

Minutes  
Commission on Faculty Affairs  
Tuesday, May 11, 1976  
3:20 PM

Present: Cochran, Hall, King, Mackie, Mandelstamm, Taylor, Torgersen,  
Wilson  
Absent: Harper, Oliver, Waugh  
Guest: Dr. John White

1. Announcements: (1) Chairman Cochran reported that revisions suggested by the Commission at the meeting of April 29 had been duly incorporated into the SCHEV Phase II report; the completed response was sent to Richmond on April 30 and will be incorporated in the Faculty Senate Minutes for the May 11 meeting. Dr. Wilson added that SCHEV has acknowledged receipt of the report.  
(2) Chairman Cochran informed the Commission that the Library Faculty is giving serious thought to the question of the appropriateness of tenure for members of the Library Faculty. Various substantial questions are involved, and a recommendation on future policy is unlikely to be forthcoming during this academic year.
- 2-3. Agenda & Minutes: Except for deletion of the consideration of Minutes, which are not yet available, the Agenda was approved as presented.
4. Further discussion of the University's consulting policy: Chairman Cochran reported on discussions with Deans Skelton and Burchard and Dr. Buchanan, Director of the Center for the Study of Public Choice. Dean Skelton felt that the possibility of consulting is important in those areas in which the University either is not providing or cannot provide service through Extension programs. It is generally beneficial for the faculty to get out into the State in its professional capacities. However, the basic decision as to ability and willingness to provide services is an University one. Should the University remove the ban on private consulting with State agencies, he believed that the Colleges and Divisions should separately evaluate their positions and set policies for their faculties. Dean Burchard has found that Architecture must use the consulting route for most off-campus outreach. Extension funds are not available for such civic problems as zoning. He favors removal of the prohibition. Dr. Buchanan has had no problem with the consulting policy since the work of the Public Choice Center is primarily of a grant or contract nature.

Commission discussion revealed the need for more information before forwarding a recommendation to the University Council. Specifically, it is not clear (1) whether institutions without a ban on in-state consulting with public agencies generally give or withhold permission to consult when requested: (2) whether institutions without a ban have encountered serious administrative

difficulties with such colleges as Education and Agriculture. On the motion of Dr. Mandelstamm, seconded by Dr. Wilson, it was agreed without dissent that Dr. Wilson will write to three or four institutions similar to VPI and from which prompt replies can be expected, requesting from them information specifically relevant to the question of administrative difficulties or lack thereof. The replies will be considered by the Commission as soon as they become available.

5. Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 13, 1976, at 3:20 P.M. Discussion of the proposed G. B. Johnston award and the Employee Benefits Committee will be added to the agenda for that meeting.
6. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

*W E Mackie*

William E. Mackie, Secretary