

~~Saginaw Valley~~ SAGINAW VALLEY STATE COLLEGE

BOARD OF CONTROL

MINUTES

JANUARY 10, 1983

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BOARD OF CONTROL
SAGINAW VALLEY STATE COLLEGE

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
Pioneer Room--Pioneer Hall of Engineering and Technology
January 10, 1983

Present: Arbury
Braun
Curtiss
Darin
Gilmore
Kendall

Others

Present: Colvin
Dickey
Frahm
Gilbert
Harring
Ross
Ryder
Sharp
Stephens
Woodcock
Yien
Press (2)

Absent: Saltzman, excused
Williams, "

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Kendall gaveled the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. and observed that a quorum was present.

II. PROCEDURAL ITEMS

1. Approval of Minutes of Regular Monthly Meeting held on December 13, 1982

Chairman Kendall noted that the Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting held on December 13, 1982 had been mailed. He asked if there were any corrections or additions. Hearing none, he declared the Minutes approved as mailed.

2. Official Representative of Faculty Association

Chairman Kendall asked if there were an official representative of the SVSC Faculty Association present.

Dr. Alexander Ross responded.

Mr. Kendall welcomed him and asked if he had any comments.

Dr. Ross stated that he had none.

3. Communications and Requests to Appear before the Board

Chairman Kendall asked if Dr. Ryder had had any communications or requests to appear before the Board.

Dr. Ryder answered that he had none.

Student Government President, Fred Harring, however indicated he had some comments to make.

He reported that in his contacts with students last semester he found them to be restless and sometimes angry with respect to the following concerns:

Priorities and direction SVSC was taking

Rumor of a 15% increase in tuition for fall '83

Preferential treatment of athletics with respect to budget cuts

Forty-five free rides in football

Deterioration of academics due to budget cuts

Inability to get information from administration with respect to budgeting

Mr. Harring covered these points in detail and noted that the students were planning forums to which Dr. Ryder, perhaps the Board members and administration would be invited in order to let the students know who was making policy decisions and to learn where the students' interests were and what they wanted.

He concluded by asking for comments he could relay back to the students.

Mrs. Arbury, indicating that she was speaking as just one member of the Board, observed that Mr. Harring's concerns were very well stated and true... this Board had wrestled with these problems for some time.

Dr. Ryder stressed that the support level from the State of Michigan had been a real problem...the different factors that were involved and some of the questions that had to do with priorities were influenced by the fact that SVSC was a growing and developing institution as opposed to one which was stable and had been around for a long time.

He pointed out that the progress SVSC had made with respect to its academic standing had been rather phenomenal...there were weaknesses, he said, but most of those were budgetary. There was no question but that SVSC had a small but excellent faculty which had to be maintained.

He concluded that no one he knew of thought this recession would go as far and as long as it had...he thought the State was now beginning to look at its priorities too.

Dr. Ryder reported that SVSC had not had to borrow one dime to operate so far in 1982-83 because of frugality of the faculty and administration in their expenditures...partly due to reduced allocations in supplies and expenses, and budgetary administrative and faculty cuts, holding off employment of a lot of people on a timely basis, a rescission on salary adjustments for the faculty for six months, a freeze on salary adjustments for the administrative/professional staff for six months, along with a modest 9.1% increase in tuition, which was low compared to some other institutions which had 22% to 27% increases. SVSC, he stressed, was able to hold at 9.1% increase in tuition because it "bit the bullet" earlier in tuition increases.

Dr. Ryder concluded that given the available resources that they could project at this moment, every institution in this state was going to have to have a substantial increase in tuition for next year...he felt it was important to let the State of Michigan know about this and also to call attention to the importance of higher education and preparation of youth and adults to serve in a growing, vital Michigan...it was not going to happen unless they had the manpower to be able to recover from this recession and to sustain growth and development.

Mr. Curtiss pointed out that there had been across-the-board budget cuts at SVSC as well as salary concessions...also, although there had been no cuts in the 45 full football scholarships, neither had there been any cuts in other full scholarships.

