MINUTES OF MEETING NUMBER 52
OF THE
SENATE OF MICHIGAN TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

13 May 1970

(Senate Minute pages: 532-548)

Meeting No. 52 was called to order on Wednesday May 13, at 7:02 p.m. in the Faculty Lounge of the Memorial Union by President M.W. Bredekamp.

The roster was checked by the Secretary. Twenty-seven members and several observers were present. Absent were: Nordeng (GE); J.A. Johnson (FFC); and V. Johnson (FR).

The Minutes of Meeting No. 51 were approved with the following correction: p. 512, last paragraph under G., change "Curricular Committee" (which appears twice) to "Curricular Policy Committee."

Senate President's Report

A. Reporting on the meeting of the Board of Control which he had attended in the absence of the Vice President of the Senate, the Chair cited the need for a copy of the agenda for anyone who attends the meetings. Mention was made of the approval of two new B.S. degrees and two M.S. degrees. A two-year leave of absence was granted to Wittig; and an extension of one year to Givens.

The State Board of Education has approved in principle degrees in General Engineering and Wood Fiber Utilization, with curricula to be developed. Change in size and method of selection of the Graduate Council was approved. Mention was made of the development of Co-op programs with industry. A Metals Technology program was approved by the State Board.

The next meeting of the Board will be June 11-12; a fall meeting is scheduled for October 16.

B. The Senate will again report in the fall to the Academic Faculty. Administrators will be encouraged to attend, particularly to respond to questions which might be posed by the Faculty about matters that have been aired through the Senate.

C. Membership of the Curricular Policy Committee for next year will be as follows: G.P. Krueger, chairman; K.O. Alexander; D.H. Kenny; C. Matrosic; H. Anderson; W. Anderson; W.R. Conrad.

The Nominations Committee will consist of R. Bayer, Chairman; G. Ortner; and S.C. Nordeng.

The member representing the Senate on the Community College Advisory Council will be Ralph Horvath.

D. A proposed Doctoral Program in Biological Sciences has been submitted by the Graduate School Dean to the Curricular Policy Committee.

E. The Chair acknowledged with regret the loss of Senator Kennedy (IMR), who is leaving Tech.

F. New Graduate Council action on the Master's Degree Programs on April 29 was acknowledged.

G. The recent announcement of Teacher Certification Programs follows the approval of such programs in principle by the Senate two or three years ago.

H. Committees were admonished to present reports by June 13 to be included in next fall's annual report to the Senate.

I. The Senate was reminded that the Ombudsman is now available by appointment.

Wyble presented a report of meetings of the Academic Council. (See Appendix A: Available by Request from the Senate Office).

Committee Reports

A. Election Committee
Halkola and Weaver have been elected Senators-at-Large.

Following are new departmental representatives: R.T. Brown (BL); E.T. Williams (CH); R.S. Horvath (EE); V. Doane (IMR); L. Velics (LB); R.J. Spahn (MA); C. Matrosic (Army ROTC).

DelliQuadri requested that the Election Committee announce the actual totals in all elections conducted by the Senate and that the totals become a matter of record.

B. Curricular Policy Committee

1. Proposal 12-70, "Status of ROTC Programs at Michigan Tech" (Minutes, Meeting 51, p. 514). By general agreement, this item was moved up from its position on the agenda under old business, and Alexander moved its adoption. The motion was seconded.

Horvath moved that Section V of the proposal be deleted. (This section read, "the maximum number of credits for ROTC courses, as listed in the catalog by AR or AF numbers, which may be applied to a baccalaureate degree, shall be nine . . . ") The motion was seconded.

Alexander explained that the committee was trying to establish a University-wide "posture" toward ROTC on the campus. Such a posture is lacking when the amount of credit for ROTC granted by various departments ranges from zero to 21 hours.

It was pointed out that the Catalog imposes a maximum of 12 credits for ROTC, but that this figure went by the boards with the establishment of discrete colleges within the University.

Thayer raised the question of the relationship between ROTC and the Social Sciences. It was acknowledged that courses in military history and international tensions, taught by the staff in Social Sciences, have become or will become acceptable for credit for corresponding ROTC requirements and that six credits in Physical Education can be satisfied by certain ROTC courses.

Caspary reminded the Senate of the historic association of ROTC and Michigan Tech, which has started at least four American generals on their careers. "Do not strangle ROTC," he pleaded.

Nobody had proposed to, said Price, but averred that it is the humanities which are being strangled, at least in a department which permits 18 or more hours of ROTC credit to come from an area of the required "approved electives," thus subsidizing ROTC from the required curriculum; yet, if a student in that department takes a course in foreign language, both years of that language are credited to the account of the core requirement in Humanities and Social Sciences. Officially, it has long been the policy for the humanities to "subsidize" in this fashion the second year of a foreign language (but only that), since foreign language, in the context of student demand, is manifestly in need of such succor. But it seems a betrayal of ASEE guidelines on humanities and social science requirements and a disquieting revelation of values on the campus, to have a department at once so generous to ROTC and so niggardly toward foreign language and the HU-SS components of the curriculum.

Later is was charged by DelliQuadri that the choice is between Senate decision and a uniform policy on one hand, and a do-as-you-like separate college or department approach on the other. No, was the response, zero to nine hours is not a uniform policy.

