



## Executive Committee Minutes



**February 1, 2002**

**Attendance:** Tolhuizen, Gyurko (for Delunas), Hass, Ledbetter, d'Ouille, O'Dell, Vinodgopal, Lindmark, Sandoval, Schultz, Poulard, Coffin, McDonald, McShane. **Guests:** Chancellor Bruce Bergland, Executive Vice Chancellor Virginia Helm

### I. Call to Order

President Jim Tolhuizen called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m..

### II. Minutes of the January 11, 2002 Meeting

The president asked for a motion to approve the January 11, 2002 Executive Committee minutes. A motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

### III. Academic Positions

After some discussion on how to proceed in addressing the academic positions issue, the Executive Committee members decided to begin with the lists distributed at the January 29 meeting with the Deans Council. Professor Lindmark moved to send the positions list forward, unranked, and with the omission of several of the positions; his motion was seconded by Professor Vinodgopal. In the subsequent discussion, some Ex Comm members believed that the motion would be in the faculty's best interest, while others felt that it would not fulfill the directive of the Faculty Organization resolution because it would not prioritize the list. Proponents of the motion argued that we lack enough information to rank the positions and suggested that the new Academic Priorities Committee would have better data. That body should also look at programs, that is, conduct long-range program and position planning but should refrain from making the decisions on these positions.

Professor Coffin offered a substitute motion, seconded by Professor d'Ouille. It comprised two parts:

1. The Executive Committee recommends that highest priority be given to filling faculty and professional staff positions that directly support academic programs. The list of positions would be attached to this motion.
2. The Executive Committee also recommends that no administrative positions be filled until Item 1 above is met.

President Tolhuizen called for a vote on substituting Professor Coffin's motion for Professor Lindmark's motion. The substitution was approved. Next, Professor Coffin's motion was addressed. The question was called, and Professor Coffin's motion was defeated.

Professor Coffin offered another motion with several parts, to wit:

1. The Executive Committee recommends that highest priority be given to filling faculty and professional staff positions that directly support academic programs.

2. The list of positions would be divided into two categories: High Priority and Low Priority (Professor Coffin then created his version of such a list). This divided list would be attached to this motion.

3. The Executive Committee also recommends that no administrative positions be filled until Item 1 above is met.

This motion was seconded by Professor d'Ouille. During discussion of the motion, various ideas for the two divisions on the list were offered by Ex Comm members. Finally, Professor Lindmark moved that his original motion be substituted for Professor Coffin's motion. Professor Poulard seconded Professor Lindmark's motion. In the vote on substituting the Lindmark motion for the second Coffin motion, the substitution was defeated.

Professor Hass offered a friendly amendment to Professor Coffin's motion: The Executive Committee will prioritize the positions by individual votes of its members present. This amendment was accepted by Professors Coffin and d'Ouille. With some additional language changes, the second Coffin motion, with amendment, read as follows:

1. All positions are critical.
2. The Executive Committee will prioritize the positions list through individual votes.
3. The Executive Committee urges that faculty and professional staff positions be filled before administrative positions.

This motion was approved by the Executive Committee. Individual committee members then ranked the eleven positions on the list and submitted their ballots to President Tolhuizen. The votes were tallied and the ranked list was produced, as follows:

Nursing  
 Psychology  
 Math Education  
 Allied Health  
 Biology  
 Lab Director  
 French  
 Political Science  
 Science Education  
 Economics  
 Library director

This list will be forwarded to Executive Vice Chancellor Helm and Chancellor Bergland.

Chancellor Bergland asked the Ex Comm to remember that our budget is continuing to shrink, due to past enrollment declines. In addition, we need to implement salary increases and we may have trustee mandates which have financial implications. The final bottom line of our budget is still the big question.

Several Ex Comm members offered comments and asked questions of the chancellor:

- How much weight will be given our ranked position list? The chancellor will try to follow it. Much depends on the vice chancellors and deans in the upcoming budget talks.
- Some of us were disappointed that we did not see any position justification information produced by the deans in their position requests.
- If some positions are not funded for next year, what happens to them? They will go to the new Academic Priorities Committee as unranked and placed back into the position pool with other positions. Positions will be recommended based on the priorities of the long-range plan developed by the Academic Priorities Committee.

#### **IV. Academic Priorities Committee**

The Ex Comm turned to the structure and composition of the new Academic Priorities Committee. After some discussion, Professor Coffin moved, seconded by Professor Hass, that the committee comprise representatives from each division as follows:

Allied Health-One member

Business-One member

Education-One member

Library-One member

Nursing-One member

SPEA-One member

Social Work-One member

Arts and Sciences-Six members: two members from the social and behavioral sciences. two members from the arts and humanities, and two members from the sciences.

Terms for these representatives will be staggered with one- and two-year terms. The divisions of Allied Health, Business, and Education will elect representatives for one-year terms. The divisions of the Library, Nursing, SPEA, and Social Work will elect representatives for two-year terms. The Arts and Sciences representatives will hold terms staggered among the six posts.

The motion passed unanimously.

#### **V. Old Business**

There was no old business.

#### **VI. New Business**

There was no new business.

#### **VII. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the Executive Committee meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m..

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Stephen McShane**  
**Secretary**



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Comments: [Faculty Organization Secretary](#).

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