

earlier list. That is a product of several Senate Council "think tank" meetings. Lyons: Most of the material from that list has been sent out and hopefully much will be coming back before year's end. Lyons reiterated several pending items, including several new academic programs.

3. Report from Privilege and Tenure Committee: 1987: Thomas Ford  
Chairman Lyons introduced Professor Thomas Ford, immediate past chair of the Senate Advisory Committee on Privilege and Tenure for the annual report from that committee. Ford's comments follow.

Ford: I am happy to report that we've had one of the lightest years I've known. We had 9 contacts this year. Of these, 4 did not require follow-up. Three of the remaining 5 were handled by the committee or me and were administratively activated. Therefore, we ended up with 2 cases for complete committee review. One was an extension person, who appealed on the basis that he was evaluated on contractually inconsistent criteria. The Committee recommended an ad hoc committee review with the correct criteria; that recommendation was accepted and carried out.

The second case addressed a P&T technicality in that the performance of the candidate had not been properly reviewed in the 2nd and 4th years. The dean said that that was true but that it didn't matter because said person would have been turned down no matter what. Nonetheless, a new review has been initiated and the individual is happy. The second review may not change the final verdict, but correct procedure is being followed.

Ford announced being pleased for two reasons: The first is that administrators are being more careful in following the regulations, although the committee continues to serve a useful purpose. Ford's impression is that the system is working relatively well. There are always going to be misunderstandings, but there seem to be fewer. Mather: Is the University just not providing sufficient guidance to chairs and deans, thus creating misinformation situations? Ford: It is hard to say. Most deans and chairs have had these matters called to their attention. An "acting" dean or chair is definitely at a disadvantage ... Wells: There are a lot of communication problems no matter what. The A&S Dean does have a yearly orientation meeting, but there are still communication problems. Lyons: Perhaps part of the problem will be alleviated with the development of the faculty handbook.

Coleman: Perhaps this is something we can bring up at the chancellors breakfast "This is a concern of ours. What are you going to do about it? What's your plan?"

Ford: We have more problems in the Medical Center ... due in great part to the difference in the academic culture.

Lyons: There are a lot of faculty members concerned about the buck stopping at the dean's level. Would it help if all cases went through the Area Committees? Ford: They do at the 6th year. Lyons: I mean up the line at each review. Ford: I'm inclined to doubt it would help. There are no valid grounds in many instances to forward them through the Area Committees.

Leigh: What about cases of promotion to full professor? Are they automatically sent to the Area Committee? Wells: Associate Professors can request their dossiers be forwarded every six years--no matter what.

Having no further questions, the Council thanked Professor Ford and he departed.

4. Request from R. Dahl to waive the rules

Lyons: I have a request via Randall Dahl from a dean who wants to retroactively change a student's grades to W's for one semester. The student has 4 E's and 1 D for the semester in question. Lyons noted that rule waivers are usually clear-cut, but that this presents problems since there is no provision in the Rules to accommodate the dean's request. Lyons called on the Council for advice, noting that the student apparently had serious family problems. Wells: How about saying the family problems were known about during that semester and should have been handled back then, not now. Lyons mentioned that the student has an equally appalling earlier semester, so the semester in question is not unique. Following brief discussion, the Council directed the Chair to turn down the dean's request.

Applegate: Brought up an issue discussed several years ago, to wit: Whatever happened to the proposal to make the last day to add a class later in the semester, and the last day to withdraw earlier (to coincide) so we don't have so many half empty classes when the students were beating the doors down earlier to get in those classes? It was pointed out that the issue was proposed and defeated on the Senate floor several years ago. And, following discussion, no action was suggested or taken.

Lunch break.