PROPOSAL FOR A FACULTY FORUM

PREAMBLE

Both the Faculty and the Senate of UWM meet in regular session to consider substantive issues, and they may be called into emergency session when prompt action is essential. Both bodies make provision for meeting from time to time as Committee of the Whole to discuss matters on which no immediate action is contemplated. There exist, further, numerous standing committees to which proposals may be submitted for study and recommendation.

Yet there is no established machinery for inviting the faculty at large to discuss matters of general faculty concern, not in anticipation of immediate faculty legislation but for the useful exchange of views. There is no scheduled time at which the faculty may meet to exchange opinions without the anticipation of having promptly to choose sides or take a stand.

A Faculty Forum might provide such regular occasion at times reserved in the general university calendar. The following proposal is therefore submitted to the UWM Senate with the request that, if favorably received, it be submitted to the UWM Faculty at its next regular meeting after its provisions have been normalized by the Codification Committee.

A PROPOSAL

1. That a Faculty Forum be established for an initial period from the enactment of legislation until the end of the academic year 1971-72, with the Faculty to consider, at its first meeting of the academic year 1972-73, continuation or abolition of the Forum.

2. That the third Thursday of each month of the academic year be reserved for a meeting of the Faculty Forum to be convened at 3:30 p.m. in an adequate and convenient place, it being understood that an emergency meeting of the Faculty or Senate, or a meeting of either body postponed to the third Thursday because of lack of a quorum at the regular time of meeting, or because of disorder or other emergency, shall take precedence over the meeting of the Faculty Forum.

3. That attendance and voting at meetings of the Faculty Forum be governed by the provisions of Chapter 31, UWM Chapters of Laws and Regulations of the University of Wisconsin, Section 31.01.

4. That the first meeting of the Faculty Forum, and the first meeting in each academic year thereafter, be called to order by the President of the Senate, and that the first order of business be the election of a Permanent Chairman, the President of the Senate being himself ineligible.

5. That procedure at meetings of Faculty Forum be governed by Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, save as they conflict with special rules which the Forum may adopt.

6. That the Faculty Forum receive and discuss any topic brought before it by submission through the Secretary of the Faculty of a subject or position paper over the signatures of ten (10) members of the faculty representing at least two schools or colleges, such submission to be made no later than one week prior to the meeting of the Forum.
7. That the Secretary of the Faculty prepare, and communicate to the faculty as expeditiously as possible, a list of topics to be discussed, in the order of their receipt, and that he attend and record the sense of the meeting and the count of votes taken and communicate these to the faculty.

8. That the Faculty Forum be ineligible to enact legislation but that it be empowered to:

a. take "a consensus votes" on both original and alternative proposals, such votes to be recorded and reported in actual count of both Yea and Nay votes of all voting faculty present, provided that a referendum "consensus vote" of the entire faculty under the provisions of Chapter 31, UWN Chapters of Laws and Regulations of the University of Wisconsin, Section 31.01 (2) (c) be held;

b. request that a motion growing out of a meeting of the Forum be considered at a scheduled meeting of the Faculty or the Senate, or be referred to a standing committee of the Senate;

c. direct a question to either campus or central administration following discussion of a matter before the Forum, with a request that the answer be made at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Faculty or the Senate.

BY-LAWS

The following By-Laws will be proposed after the election of a Permanent Chairman at the first meeting of the Faculty Forum, and if accepted will remain in effect until altered by actions of the Faculty Forum in conformity with the provisions of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, it being considered that the Faculty Forum is a continuing body.

1. Meetings of the Faculty Forum shall adjourn automatically at 5 p.m. unless a 2/3 vote of those present extends the meeting to a time specified in the motion to extend.

2. The sequence of topics presented by the Secretary of the Faculty shall be a first order of business, and may be altered by majority vote of those present.

3. An unannounced topic may be brought before the Forum by unanimous consent or by a 2/3 vote of those present.

4. Failing a motion for a consensus vote or other possible action, discussion of any topic may be terminated by majority vote, the motion to terminate being non-debatable.

5. Adjournment may be moved at any time save during a division of the house, upon recognition of the mover by the Chairman.

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