Minutes of a Special Meeting of Faculty Council held on Friday, June 30, 1978 at 2:00 p.m., in Room 207 Buller Building.


Regrets: Dr. F. Kelly, Dr. W. C. Brisbin, Dr. W. O. Pruitt, Dean P. K. Isaac.

The Chairman asked Professor T. Dick, Chairman of the Science Library Committee to speak to this matter.

Professor Dick said that as their contribution towards the budget reduction, the Science Library was to cut their 1978-79 budget by $37,000. The committee was given two weeks in which to decide where the cut was going to be made. Little guidance or assistance was given by the central library and there appeared to be no overall, long-term planning by the central library administration as to where the reductions were to be made. The Science Library Committee was able to delete 21 abstracts and ≈ 100 journals giving a total saving of $19,600. These were abstracts and journals that were no longer used. To make up the balance of the required reduction would mean the deletion of 200-300 further journals which would amount to almost 30% of all the Science Library journals. It was the view of the Library Committee that such a reduction would cause such damage to the Science Library that recovery might be impossible. On behalf of the Science Library Committee Professor Dick moved (Reid) that:

"We, as members of the Faculty of Science, firmly believe that any further attempt to delete journals from the currently inadequate..."
holdings of the Science Library will seriously affect the ability of the Faculty to fulfill its assigned goals. Further, we also believe that such procedures will similarly affect all other Faculties and Schools of the University in relation to their regional libraries and the Dafoe library. Further, since we also believe that a truly viable library is absolutely vital to the maintenance of even minimal academic standards within a University, we, the Faculty of Science, refuse to participate further in this truly damaging exercise of cancellation of journal subscriptions. We also request that the Senior Administration recognize the truly serious implications of this exercise and that they take steps immediately to allocate to the Libraries Administrative Group sufficient funds to maintain the 1978-79 journal acquisitions at the 1977-78 level."

There seemed to be some uncertainty as to what the base figure for the Science Library serials should be. The figures that had been mentioned ranged from $140,000 all the way up to $210,000, the figure from which the $37,000 had been calculated. Mr. Simosko's actual count showed the costs to be about $171,000. The council members strongly urged Professor Dick to get verification of the figure as this would determine the ultimate reduction.

It was noted that three positions were now being advertised in University Affairs by the library. With what was happening to the libraries' budget this seemed to be slightly inconsistent. Mr. Simosko stated that all three were existing vacant position, two of which were in the $12,000 salary range.

Dr. Reid pointed out that there are some fixed costs associated with operating a University such as the cost of fuel and lights, that could not be reduced for any reason. He said that he felt the library budgets fell into the same category. The across-the-board cuts in such a crucial area were far more damaging to the University than were cuts to many other areas.

The chairman, in replying to the question of what happened last time Senate voted on additional assistance to the libraries, said that $150,000 had been made available to them for the purchase of books but because of the lack of staff over 100,000 books had been backlogged and the library was just...
now clearing out the last of these. In reply to another question he said that any staff member, who upon finding out a journal that he or she used, was being cut by another regional library should inform Mr. Simosko. The regional library directors met to discuss such deletions and sometimes if enough use was brought to light the deletions were cancelled.

Several members pointed out that what the Faculty of Science brings to the University by way of grant funds should be taken into consideration in determining the size of the budget reduction (if any) that the Science Library should have to bear.

In making this motion at the Library Committee meeting Dr. Reid said that it was his intention to make as many people as possible, especially the senior administration aware of the crisis in the libraries and the irreparable damage that will be done if the reductions were carried out.

At this time the motion was put before the council members and the vote taken; the motion was CARRIED. Unanimously.

As for the disposition of the motion the secretary was instructed to send copies to the President, Chairman of the Board of Governors, Director of Libraries, Chairman of the Senate Library Committee and to Senate.

The meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.
All members of the Faculty Council of Science

FROM G. Richardson, Secretary

SUBJECT: Special Meeting of Science Faculty Council

At the request of the members of the Science Library Committee a Special meeting of Faculty Council will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, June 30, 1978 in room 207 Buller Building to consider the following motion:

"We, as members of the Faculty of Science Library Committee, firmly believe that any further attempt to delete journals from the currently inadequate holdings of the Science Library will seriously affect the ability of the Faculty to fulfill its assigned goals. Further, we also believe that such procedures will similarly affect all other Faculties and Schools of the University in relation to their regional libraries and the Dafoe Library. Further, since we also believe that a truly viable library is absolutely vital to the maintenance of even minimal academic standards within a University, we call upon the Faculty of Science to refuse to participate further in this truly damaging exercise of cancellation of journal subscriptions. We also request that the Senior Administration recognize the truly serious implications of this exercise and that they take steps immediately to allocate to the Libraries Administrative Group sufficient funds to maintain the 1978-79 journal acquisitions at the 1977-78 level."

rdc/sc
TO: President D. R. Campbell

FROM: C. Richardson, Secretary, Faculty Council of Science

SUBJECT: At today's special meeting of the Science Faculty Council the following motion was passed unanimously by Council. As secretary I was instructed to pass the motion on to you.

"We, as members of the Faculty of Science, firmly believe that any further attempt to delete journals from the currently inadequate holdings of the Science Library will seriously affect the ability of the Faculty to fulfill its assigned goals. Further, we also believe that such procedures will similarly affect all other Faculties and Schools of the University in relation to their regional libraries and the Dafoe Library. Further, since we also believe that a truly viable library is absolutely vital to the maintenance of even minimal academic standards within a University, we, the Faculty of Science, refuse to participate further in this truly damaging exercise of cancellation of journal subscriptions. We also request that the Senior Administration recognize the truly serious implications of this exercise and that they take steps immediately to allocate to the Libraries Administrative Group sufficient funds to maintain the 1978-79 journal acquisitions at the 1977-78 level."

gr/sc

cc: Secretary of Senate
    Prof. W. R. Butler, Director of Libraries
    Dean R. D. Connor, Chairman, Senate Library Committee
    Mr. R. McQuade, Chairman, Board of Governors
AGENDA

1. Motion regarding Science Library budget cuts