

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE LEGISLATIVE SUB-COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR EDUCATION

February 22, 1977
8:00 A. M.
Room 132
State Capitol Building

Subject: Work Session

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Carroll South.
The following members of committee were present.

Rep. Ora Halvorson
Rep. Oscar Kvaalen
Rep. Jack K. Moore
Sen. Matt Himsl
Sen. Larry Fasbender

Also present in the meeting were Judy Rippingale and John Krutar, Fiscal Analysts and Mae Nann Ellingson, Lobbyist for Students.

There was general discussion regarding the operation base of the budget for the university units. Judy Rippingale had prepared charts for committee showing percentages of increases that could be considered for adoption and the amount in dollars that each percentage would allocate. The increases could be 7, 8 or 9 percent for the biennium.

There was discussion regarding the categories, or class, that units are in. Since Montana Tech has 75% full associate faculty members, it was generally agreed that MSU, U of M and Tech should be placed in the same category. Forty-two percent of Tech's faculty is in the engineering field. South said that there is some danger that while higher salaries may attract more qualified teachers, it could also lock a bad teacher with tenure into a good salary. He said that there should be a study of the actual value of the teacher to the student and that possibly the right way to handle a salary increase for faculty would be to list each teacher and give them a raise in salary. Then, if they want to change it, it will be up to the units to make the change.

Chairman South said that appropriations would need to be made in three broad categories--one is operations. He said that the legislative committee should give the university units two years to see how they will use the money appropriated to them. If funds have been appropriated for certain accounts and then mis-used or used in other places where they were not intended to be used, then the legislature will know that they must ammend the constitution. Chairman South said that he thought the legislative committee needs to make it very clear that no matter what they bargain for, we will allow nothing more than what other state employees are getting in salary and fringe benefits.

There was discussion regarding new buildings on campuses that were not included in the budget the last biennium. There is one new building at MSU, one at EMC and one at Tech.

Rep. Moore made a motion to increase operating expenses 8% between fiscal 1976 and fiscal 1978 and 4% between fiscal 1978 and fiscal 1979. All voted aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

Sen. Fasbender made motion to put UM and MSU's average salary at \$17,822 and WMC and NMC's average salary at \$16,040. EMC's average salary at Category II A be left. The amount of \$16,040 will be the base for EMC. All voted aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

There was discussion regarding the 1978 average salary at Tech. The figure being considered would be a 55/45 arrangement and would give as a salary \$16,842. The percentages represent a 45% rate for engineering faculty and 55% rate for non-engineering faculty. Rep. Moore made a motion that the above adjusted base be used for Tech. All voted aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

The Board of Regents have recommended a ratio that is one percent below that recommended by the fiscal analyst. Judy Rippingale was asked to drop her ratios to bring them closer to what they wanted. She did this and arrived at the following figures:

UM	19.6
MSU	19.6
EMC	19.6
Tech	16.6
WMC	16.6
NMC	16.

Chairman South emphasized the importance of establishing legislative intent. He said that no one would be bound by it but at least the units would know what the intent of the committee was and so would the legislature. Legislative intent would be of value and set some guidelines for the following committee.

A motion was made that the committee adopt the student-faculty ratio of 19.6 at UM, MSU and EMC, 16.6 for Tech and WMC, and 16 for NMC. All voted aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

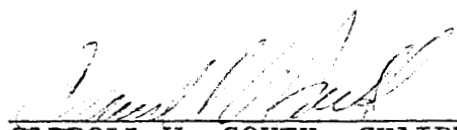
Chairman South said that due to our actions today, there is a higher increase in salary for unit faculty than other state employees. Salaries are 2% lower than surrounding universities now.

The committee requested Judy Rippingale to go over the decisions that they made today and bring the figures up to date so they can see what their motions have changed in budget figures. EMC can

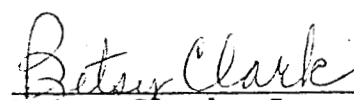
either continue the salaries they have adopted or go to a lower student-faculty ratio.

No tape was made of this meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 A. M.



CARROLL V. SOUTH, CHAIRMAN



Betsy Clark, Secretary