

Unred
Senators
General
K-100-10

MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

The September 13, 1988 meeting of the University Senate was called to order by Vice Chairman Marc Brown at 3:25 p.m. in Pratt Auditorium. He welcomed everyone back for the academic year and indicated that all meetings this year would be held in Pratt Auditorium.

Two corrections were made to the minutes of the April 19, 1988 Senate minutes:

1. Page 2--Curriculum Committee action: "with the proviso that the catalog description is rewritten in conjunction with the COMPUTER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT (not the MIS Department).
2. Page 3--The Library and Educational Services Committee, chaired by Senator Bormann (not co-chaired by Senators Bormann and Radell).

Senator Angello then moved approval of the minutes as corrected; the motion was seconded by Senator Duntley and PASSED by the Senate.

The following Senators were excused from the meeting: Cignetti, Dakak, LeBlanc, Curey, Buterbaugh, Richardson, Syty, Mitchell, Guerriero and Whitt. The following Senators were also absent from the meeting: Hyder, Bianco, Levinson, Halapin, Miller, McCreary, Brode, Russell, Pillion, Aghbar, H. Cunningham, Freeman, Grove, Jackson, McCauley, Murphy, Tiger and Walz. Students who were absent included: Kerr, Lauer, Coughlin, Krise, Shea, Reich, Conley, and Carns. (Note: This list may not be accurate due to changes in the roster since May 4, 1988.)

President Welty's report to the Senate is shown as Attachment A.

Senator Richards reported to the Senate on drop-add for the present semester, noting that there were some problems, but additional General Education courses were offered so that courses were available for students to pick up. A drop-add committee has been established and it will be a "recommending committee" to the Provost. Senator Richards also noted that a draft of a handbook for advising students is in the works and should be a valuable tool in this area.

Vice Chairman Marc Brown's report to the Senate included the following:

1. Welcomed new Senators
2. Announced that New Senator Orientation will be held in Pratt Lounge on October 4 at 3:15 p.m.
3. Senate appointments:
 - a. Lorrie Bright - Parliamentarian
 - b. William Oblitey - Academic Computing Advising Committee
 - c. Diane Duntley and Jean Blair - Admissions Committee
 - d. Fred Anderson - Classroom Space Allocation Committee
 - e. Tom Cunningham - Liberal Studies Computer Literacy Committee
 - f. Tony Nastase - Long Range Planning Committee
 - g. Joe Costa - President's Distinguished Medal Committee
 - h. Joan Elliott - Task Force on Assessment of University Outcomes
4. Liaisons: Joe Costa - APSCUF
George Mitchell - LIBERAL STUDIES
Bill Blacksmith - UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON ATHLETIC POLICY

reducing free electives from 14 to 12 credits. Total credit requirement for graduation will remain 124.

2. New Course - Department of Safety Science - SA 482 Independent Study --
Prerequisites: 9 hours of SA coursework. This course is a student-initiated program supervised by one faculty member. It is open to SA and related majors in the Junior and Senior years. Students will study in depth a special topic of importance to occupational safety and health. Requirements of this course include extensive reading, evaluation of problems, and one or more research papers.
- 3. New Course - Department of Home Economics - HE 457 - Microcomputers in Human Ecology - 3 credits. Prerequisites: Junior level standing in College of Human Ecology. Use of the microcomputer in Human Ecology. Commercial software is utilized for word processing, spreadsheet, and database applications. Software for specific applications is explored. Copyright laws, care of a microcomputer system, telecommunications, and the impact of computers in the home and industry are studied.
4. Minor in Political Science
PS 101 - World Politics - 3 cr.
PS 111 - American Politics - 3 cr.
Political Science Electives - 9 cr.--only 3 credits of internship in Political Science may be counted towards the minimum 15 credits of a Political Science Minor.

