COMMITTEE: Faculty Governance Committee

MEETING DATE: March 11, 1998

PERSON PRESIDING: Patricia Anderson

ACTIONS OF MEETING:

Minutes of January 14, February 11, and March 4 were approved as distributed.

Due to the absence of Chair of the Faculty Sexauer, who was meeting with the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellors on some of the related issues, the following items will be placed on the agenda for April 8, 1998: further discussion on the Chancellor's action concerning the Faculty Workload Policy, and a follow-up on Chancellor's response to discussion on Faculty Manual interpretation.

The sub-committee working on Appendix C, personnel files, will present a report at the April 8, 1998 meeting.

The group discussed the possibility of rearranging the set monthly Faculty Senate meeting dates, an item that had been discussed at an earlier Agenda Committee meeting. The group considered the possibility of eliminating one meeting in the fall semester and adding one meeting in the spring semester, but did not feel that this rearrangement alone would address adequately the "unevenness" of business at some Faculty Senate meetings. One suggestion was made that Committee reports come earlier in the agenda, perhaps before the Special Order of the Day, in an effort to keep senators focused on the actions required of senators as opposed to listening to announcements, etc. Anderson agreed to share this suggestion with the Agenda Committee. Also, the committee reaffirmed the use of special meetings as necessary, to be called by the Chair of the Faculty. One suggestion was to inform senators at the beginning of the academic year of a possible special meeting to be scheduled in late April, if needed.

The committee discussed the possible effect of the Phased Retirement policy and how that policy could decrease the number of full-time faculty to serve both in the Faculty Senate and on university committees. Several committee members stated the importance of mentoring younger faculty to be involved in service activities and to promote service activities within the Faculty Senate whenever possible. Others mentioned the general philosophy that the persons who make recommendatin for faculty policies should be prepared to "live with" those policies. No changes in current requirements for either election to the Faculty Senate or its committees were recommended. It was suggested, however, that chairs of Faculty Senate committees be encouraged to invite non-voting resource guests to participate in committee discussions whenever appropriate.

The group discussed the upcoming Faculty Senate meeting (March 24); the chair encouraged all committee members to be present and to participate in the discussion and presentation of the Policy for Cumulative Review of Permanently Tenured Faculty.
The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Tricia Anderson