With respect to tuition, Mr. Curtiss noted that there had been a trend nationally away from something called "taxes" towards something called "user fees" which was the same thing except that the people who were benefiting from the services, in principle, were now paying for them. This, he said, translated in Michigan to a situation where the legislature, in its unwillingness to address higher education institutional needs, was opting not to tax for it and to take the easy way out by forcing each institution to levy its own tax rather than provide funds through the General Fund...it should be no shock that the pressures came at the institutional level on questions such as tuition...that was by design on the part of the legislature.

Continuing, Mr. Curtiss observed that the percentage of cost being paid by the student had been increasing steadily for about five years now...it used to be 25% and now at about 39%...that was the crux of the problem, it was not the athletic question...the athletic question was a minor but a popular question. In fact, he

stressed, the very fundamental problem was that the State had decided its students should pay for their own education...he didn't know how far that was going to go. About four years ago, he recalled, somebody in Governor Milliken's Budget Department was suggesting that the long-range goal was for students at publicly-supported institutions to pay half of their cost. Compared with where they were then, they were already halfway towards that unspoken goal...if, in fact, it was, or still is a goal.

The problem then, Mr. Curtiss stated, was what did they do to make adjustments for it...he thought Mr. Harring's concern was that SVSC was just passing through costs to students. It didn't make any difference what those costs were, he said, but he could assure Mr. Harring that given the attitude in Lansing towards unwillingness to raise taxes to support the system, that the percentage of costs was going to be passed through to the student until the legislature changed its position...whatever those costs...whether it was with football or without.

Mr. Curtiss then briefly reviewed the history of SVSC and the establishment of its athletic program, not just football, and emphasized how it had helped significantly in marketing the institution...it was very difficult, he observed, to market the academic side of an institution...SVSC almost failed at that. Before initiating its athletic program, south of Bridgeport, people thought SVSC was part of Delta, and outside a 15 mile radius of the college, admissions personnel couldn't walk into any high school and get recognition.

Mr. Curtiss indicated he thought Mr. Harring's case was exactly why SVSC did expand originally in athletics...Mr. Harring had said he came to SVSC because of the athletic program and was surprised to see how good the academics were...the athletic program marketed the institution to him and he was pleased with what he

found behind it. That did not mean, Mr. Curtiss stressed, that academics took second place. He raised the question of how to market an academic program unless an institution was one of the top 20 in the country and internationally recognized, etc. For a small institution to market academics, and that was what SVSC almost failed at, and which he had said before, he warned that before they made arbitrary priority decisions, they had to address the issue of how SVSC should be...what kind of an image they thought the institution should be projecting...and how they could convince the communities it served, and the state, that in fact, SVSC had a good, quality program.

Frankly, he pointed out, he thought doing a good job in athletics had helped this institution...not in credit hours generated necessarily...and not in head count.. but in establishing an image.

Dr. Ryder observed that where they were now, with the pressure for the dollar, and not really a good promise for adequate support from the state was that everybody began looking at cannibalizing each other, which he felt was a bad thing for the institution...it ought to be directing its attention externally...where it ought to be because SVSC had done so much in the way of cutting...it was as lean as any institution in the state. He suggested that they all ought to be directing their concern where it could make a big difference...that was at the level of gaining support for this institution, as well as for all others in the state. He concluded that Mr. Harring's concern, the concern of the faculty, the concern of the administrators, and the concern of the students was a legitimate concern...he hoped SVSC could maintain its sports and all other programs because they were inter-related...in terms of maintaining enrollment...in terms of getting new facilities...it was important SVSC didn't have a loss, and as he saw it, he didn't think it would.

SVSC, Dr. Ryder stressed, was a unique institution...in the right place... at the right time for maintaining growth because it was in the center of population.

Mr. Curtiss agreed with Dr. Ryder that there should not be cannibalization with one group saying another group was getting too much...that would lead to the distruction of the institution if they weren't careful. He stressed that the priority questions needed to be addressed, but at the same time they were addressing priorities, they needed to address what the alternatives were and what they would lose...what else they could do more effectively to build a better institution. So, he suggested, they should ask the questions "where do we go" and "if not this, then what?" Those were questions that needed to be raised, he concluded, and so far as he was concerned, this quest should continue.

With respect to providing budget information, Dr. Ryder advised that SVSC was in the process of evaluating and revising the format of the athletic budget to put it into a perspective that people could more readily understand.

