

2-9-2000

Campus Assembly minutes 02/09/2000

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Campus Assembly, "Campus Assembly minutes 02/09/2000" (2000). *Campus Assembly*. 44.
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The Campus Assembly met on Wednesday, February 9, 2000, at 4:30 pm in the Science Auditorium. There was some variation in the order of agenda items to facilitate election voting and time constraints.

I. Sam Schuman discussed the capital request process. Funding for the renovation of Old Science has dropped from 5th to 8th on the university's list of priorities. The governor's 400M recommendation for bonding, the smallest amount in recent history, would leave only 54M for the university which would fund only the top three priorities and would not provide funding for any outstate buildings. Schuman explained the legislative process, which will probably result in a bonding recommendation larger than the governor's but smaller than the university's. The governor can line-item veto the legislature's recommendation, the legislature can override his vetoes, and the governor can finally refuse to sign the bonding document. Schuman and UMM/Morris personnel and students will lobby heavily. All UMM citizens are encouraged to contact legislators (except for Westrom and Berg, who are already championing UMM's request; they should simply be thanked). Gary Hedin reminded the faculty that Schuman encouraged them to be lenient about class attendance so students can attend Lobby Day. [Schuman later excused student absences via an email to the community].

Anticipating potential turnover in the spring, Schuman thanked the Assembly for the honor of serving as Interim Chancellor.

II. The minutes of the December 6, 1999 Assembly meeting were approved as distributed.

III. Elections were held for the 2000-2001 Executive Committee, Consultative Committee, and Parliamentarian. MCSA and USA leaders have been notified of the importance of adjusting their election process for semesters so that their constituencies can participate fully in the Assembly election process.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Vice-chair - Jon Anderson

Secretary - Keith Brugger

Faculty/P&A #1 - Pareena Lawrence

Faculty/P&A #2 - Shannon Hodges

PARLIAMENTARIAN

Greg Thorson

CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Pieranna Garavaso (2000-2002 3rd term)

Paula O'Loughlin (2000-2002 1st term)

Gwen Rudney (1999-2001 1st term)

Engin Sungur (1999-2001 2nd term)

Gwen Rudney and Engin Sungur continue on the Consultative Committee. USA and students conduct their own elections for Consultative Committee membership.

IV. Sandy Olson-Loy reviewed material from the Campus Safety and Security Task Force, which focused on expanding the campus crisis response process, making our physical environment safer, and addressing broader issues of cultural change and education needed to prevent sexual assaults. Safety of the physical environment was the most-discussed topic, though the Task Force admits that a safer environment would not have prevented last fall's assault. Cultural issues proved the most challenging topic. The Task Force appreciated the large number of community members who got involved in its work.

Bert Ahern asked about the intention to continue the efforts of a Sexual Assault Prevention Task Force and Olson-Loy explained that on-going efforts were necessary because there is no quick fix to changing cultural attitudes. Greg Thorson applauded the Task Force's efforts to address this issue. Andy Lopez asked about specific areas darkened by construction and Lowell Rasmussen promised to follow-up on lighting concerns.

V. The following items from the Curriculum Committee were approved.

- o Honors Form Delta
- o IS 2101 - UC
- o IS 3010 - UC
- o IS 3020 - UC
- o IS 3110 - UC
- o Pol 3461 - UC
- o Psy 2401 - UC
- o Engl 1107
- o Engl 3002
- o Engl 4005
- o IS 1041 - UC

Mike Korth explained that the Honors Form Delta will function for two years and then the Honors Director will provide feedback on its usefulness. Dave Roberts asked about the one-course limitation and Korth explained that the form should be used infrequently; one course in four is plenty. Tim O'Keefe wondered about guidelines for honors designations; Matt Senior suggested that the language from the Twin Cities form could be added. Peh Ng wondered about a signing deadline; students should be able to decide to "go honors" late in the course. Senior explained that a deadline could be added; it was assumed that the decision to designate honors would be made prior to the start of class.

There was substantial discussion of the credit hours assigned to Intersession courses. Chris Cole asked how the credits had been determined and Korth explained that the course designers had determined them, not the Curriculum Committee. Calculations made during the meeting suggested that students would need to work 60 hours a week or more to achieve the credits assigned to the proposed courses. Chaz Rice and Mollie Jo Poehlman suggested this was unreasonable (and therefore

inflationary). Sam Schuman suggested that Intersession courses are intensive; when you're living in Russia for a course, you're really putting in 168 hours a week. Angela Bos wondered how the workload compares with half-term semester courses and Greg Thorson suggested that, while Intersession is intensive, it's not that much harder than semester classes.

Bert Ahern wondered about the quantity of terminology studied in the Health Sciences IS course to justify its workload. Korth responded that the workload was based on learning terminology in Greek and Latin. He also explained the course numbering problem UMM faces due to semesters policy that prohibits duplication with the Twin Cities. Barbara Burke wondered why courses taught Fall 1999 were just being submitted for approval now and Korth explained that they were approved provisionally before; approval now would permit them to be offered again in the future.

VI. Peh Ng reviewed proposed calendars beginning 2001-2002. The Assembly noted a correction on page 28 of the agenda... the fall break dates are Oct. 14-15, not Sept. 12-13. Factors impacting the calendar include how soon before Labor Day classes commence, whether or not to have a fall break, and how much time to permit between the end of exams and Christmas. Sam Schuman noted that the Campus Assembly doesn't actually get to determine the campus calendar; union restrictions and other factors apply. He welcomed a straw vote to assess campus opinion. After discussion of issues including non-air-conditioned classrooms, summer conferences and student employment, common practices in schools on semester calendars, and the necessity of a study day, the Assembly members present indicated the following preferences:

1. School should commence no earlier than the Monday before Labor Day (2 to 1).
2. There should be a fall break and a study day even if that means finishing up less than a week before Christmas (4 to 1).

The Assembly adjourned at 6:05 pm without reaching the Functions and Awards items on the agenda.

Rebecca Webb