

REGULAR MEETING OF THE FACULTY

Wednesday, January 10, 1945

The meeting was called to order by Acting President Hollis. A quorum being present the following business was transacted. The minutes of the meeting held Friday, December 8, were read and approved.

INTRODUCTION OF FACULTY MEMBERS. Mr. Wallace S. Hayden, Associate Professor of Architecture, introduced Mr. Harlow Hudson, Instructor in Architecture, who had been on a leave of absence.

Dr. James R. Jewell, Dean of the School of Education, introduced Mr. Linn Hutchinson, Assistant Professor of Education.

Mr. George Hopkins, Professor of Piano, introduced Mr. Stacey L. Green, Instructor of Piano.

Acting President Hollis introduced Mrs. Golda P. Wickham, Acting Dean of Women; Assistant Professor.

REPORT OF FACULTY SENATE. Dr. A. H. Kunz, a member of the Faculty Senate, indicated on behalf of the Secretary of the Senate, that the Senate had no report to make except a recommendation on the motion of the Committee on Advising and Registration Procedures, and that this recommendation would be presented at the time that item came up for consideration under old business.

REPORT OF ADVISORY COUNCIL. Mr. O. K. Burrell, Chairman of the Advisory Council, read to the faculty the following report of the Council.

"In reporting to the faculty at this time the Advisory Council wishes to express the opinion that it might well make semi-annual reports. The first of these should be presented early in the winter term and the second at the last opportunity before Commencement. This roughly represents two equal periods of time and also follows a natural division of the work of the Council.

"Since July your Council has been in session thirty-four times. In twenty-two cases the meetings were attended by the Acting President and once by the Chancellor.

"During the months of July and August the Council spent many hours with the President canvassing the committees of the faculty. We inquired into the instructions and duties of each committee, the membership, and the work of the committee during the preceding year. We recommended changes in the membership where such changes seemed to be desirable. It is our considered judgment that the time spent in making nominations for membership of committees is out of proportion to the benefit derived. If the time is to be considered well spent it must be because an annual and systematic review of the committee structure of the University is valuable. We believe that such a review is useful but that it could be made more useful, as well as more expeditious, if each committee chairman were required to make an annual report of the work of his committee to the President.

"Regular and frequent meetings with the President were mainly devoted to a discussion of such routine business of his office as he presented. Your Council has tried to distinguish between the administration of rules and routine decisions on the one hand and more momentous questions involving general university policy in which all members of the faculty might be supposed to have vital interests on the other. While we have strictly adhered to the theory that all administrative decisions are those of the president, we believe that in matters involving general policy the Advisory Council can make a significant contribution to the University welfare. The president is in no case constrained by the opinions of the faculty or its representatives however expressed, but a wise president will want to know what the organized faculty has to say about the direction and general policies of the institution.

"During the past six months the Council has had unusual duties incidental to the selection of a President of the University. In addition to extended interviews with the candidates who were guests on our campus, the Council has considered the credentials of a much larger number of candidates. We have carried on a correspondence with the Chancellor and, through him, with the State Board of Higher education, in which we have expressed unanimous opinions concerning

the general qualifications required of a President and also opinions concerning particular candidates. Throughout the negotiations we took the view that in addition to administrative ability the President of the University should be able to command the unqualified respect of faculty members for intellectual achievement. We believe that in the long run successful leadership in a University is founded on such respect. If a University is to be regarded by competent scholars as a place in which they themselves would be willing to work or to which they would gladly recommend the best of their younger associates it must maintain the highest intellectual standards. The maintenance of such standards is the joint responsibility of president and faculty and cannot be achieved by either alone. The University requires of its leaders not only efficient management but intellectual achievement.

"In the course of performing our assigned duties in this connection it became necessary and desirable to restate and clarify the role and function of the Council as an instrument of faculty participation in the life of the University. We believe that a resume of the statement of principles adopted by the Council should be a part of the faculty records. We, therefore, append the following excerpts from a letter addressed to the Chancellor and to the State Board of Higher Education under date of December 1, 1944:

'The University faculty is organized as a deliberating body for the purpose of discussing and acting upon all matters within its jurisdiction. It does not now and never has claimed that its jurisdiction included administrative duties such as those exercised by the duly appointed administrative officers, i.e., deans, directors, presidents, chancellors, et al.

