution which is intended to increase student membership on the Traffic Committee and to assure that one student representative comes from the Residence Hall Federation. The new wording now conforms to the University Council Constitution regarding appointment procedures.

The motion was passed unanimously.

6. CSA 1987-88 C: Resolution Concerning Event Approval

Dr. Cross introduced a motion to adopt the resolution. The motion was seconded.

The Chair commented that Resolution CSA 1987-88 C is a substitute resolution replacing Resolution 9(CSA 5-7-87) which was returned to CSA by University Council on 11/2/87 for reconsideration.

Dr. Cross provided some background on the issue explaining that, in the 1970's CSA was used as an event approval agent, and it was the desire of CSA to move the event approval duty to administrators to free the Commission for other business. It was further noted that there is a distinction between denial based upon facility restraints and denial based upon the event itself. Dr. Cross noted that most event denials are based upon time and place considerations rather than event content.

The question was called and there were no objections.

The motion passed unanimously.

7. Discussion of the Registration/Recognition of Student Organizations

Mr. Donnelly stated that he placed this item on the agenda to gain information about the registration/recognition process. He distributed copies of a June 1986 report from the Committee on the Relationship Between Student Organizations and the University. He expressed his concern that some of the conclusions in the report could be controversial and inquired if the report would impact future policy.

The Chair yielded the floor to the chair of the committee, Dr. David Ostroth, to provide some background information. Dr. Ostroth stated the committee was formed at the request of the Vice President for Student Affairs. The immediate concern of the committee was the expressed opinions of the members of the Student Constitutional Affairs Board that the registration process that all organizations had to follow was a lengthy process and resulted in excessive busy work and wasted effort. There appeared to be a need to develop a process to allow the special interest, transient type of organizations to come and go more freely. A second concern of the committee was the broader issue of the relationship of student organizations to the university. Legal questions raised at other institutions prompted this concern. Dr. Ostroth stated that the purpose of the committee was to evaluate and analyze these questions.

After studying the questions, it was the recommendation of the committee that there should be two classes of student organizations categorized by function. Those organizations which are close to the university in performing essential student life functions, such as programming or governance, would be considered agents of the university and would continue to follow the established recognition procedure. These organizations would be permitted to be involved in contractual arrangements with the university. Other organizations would follow a new registration procedure that would simplify their formation and would keep the Office of Student Organizations better informed and updated. Within the registration materials, it would be clearly stated that these organizations are not agents of the university but would be afforded the privilege of assembly and facilities' use. Dr. Ostroth commented that one classification would not be considered higher than the other but, rather, different from one another. The university would determine which organizations fall under which classification.

In January 1987, the Student Constitutional Affairs Board introduced Resolution 1(1-8-87): Resolution Concerning the Procedure by Which Students Register Student Organizations. The resolution was adopted by CSA on February 5, 1987 and, on May 18, 1987, University Council referred it to the Commission on Faculty Affairs for further study.

Mr. Baker stated that some of the recommendations in the report are controversial and he is concerned that other resolutions would be developed as a result of the report. The Chair commented to the Commission that the committee report is part of working files of the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs and the work of an appointed committee reflects the opinions of its membership. She stated that it is not possible to predict future actions since no action has occurred to alter the current procedure for recognizing student organizations other than the dissolution of the Student Constitutional Affairs Board.

In response to an inquiry, it was noted that the proposed registration procedure would not affect the availability of funding for student organizations. Mr. Wormley reiterated the Student Budget Board's position that the funding model of the Board would not be reviewed until after any proposal to alter categorization of student organizations has been approved and is in effect for one year.

8. Announcements

Due to the lateness of the hour, no announcements were entertained.

9. Adjournment

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:07 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,



Jill A. Davison  
Secretary

ATTACHMENT

JAD/awe

cc: Dr. William E. Lavery  
Dr. Paul E. Torgersen  
Dr. Robert E. Heterick  
Mr. Charles M. Forbes  
Mr. Minnis E. Ridenour  
Dr. John M. Perry  
Dr. William R. Van Dresser

Mr. William W. Campion  
Dr. Charlotte Davis  
Ms. Beverly Sgro  
News Director, WUVT  
Editor, Collegiate Times  
Ms. Susan Trulove