Minutes
Commission on Student Affairs
Brush Mountain Room B
February 13, 1997
3:30 p.m.

Present: Mr. John Aughenbaugh, Dr. Lanny Cross, Mr. Jay Hulings, Ms. Robin Supko (for Ms. Lisa Furjanic), Ms. Aimee Rhodes (for Ms. Jennifer Ginther), Mr. Tim Singstock (for Mr. Jim O'Connell), Mr. Gary Markle, Mr. Preston Parker (for Mr. Adam Boitnott), Mr. Brian McGing (for Mr. Robert Kottkamp), Ms. Ningling Wang, Mr. Terry Lo, Mr. Mike Rush, Mr. Cordel Faulk, Ms. Erin Graham, Mr. Adam Langer (for Mr. Jim Friel), Ms. Melinda Crowder, Ms. Delia Grenville, Dr. Dave Ostroth, Dr. Edward Spencer, Dean Andy Swiger, Dr. Cathy Goree, Dr. Johann Norstedt, Dr. Kerry Redican, Ms. Phoebe Crofts, Dr. Delores Scott, Mr. Robert Moser, Mr. Chris Bunin, Mr. Brian Wiersema, and Ms. Monica Ko.

Absent: Ms. Lisa Furjanic, Ms. Jennifer Ginther, Mr. Jim O'Connell, Mr. Raphael Castillejo, Mr. Adam Boitnott, Mr. Robert Kottkamp, Dr. Kenneth Rystrom, and Mr. Jim Friel.

Guests: Ms. Sharon Yeagle, Ms. Erica Cochran, and Mr. Bill Campion.

1. Call Meeting to Order and Introductions. Mr. Aughenbaugh called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. Introductions were made at this time.

2. Approval of Agenda. Ms. Crowder noted that Mr. Tim Singstock would be presenting the SBB Food and Beverage Policy Change for second reading. Motion was made and seconded to approve the amended agenda. Motion was approved by unanimous vote.

3. Approval of CSA Minutes of February 13, 1997. Motion was made and seconded to approve the February 13, 1997 CSA minutes. Motion was approved by unanimous vote.

4. Chairs' Comments. Mr. Aughenbaugh distributed a revised copy of the timeline for spring semester. He noted that if any Commission members had concerns or corrections regarding this timeline to please contact him by February 21, 1997.

Mr. Aughenbaugh reminded Commission that Mr. Ridenour would be presenting a review of the tuition and fees for 1997-98 on February 21, 1997 at 4:00 p.m. in Room 400-D Burruss Hall.

Mr. Aughenbaugh distributed copies of articles from the Roanoke Times including installation of the sprinkler system on campus, drug arrests from Tech, and underfunding destabilizing plan for span.

Mr. Aughenbaugh distributed a memo from Jim O'Connell regarding discussions that had taken place at the Committee on Academic Support in reference to the holiday traffic issue.

Mr. Aughenbaugh noted that members of the Commission should have received a revised comparison of stadium related judicial activity for 1995-96 and 1996-97. Dean Goree stated the discrepancy in the earlier report related to cases that were in the system at the end of the semester that had not been adjudicated.
5. Old Business. M-W-F Class Resolution - Tabled. Mr. Aughenbaugh noted that at the November meeting of CSA the M-W-F resolution was tabled. To discuss the resolution at today's meeting a motion needs to be made to bring the resolution off the table. Motion was made and seconded to bring the resolution off the table. Motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Mr. Aughenbaugh noted that the first reading of the resolution had been heard and he needed a motion to discuss the resolution at today's meeting. Motion was made and seconded to discuss the M-W-F resolution. Motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Professor Mike Denbow, Chair of the Committee on Academic Support (CAS), stated that the Commission on Undergraduate Studies had requested the CAS to review the resolution on M-W-F class schedule last year. He noted he was at the meeting today to discuss some of the concerns raised by the Commission on Student Affairs in November and to hopefully receive support for the resolution.

Professor Denbow distributed a copy of the campus map denoting multi-classroom buildings built since 1965 outside the 10-minute campus. He also distributed and discussed the scheduling alternative of the M-W-F class schedule with 50 minute class time and a 15-minute break between classes. He noted that the current M-W-F schedule with 50 minute class time and 10 minute breaks includes 2200 minutes of class time during the semester. The Committee wanted to come up with a schedule that maintains the 2200 minutes of contact time.