'For many years the faculty has elected six of its members, known as an Advisory Council, to consult with the President of the University on all matters of common interest. It is not an administrative committee in any sense and does not assume any administrative authority or responsibility. It sits with the president in the consideration of whatever either it or the president wishes to discuss. Its duty is to represent faculty opinion and keep the president informed of the educational and professional views of the faculty. When it has presented its recommendations concerning any matter its duty is performed. The administrative act of the president, whether it is taken before consultation with the Advisory Council or after, is by the authority and on the responsibility of the president alone. Whether he acts contrary to the Council's advice or in harmony with it is for him alone to decide and his administrative acts are solely his own.

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 'The principles adopted by the University in consultation with the executive office of the State Board of Higher Education at the time of the search for a president ending in the selection of Dr. Erb, included the following statement:

"He should have a strong sense of the value of democratic faculty participation in University affairs; and a strong sense of the value of civic and academic freedom, since these matters have traditional and legal status at the University. He should be tolerant in matters of controversy and willing to weigh criticism. Criticism should not unduly disturb him."
 (State Board of Higher Education Biennial Report, 1937-38, page 22)

'It is our understanding that the statement of principles above referred to was again approved by the State Board of Higher Education in the present search for a president, and that a copy was sent to each candidate.

'The extent to which the Advisory Council participates in University administration is a matter of presidential discretion. While the Council may volunteer advice on matters of general policy, the President is free to accept such advice or not as he sees fit. It may be that our advice has sometimes been unnecessarily or even unwisely sought in matters strictly administrative in nature.

'We feel sure that both you and the State Board of Higher Education understand and appreciate the position and responsibility of the Council as an instrument of democratic faculty participation in the academic life of the University. We also feel sure you understand that we have never claimed or wanted administrative functions or

responsibility. Our purpose in addressing this letter to you is to clarify the record. It seems to us especially important that the Board should understand that the faculty by special action has delegated to us the responsibility of representing the faculty in offering all proper assistance to you and the Board in the selection of a President of the University of Oregon.'

"In concluding this report the Advisory Council wishes to record its appreciation of the courtesies of the Chancellor and the State Board of Higher Education which facilitated the Council's participation in the consideration of the various candidates for the presidency of the University."

ADVISING AND REGISTRATION PROCEDURES. Dr. Carl F. Kossack, Chairman of the Committee on Advising and Registration Procedures, made the following motion:

"The President shall appoint a standing Committee on Advising composed of from three to six voting members and ex-officio members representing the Registrar's office as well as other appropriate agencies. The committee shall within the limits of existing faculty legislation:

1. Make recommendations for appointments of freshman advisers, after consultation with deans and department heads concerned.
2. Organize and direct the work of freshman advisers.
3. Consult with deans and department heads in transferring students from freshman to major advisers and in seeking to effect the proper integration of the students' study programs.
4. Plan and conduct for advisers and advisees all meetings necessary to carry out effectively the advising and registration procedure."

The motion was seconded. Dr. A. H. Kunz reported that the Faculty Senate recommended the adoption of the motion. In the course of the discussion one of the members of the faculty inquired if an affirmative vote on a motion would constitute also approval of the entire report of the Committee on Advising and Registration Procedures. The Chairman ruled that the only portion of the report that was up for consideration at the present time was the specific motion indicated above. The motion was put to a vote and carried. The Chairman then inquired of Dr. Kossack if the Committee had anything further to report. Receiving a negative answer, the Chairman declared that the Committee was discharged.

NOTICE OF MOTION. Dr. H. G. Townsend gave the following notice of motion.

"That whenever motions involving a change of University policy are before the faculty for consideration the Faculty Senate be authorized to act as a committee on the drafting of legislation with power to rephrase the motion for clarification, or to bring it into conformity with existing legislation, or to propose modifications of existing legislation as an amendment to the motion. Provided, however, that the restatement of the motion shall be made in consultation with the one who initiated it, and that the rephrasing shall not result in postponing a vote by the faculty beyond the usual period of thirty days now provided by faculty practice."

STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY. Acting President Hollis gave a brief report on the developments that had taken place in the University since the last meeting of the faculty. His report covered the reaction of the State Board of Higher Education to the retirement plan; the academic record made by discharged veterans at the University during the fall term 1944-45; and the detailed registration figures for the present academic year to date.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.


Earl M. Pallett, Secretary