Dr. Gilmore recommended that in addition to the athletic budgetary information Mr. Harring wanted, that the administration provide him with information about the escalating breadth of the curriculum process...where SVSC was in 1975 when football started...and where it was today, and perhaps show him that even though football was the priority in 1975, it no longer was prioritized and was left in the back-ground because other programs had grown and grown and there was a lot of new growth to which they were not giving credit.

Dr. Ryder advised that data recently received showed that the cost per fiscal year equated student at Saginaw Valley State College, including how it supported athletics and everything, currently ranked 11th among state colleges and universities.

So, what Saginaw Valley State College was doing, in terms of quality education for students, as well as a quality program in athletics, it was still not spending what 10 other institutions were spending.

Hearing no further discussion, Chairman Kendall concluded that they had a lot to do and would have further discussion.

Dr. Ryder agreed.

4. Remarks by the President

Dr. Ryder reported that he did attend the inauguration of the new Governor and that he was impressed by his remarks about getting people back to work in the state...that it was going to require the cooperation of business, industry, labor and government...he really called for cooperation...they couldn't just continue this adversarial relationship...they had to put that aside, at least for the time being, and get the people of Michigan back to work.

Obviously, Dr. Ryder observed, that was a lot easier said than done, but he thought the Governor struck the note and hopefully, that was going to happen.

Dr. Ryder indicated they had all probably heard the rumors, but it appeared that the most likely scenario was that there would be an increase in the income tax for those that were working that would help stay the problems of dismantling the government services, including higher education...there would be further cuts, and probably there would be even some further deferrals for another year...no one knew for sure. Governor Blanchard's committee had been working and had made one report to him...it would be making another one closer to the end of this month. He concluded that he was assuming some decisions would be made probably by the end of this month as to how they would deal with the apparent deficit the state would have by year end. If the economy picked up, of course, that would help

a great deal. Until they got some clear signals from Lansing, Dr. Ryder concluded, it was pretty difficult for them to make a decision regarding 1983-84.

ACTION ITEMS

5. Recommendation for Approval of the Appointment of Auditors for 1982-83 Expenditures

Initially, Dr. Ryder said, he had thought they would only need a motion, but that a resolution had been prepared, copies of which he distributed.

Chairman Kendall asked if anyone cared to move its adoption.

RES-566 It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:
WHEREAS, it is considered a good management practice to have conducted annually an independent financial audit;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the C.P.A. firm of Yeo and Yeo be reappointed to conduct the annual financial audit for the year ending June 30, 1983.

Chairman Kendall asked if there were any discussion.

Dr. Ryder asked Mr. Woodcock if he would like to comment.

Mr. Woodcock explained that this was just routine of annually appointing auditors...it was a good practice and one he felt SVSC should continue to follow.

Hearing no further discussion, Chairman Kendall called for a vote.

Motion unanimously carried to adopt RES-566 appointing auditors for the year ending June 30, 1983.

6. Recommendation for Approval of Sabbatical Leaves for Faculty for 1983-84

Chairman Kendall noted that copies of this resolution were included in Board packets and asked if someone cared to move its adoption.

RES-567 It was moved and supported that the attached resolution be adopted:

Chairman Kendall asked if there were any discussion.

BOARD RESOLUTION ON 1983-1984 FACULTY SABBATICALS

WHEREAS, The Professional Practices Committee has recommended the following faculty members for sabbatical commencing July 1, 1983, and

WHEREAS, The Administration has reviewed and concurred with the Committee's recommendation, but is presently uncertain about the fiscal resources for the fiscal year of 1983-1984,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the first eight of the following faculty members be granted sabbatical leaves effective July 1, 1983, and

FURTHERMORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Administration is authorized to grant the remaining three faculty members' leaves at a later date assuming sufficient resources are available.

FacultyDepartment

Dr. Thomas Renna	History
Dr. John Jezierski	History
Dr. Robert Braddock	History
Dr. Ricardo Pastor	Mod. For. Lang.
Dr. Thomas Yun	Physics
Dr. Barron Hirsch	Art
Mr. Wayne Mackie	Finance
Dr. William Elliott	Law
Dr. Albert Busch	Management
Mr. Lawrence Kickham	Accounting
Dr. William Smith	English

Dr. Ryder indicated he thought it probably wasn't necessary to go into any detail...all of the Board members had been with SVSC over the period. He asked Dr. Yien, however, if he wanted to make any comments.