The Ad Hoc Committee on Computer Literacy, chaired by Senator Staszkievicz, moved acceptance of the definition of computer literacy, as shown in Attachment C. The motion for approval was made by Senator Butzow. Various amendments to the definition were proposed, but the only one which the Senate approved was the deletion of the last paragraph as the policy was shown in Attachment B of the AGENDA. A motion to simply define computer literacy as denoting a practical hands-on facility with appropriate computer applications failed to pass. The definition - see Attachment B - was then APPROVED by the Senate.

Under New Business, Senator Goodrich moved, seconded by Senator Nastase, that the Committee responsible for Library Policies provide the Senate with a working document and definition of Library Abilities. The motion was APPROVED by the Senate.

As all business had been conducted, the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Sechrist
Secretary, University Senate

REPORT TO THE UNIVERSITY SENATE
September 13, 1988

I am delighted to welcome members of the University Senate back to the campus for the 1988-89 academic year. I have written to you with regard to a number of events for the University year and major objectives that the University will seek to achieve. If anyone did not receive a copy, you may do so by calling my office. I will not repeat that information today.

I will also be distributing a copy of my comments at the faculty workshop to you. I look forward to discussing our next five-year plan in the coming weeks.

From all indications our enrollment is solid for the semester and we will have more specific figures in the coming weeks. I believe we have had an excellent opening and I appreciate the efforts that everyone has made to assure this opening of the fall semester.

I did want to indicate that the legislature plans to return to session this month. There is a possibility that consideration will be given to additional funding for the State System of Higher Education. However, any increase in funding allowed by the legislature will be translated into a reduction in the tuition increase for the second semester. There is a possibility that there may be an additional line item for deferred maintenance, but it is not clear at this time.

I also wanted to indicate that the Council of Trustees adopted an educational services fee which is designed to provide funding for the replacement of worn and obsolete instructional equipment, the purchase of new instructional equipment, and the purchase of library books and periodicals. In order to administer this fee, a student/faculty/administrative subcommittee of the budget committee will be responsible for recommending priorities after reviewing the University's long-term instructional equipment plan and the library's long-term plan. It is the intent that funds should be allocated to address major areas of need on an annual basis.

This subcommittee will be chaired by the Provost and its members will consist of the vice president for Finance or designee; vice president for Student Affairs or designee; one faculty member appointed by APSCUF and one APSCUF budget committee representative; two students appointed by SGA, one of whom must be a graduate student and a member of the Senate committee on library and educational services.

I look forward to working with you in the coming academic year. I believe we have an exciting year ahead of us and I wish you the best in the coming year.

JDW4/jam
9/19/88

COMPUTER LITERACY AT IUP
A DEFINITION

"The term 'computer literacy' has become *de riguer* among avant garde educators and public officials. Despite its frequent use, however, computer literacy remains an amorphous concept."* Nonetheless, we begin with three basic premises. First, the nature of computer literacy is dynamic, changing rapidly with technological advances. Second, any use of the term "literacy" in education, such as environmental literacy, gender literacy, scientific literacy, as well as computer literacy or literacy itself, connotes an advocacy which demands the participation of all constituencies of the institution. Third, in the case of computer literacy, the need among students is not uniform but highly variable, changing from college to college and within colleges from program to program. Therefore, a highly specific definition of computer literacy is of little practical utility.

On the basis of these assumptions, we endorse a definition of computer literacy which embodies five ideas that seem consistently to arise in attempts to define it. Computer literacy denotes:

1. A practical hands-on facility with standard computer applications in the students' own fields of study.
2. An understanding of computing in such a fashion that enables one to learn new applications and technologies as they evolve in the coming years.
3. An understanding of the the use of computing as an intellectual tool in the solving of problems, the manipulation of information, and the enhancement of learning.
4. An understanding of the value of computing as an intellectual skill whose concepts have inherent value analogous to those of mathematical and logical reasoning, and to those of language itself.
5. An awareness of the significance of issues in computing as they relate to the implications and applications of computing (e.g. sociologically, economically, politically, psychologically, ethically and philosophically).

*Roger W. Haigh. "Planning for Computer Literacy." *Journal of Higher Education* 56, no. 2 (March/April, 1985)