Professor Denbow stated that the current class schedule has four class sessions on M-W-F from 8:00-11:50 a.m. and five sessions from 12:00-4:50 P.M. The new schedule includes four sessions that would meet from 8:00-12:05 p.m. and there would only be four sessions in the afternoon. There would be one session in the afternoon that would be lost. Professor Denbow discussed the impact of losing the one afternoon class period. He distributed a chart denoting the cumulative percent of class minutes every hour beginning at 8:00 a.m. He stated that at 4:00 p.m. 94.5% of all classes have been held. The loss of one class session in the afternoon only affected 1.1% of all class periods.

Professor Denbow also noted that polls had been done last year with the SGA and a Horticulture class taught by Dr. McDaniels asking what percentage of students currently expressed a problem in getting to class within 10 minutes on M-W-F; 84% expressed a problem.

After a lengthy discussion from Commission, motion was made and seconded to approve the new M-W-F class schedule. Motion was approved with 20 positive votes, 2 negative votes, and 2 abstentions.

SBB Food and Beverage Policy Change - 2nd Reading. Mr. Tim Singstock presented changes to the SBB policies and procedures regarding Food and Beverages for second reading. The change on page 9 of the policies and procedures states "Funding requests for cultural food samplings will be closely scrutinized and must include a detailed list of food items to be served. Funds may not be reallocated to food line items with the exception of food service supplies without prior Board approval.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the SBB Food and Beverage Policy
Change. Motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Grade Reform Resolution - 2nd Reading. Mr. Hulings noted that per the request of Commission from the last CSA meeting, he had done more research on the effects of the grade reform resolution. Mr. Hulings met with Dr. Len Peters, Vice Provost of Research and Dean of Graduate School in regards to how much of an impact the new system would have on admissions to Graduate School. Dr. Peters noted there would probably be very minimal impact and noted he would use the new grading system but would use it sparingly.

Mr. Hulings also met with Dr. John Fulton, Senior Vice Provost. Dr. Fulton was very supportive of the system and noted that it would only change the overall QCA from 2.75-2.76.

Mr. Hulings also noted that he had checked six benchmark institutions on the Web page regarding their grading system. These schools include Purdue, Penn State, Cornell, North Carolina State, Illinois, and Texas A&M. Cornell does have the A+, 4.3 system implemented at their school.

There was discussion among Commission members about the possibility of inviting Wanda Dean, Registrar, to a CSA meeting to discuss the ramifications of implementing the new grading system at Tech. Dean Goree also noted that she would like to have a sampling of faculty members who would have awarded the A+ during the last semester.

Motion was made and seconded to table the grade reform resolution until after a presentation by Wanda Dean has been made. Motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Mr. Aughenbaugh noted that if Commission members have questions for Ms. Dean to please submit to him via e-mail by Wednesday, February 21, 1997.

Undergraduate Representative to the Board of Visitors Resolution - 2nd Reading. Mr. Hulings stated that based on suggestions from Commission members at the last CSA meeting he added a friendly amendment to the Process of Selection of the Undergraduate Representative to the Board of Visitors resolution. The resolution is amended to add a third alternative under the Resolved paragraph: 3) The Commission on Student Affairs and the Board of Visitors will jointly select the representative based on a system mutually agreeable to both bodies.

Mr. Hulings noted that the resolution is being presented to give CSA members more voice in the selection of the undergraduate student representative.

Dr. Cross noted that if there is a change in the selection process, it will not be forwarded to the Student Affairs Committee of the Board of Visitors until November of 1997.

After a lengthy discussion on this matter, motion was made and seconded to table the resolution until next meeting. Motion was approved with majority vote. There was one abstention.

6. New Business
Class System Constitution - 1st Reading. Mr. Aughenbaugh distributed copies of the class system constitution for first reading. The constitution will be placed on the CSA agenda for second reading on February 27, 1997.

Library Resources Circulation Resolution - 1st Reading. Mr. Aughenbaugh distributed copies of the library resources circulation resolution for first reading. The resolution will be placed on the CSA agenda for second reading on February 27, 1997.

7. Announcements

Mr. Hulings invited CSA members to attend the Order of the Gavel meeting on the Monday following CSA. He noted all student members of the Commission have a seat at this meeting.

Mr. Moser announced that the deadline for submitting applications for the undergraduate representative to the Board of Visitors position was Friday, February 14, 1997. The deadline for applications for the graduate representative to the Board is February 21, 1997.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Haden
Recording Secretary