DelliQuadri pointed out that despite the touted liaison between ROTC and Tech, it has been by and large the engineering graduates who have made their mark later in the military; yet it is the engineering departments which have been most grudging in allowing ROTC courses credit toward the B.S. On the other hand, he said, paradoxically enough, in Biological Sciences and even more significantly in Liberal Arts (where one would have expected the most opposition to ROTC to develop), students are allowed up to the full 21 hours of credit in ROTC toward the baccalaureate degree. (Erbisch reported that if the nine-hour maximum were not allowed to prevail, his department would undoubtedly establish its own maximum).

Alexander referred to the Benson Report on ROTC and indicated the widespread endorsement which it had received. One of its recommendations, he said, is that the Federal Government should be expected to defray all the institutional costs of ROTC; another involved the admission that not all ROTC courses as currently constituted are challenging enough to merit University credit.

By a vote of 16 Yes to 9 No, it was decided to delete Section V of Proposal 12-70.

The remainder of the discussion focused upon Section III, which called for the creation of an ad hoc committee to "... assist the ROTC departments in making changes, guided by the" Benson report.

Colonel Williams and Dean Geddes questioned the need for surveillance of ROTC by another committee when it is already subject to regulation by the University Curriculum Committee, the Curricular Policy Committee, and a curriculum committee within the College of Sciences and Arts.

In addition, Dean Geddes, after a statement by him had been read by the Chair (See Appendix B: Available by Request from the Senate Office), raised the question of whether the creation of such a committee lies within the province of the
Senate. Academic affairs do, but politics does not, was one reply.

A motion to table the Proposal, made by Caspary and seconded, lost by a vote of 4 Yes, 20 No.

An amendment to Section III would have required that the two student members on the ad hoc committee be chosen by the Student Council from students on the campus who were enrolled in the ROTC program. Two votes on this amendment both resulted in a tie, the vote of the Chair having been included. The Chair then ruled that the amendment had been rejected.

Put to a vote, Proposal 12-70 as amended then passed, 14 Yes and 9 No.

2. Proposal 13-70 was then introduced on a motion by Alexander, and seconded. It was described as simply a bookkeeping tactic. Before it had been passed by a vote of 22 Yes and 1 No, however, it came to light that course, UN100, proposed by a student-faculty committee as a way of accentuating student consciousness of the conditions of the environment, would be the only course without departmental authorization. The course is designed as a one-credit freshman course consisting of weekly lectures by members of several departments.

C. Instructional Policy Committee: Two items of business are being considered.

D. Student-Faculty Senate Committee: No Report.

E. Change of Status: This committee, its report completed (See Meeting 51) was discharged.

F. Accommodations Committee: No Report.

G. Sick Leave Committee: No Report.

H. Faculty Evaluation Committee

Sachs moved acceptance of the Committee report as it appears in the Senate Minutes, Meeting 51, Appendix G, p. 531 (Available by Request from the Senate Office). The motion was seconded and passed without dissent by voice vote.

The Chair enjoined all the Committee Chairmen to submit written reports to the Secretary for inclusion in the annual report of the Senate, which will be submitted for the meeting of the faculty to be convened again by the Senate next fall.

New Business

A. Krueger reported on the arrangements made in Civil Engineering for co-op programs in conjunction with fifteen industrial firms.

B. Sachs presented a statement (See Appendix C: Available by Request from the Senate Office) incorporating a resolution which he had presented to and which had been adopted by the Houghton County Board of Commissioners on the subject of the recent student activity on college campuses growing out of U.S. involvement in Cambodia and the tragedy at Kent State.

Since the statement, though it included a "letter of commendation," also questioned the relative vigor of leadership exerted by the faculty and administration in the crisis, the Chair commended the active efforts of many of the faculty to channel student feeling into constructive channels, and acknowledged his own participation in the consultation which had taken place between the President and the department heads on President Smith's statement. This statement was read to the students shortly after 8 a.m. and to the faculty by the President at noon. The statement, said the Chair, was not the result of a unilateral decision.

DelliQuadri spoke of the lack of faculty involvement in the decision and contended that the Senate or some comparable faculty body should be tapped directly and not merely through its presiding officer when such decisions are being made. "Why at this school can you ignore the faculty?" he asked.

President Smith responded by recounting the details of how he had been apprised of the problem on Wednesday evening while he was in Lansing; how the rough draft of a statement had been prepared under conditions of extreme stress in pursuance of the promise that Dean Meese had made that one would be ready Thursday morning; and how contributions had been made to this statement by various university personnel. The President said he was not critical of the resolutions of the Student Council calling for suspension of classes, since that decision had also been made reputedly in a highly charged atmosphere under the pressure of students who felt the situation very keenly.

In the course of his remarks, the President indicated an intention to involve the faculty or the Senate to a greater degree in the future, should a comparable problem arise.

The Chair expressed the view that had peace on the campus been threatened on the day in question or the days following, the
most active threat would have been presented by the conservatives, the position of many of whom was expressed by the utterance, "Come hell or high water, I'm going to class!"

C. Stebbins motioned that classes would be cancelled on Friday, May 29, as a result of a casual poll among the faculty favoring the closing by a 2 to 1 vote, and also as a result of the fact that the secretarial and technical staff will not be on hand that day.

The Chair expressed regret that this kind of decision had not been made before the Catalog was published.

D. The Chair then presented a final statement, "Senate Summary, 1969-70" (See Appendix D: Available by Request from the Senate Office).

Adjournment followed.

S.R. Price
Secretary