Dr. Yien, for the benefit of the press, advised that at least six years of service was required for faculty members to become eligible for sabbaticals... 13 had applied, and as the resolution read, 11 were recommended. Out of the 11, the administration recommended 8 and was holding back on 3 for additional financial information by March or April.

In times of fiscal crisis, Dr. Ryder added, some institutions and particularly those that were not unionized, and some that were, would withhold faculty sabbaticals during that period. SVSC's faculty...many of them who were now mature and senior people were appointed all at once in the late '60's, early '70's, so there were a number of them coming up at once. He stressed he didn't think there was a period of time in their history, or in higher education, when it was more important that their faculty go back and be refreshed and have sabbaticals because of the rapid change in this society. Therefore, he concluded, the administration recommended and he positively supported SVSC's continuation of sabbaticals for the faculty.

Mr. Curtiss, indicating he had been sensitized by the earlier discussion today, asked what the cost would be.

Dr. Yien responded that a sabbatical cost SVSC full pay for one semester, or one-half a yearly salary...the average faculty salary with fringes would be approximately \$28,000.

There was a lengthy discussion about the cost of sabbaticals and the cost of replacements for those sabbaticals.

Hearing no further discussion, Chairman Kendall called for a vote.

Motion unanimously carried that RES-567 be adopted.

7. Recommendation for Approval of Leave of Absence without Pay for Dr. Joseph Matti, Professor of Mathematical Sciences

Chairman Kendall stated that copies of this resolution had been included in Board packets and asked if anyone cared to move its adoption.

RES-568 It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:
WHEREAS, Dr. Joseph Matti, Associate Professor of Mathematical Sciences, has requested a leave of absence without pay for the FY 1983-84 for personal reasons, and
WHEREAS, The College Administration recommends Dr. Matti's request;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That Dr. Matti be granted the leave for the said period.

Chairman Kendall asked Dr. Yien if he wanted to enlighten the Board members on this leave.

Dr. Yien responded that unless SVSC filled the position with a full-time replacement, it would represent some salary savings. If there were a part-time replacement, it would represent approximately one-half of Dr. Matti's salary

Hearing no further discussion, Chairman Kendall called for a vote.

Motion unanimously carried to adopt RES-568 granting Dr. Matti leave of absence without pay for FY 1983-84.

IV. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

8. Introduction of the New Football Coach, Mr. George Ihler

Dr. Ryder advised that when he put this item on the Agenda he had not checked with Mr. Ihler. He was sorry that Mr. Ihler was not present today, Dr. Ryder said. He assumed he was recruiting. In any event, this would be an Agenda item at another time.

8A. Distribution of Information Services Publications

Dr. Sharp distributed copies of the following:

SVSC Winter 1983 Calendar of Events

SVSC Profile & Campus Map--1982-83

SVSC Scholarships & Financial Aid

SVSC Cardinal Basketball 1982-83

Dr. Sharp observed that a lot of work went into these publications...he took a great deal of pride in them because he had absolutely nothing to do with them. He praised Marilyn Frahm, Lindy Babcock and Tom Waske for their outstanding work, which was all "behind the scenes" until the end products were distributed.

V. OTHER ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

9. Executive Session for the Purpose of Considering Collective Bargaining and Litigation Issues

Dr. Ryder suggested that there be a motion to move into Executive Session for the purpose so stated, after a brief recess, and he would indicate to the press that there would be no action items that would follow the Executive Session.

Chairman Kendall called for a motion.

BM-641 It was moved and supported that the Board recess briefly and then go into Executive Session for the sole purpose of considering collective bargaining and litigation issues, after which the Regular Board Meeting would reconvene only for the purpose of adjournment.

Chairman Kendall asked if there were any discussion. Hearing none he called for a vote.

Motion unanimously carried.

The Regular Meeting of the Board recessed at 10:54 a.m.

The Executive Session convened at 11:12 a.m.

The Executive Session adjourned at 12:26 p.m.

The Regular Meeting reconvened at 12:26 p.m.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to transact, Chairman Kendall adjourned the meeting at 12:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John W. Kendall--Chairman

Richard H. Gilmore--Vice Chairman
(In absence of Secretary)

JMR
omc

Opal M. Colvin
Opal M. Colvin--Recording Secretary