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University of Minnesota, Morris
Campus Assembly Minutes
1 February 1993

The Campus Assembly met on Monday, February 1, 1993, at 4 p.m. in the Science Auditorium.

The chair asked if there were any additions or corrections to the proposed agenda. Blake responded that the CC wished to withdraw from action the four General Education proposals listed under IV of the agenda, and that she would report at the appropriate time of this meeting on what progress is being made to solve the problems faced by students.

- I. **For Information.** Chancellor's remarks. Johnson reported on his attendance at the annual meeting of the American Council on Education. The ACE is a national policy organization for American higher education, and its primary lobbying group. The magnet topic at the meeting was financial aid. Johnson came away with the feeling that something major may happen under this administration regarding this topic.
- II. **For Action.** The minutes of November 9, 1992, were approved.
- III. **For Action.** From the Curriculum Committee. Approval of changes in General Education courses.
 - A. English 1501 (drop W, E1). Ahern asked Carpenter for clarification on why she had asked for the course to be pulled from action at the previous meeting. Carpenter indicated that she had always heard high accolades about the course. Therefore, changing it did not make much sense to her. She was also concerned about dropping two general education designators, and asked for a rationale for doing so.

Ahern said the CC had noted in its discussion the significance of the elimination of two general education designators. However, it had also noted that there were 5 or 6 W course designators being added in English and it had to decide which was a more positive thing: Keeping English 1501 as it was versus 5 W opportunities. Seven members of the CC thought the change was a move in the right direction. English 1501 was without prereqs; the other courses were not, so the votes in opposition may have been for that reason.

D. Purdy said the essential reason is shown under the rationale: "The course has been altered to make it fit with our other two basic courses for the major. Intensive writing instruction will no longer be given. The W will thus no longer apply. The primary emphasis in the course will focus on analysis and not on the self; therefore the E1 is being eliminated." About four years ago, there was enrollment pressure in 1501. When PP came into being, a W was put on the course. There are 79 W courses but only nine of them are lower division courses with no prereqs, so even more enrollment pressure was put on 1501. English had 188 majors last spring, and 1501 is required in the major. It is not possible to supply the number of courses needed for the major and satisfy everyone wanting the courses. English has also overhauled its curriculum. English 1501 does not now fit well with the others. The discipline wants to modify it in the direction of an emphasis on analysis.

The assembly approved dropping the W and E1 designation from English 1501.

- B. Philosophy 1201 (drop W, E1). Ahern explained that the CC vote was unanimous in favor of deleting W and E1 designations from the course. As a W course, it is taught to small groups (not to exceed 35). Prior to that designation it accommodated a larger number of students.

Uehling said that effective in 1993-94, the course will have an increased enrollment. Although the discipline still recommends dropping the W designation from the course, after discussion with the assistant dean, it has reached consensus that because the accessibility of E1 courses under PP is a problem, it now recommends keeping the E1 designation. Uehling made the following substitute motion: Drop the W designation from Philosophy 1201. **The assembly approved the substitute motion to drop the W designation and keep the E1 designation for Philosophy 1201.**

- IV. The General Education proposal (A-D as shown on the agenda for the 2/1/93 meeting) was withdrawn as an action item as indicated previously in these minutes. The chair called on the dean for further clarification of this action.

Blake explained that the split vote in the assembly on 1/25/93 indicated to the CC that, despite the vote in favor of considering the four items, we should look to another way of handling the matter. Two things needed to be accomplished: first, to meet the concerns of students caught between the degree requirements in General Education and the courses available to meet those requirements; and second, to have the assistance of the work of the PAC at the time of any major assembly discussion of ProsPer. Blake read the following motion which had been unanimously approved in a joint meeting of the C and GE Committees on January 28, 1993:

"To withdraw all four policy proposals concerning General Education from Campus Assembly consideration at this time and to refer those issues to the appropriate committees for short-term solutions for the students having difficulty."

Blake said that by withdrawing the four items from consideration by the assembly, it meant that no changes would be made in the 1993-95 UMM Bulletin, but that the GE, C, and Scholastic Committees were prepared to take temporary actions -- which it is in their authority to do -- to deal with the problems created by a lack of sufficient courses and credits in certain parts of the general education curriculum. She said that there was precedent for the CC temporarily waiving requirements in areas where the ProsPer curriculum was not yet fully operative and she cited as an example the postponing last May of implementation of the health/fitness requirement from fall 1992 to fall 1994. She announced that the CC would be meeting on Thursday and that she expected waivers to be approved that would take care of current seniors and would ease the situation for all students. She promised that the CC would get word out about the temporarily waived requirements quickly to academic advisers, students, and the general campus community. Finally, she reported that the CC feels it is important that a timeline be set for the PAC's work so that things can move forward.

Blake asked for an opportunity at the end of the meeting to briefly address the members of the assembly in order to provide a context for what had gone on at the previous meeting, and for the work of assessing ProsPer in the months ahead.

- V. **Old Business.** Hart expressed a concern growing out of the rationale given at the previous meeting for the postponement of the C2 requirement. The administration urges disciplines to develop C2 courses in the next two years. This does not address the problem faculty face when they do not have a computer in their offices. How can faculty teach students what they do not know themselves? The administration should strive to have computers on-line in faculty offices in less than one year. D. Purdy and Richards supported Hart's statement. Ahern noted that this was also the preponderant sentiment of the CC in its discussion of the issue.

VI. **New Business.** None

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Pat Tanner