MINUTES OF MEETING NUMBER 56
OF THE
SENATE OF MICHIGAN TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

3 March 1971

(Senate Minute pages: 609-636)

Meeting No. 56 was called to order on Wednesday March 3, 1971 at 7:05 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room of the Library by President M.W. Bredekamp.

The roster was checked by the Secretary. Twenty-four members or their alternates and several observers were present. Absent were: Greuer, R.E. (MG), Johnson, J.A. (FR), Keeling, R.O. (PH), Nordeng, S.C. (GE), President Smith, and Williams, E.T. (ChE).

The Minutes of Meeting No. 55 were approved with the following correction: p. 596, B.2., delete "at October 1," replace with "for December."

Senate President's Report

Three items for the curriculum committee were received, all in February. The curriculum committee is an overworked committee. The Chairman should consider using subcommittees to distribute the work load. [These are included here in Appendixes C, D, and E (All Available by Request from the Senate Office)].

Report on Meetings of the Academic Council and Board of Control

A. Halkola mentioned a few of the topics discussed at recent meetings of the Academic Council. His complete report is attached here as Appendix A (Available by Request from the Senate Office).

Committee Reports

A. Curricular Policy Committee

Krueger listed the student members of the committee as Barnes, ME Senior; Marz, CE Junior; Landon, ME Sophomore; and Rogerson, EE Freshman. He also indicated that a proposal concerning a University Transfer Credit Policy would be offered for consideration at the next meeting. In response to several questions he stated that the proposal would spell out:

1. The role of the faculty
2. The acceptability of pass-fail grades
3. The limits on unassigned credit

A lengthy discussion on these points followed. Krueger then stated that the committee is also looking at the physical education requirements and that interested people should contact members of the committee for input.

B. Instructional Policy

Halkola read a few excerpts from his report which is included here as Appendix B (Available by Request from the Senate Office). Brown asked whether under the present policy a student would be permitted to take UN-100 and an optional pass-fail course simultaneously. Halkola answered that he couldn't say since he did not know how UN-100 was developed and whether this had even been considered. Bayer suggested that the number of pass-fail courses permitted should be extended to encourage diversification in the senior year.

C. Accommodations

Doane stated that the response to the request for donations to the Faculty Scholarship Fund was very poor. She stated that the deadline has been extended to March 31 and that Riley Whearty has suggested we send another letter. She urged that each Senator bring the subject up at staff meetings. She also briefed the Senate on the meeting her committee held with Bill Lucier to discuss the pilot program. Three students had been admitted of whom two remain on the campus. Volunteers for a sort of big-brother program are needed. In response to a question from the floor, Doane stated that contributions should be submitted to Riley Whearty at the Development Office.


E. Sick Leave: No Report.
I. Student-Faculty-Senate Relations

Boutilier stated that two proposals have been prepared and sent to the President of the Student Council for his recommendations. The first requires that the Student Council appoint one of its officers as a full member of the Senate with all the privileges thereof. The other requires that all committees directly related to student activities and policies should have at least one student member.

Old Business - None

New Business

A. Modified Proposal 6-70, "Revision of Honors." Brown moved that the final proposal as amended be adopted. The motion was seconded and passed, 17 Yes, 1 No.

B. Modified Proposal 2-71, "Community College Transfer Policy." President Bredekamp asked for a motion that Proposal 2-71 as modified be adopted. The motion was made and seconded. Carlson stated that at least three people from the Library Staff objected to the word "selected" and thought that the word "qualified" would be more suitable. Alexander moved and Brown seconded the substitution of the word "qualified" for "selected" in line six of the proposal. A discussion then followed which indicated the preference of those present for the amendment but also their concern that such an amendment might delay the implementation of the proposal. On being brought to a vote the amendment passed 15 Yes, 5 No. The amended proposal then passed by a vote of 22 Yes, 1 No. According to our present by-laws, Proposal 2-71 must be reconsidered at the next meeting.

New Business

Thayer suggested that too many people have been appointed to the ROTC Study Committee. After referring to the proposal, President Bredekamp stated that he had appointed the four members of the academic faculty and in addition had appointed a senator (Thayer) to be chairman.

Bayer then brought up the subject of the new approved humanities listing. He asked what the hold-up was. There followed a lengthy discussion replete with charges of lack of action on the part of the administration and selfish pursuit of self-interests on the part of individual departments. A few of the points were as follows:

Bredekamp: President Smith submitted a recommendation that Proposal 9-69 be amended in light of certain recent developments. (President Smith's letter is attached here as Appendix C (Available by Request from the Senate Office).

Thayer: Personally, I don't care if we have an official list or not, just as long as we have some consistency.

Bredekamp: We don't know where we stand on this matter.

Alexander: The ball has been in the hands of the administration for at least two years.

Horvath: The Curricular Policy Committee acting for the Senate in an emergency situation replied to Vice President Stebbins' request on April 10, 1970.

Weaver: Even if we were to finally get this list approved, it is already out of date. This is a terrible problem for those advising students.

Stebbins: After the new list came out from the individual departments concerned, the complete list was submitted to the Senate and back to the departments for reconsideration. The departments concerned could not agree on the final list but nothing came back to the Senate. The departments concerned should get together.

Several Senators: "What the Senate says means nothing." "Apparently the wish of the Senate carries no weight." "We try to establish procedures then some department head or dean shoots them down."

The discussion indicated the need for some definitive action in the area of approved course listings.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

R.S. Horvath
Secretary