

**Minutes of the
Extraordinary ACADEMIC SENATE
Tuesday, 17 April 2007, 12.00-13.00**

Present: Yehuda Elkana (chair), Julius Horvath, Janos Kis, Laszlo Kontler, Zdenek Kudrna, Liviu Matei (*ex-officio, non-voting*), Laszlo Matyas, Michael Laurence Miller, Howard Robinson, Roderick Martin, Robert Sata, Tibor Varady

Not present: Elissa Helms, Iryna Koshulap, Uku Lember

Minutes: Andrea Csele

1. Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved as submitted.

2. Approval of validators

Zdenek Kudrna and Laszlo Kontler volunteered to validate the minutes.

3. Remarks by the Rector

The Rector informed the members of the Senate about several papers that will be discussed with the Board. Regarding the financial situation of the university, the Rector emphasized that the university is in a better situation than it was five years before. However there is a competitive situation that CEU is part of and for which the university was not prepared as yet. This was mentioned in the Rector's Report as well as in the enrollment report prepared by Howard Robinson and Rositsa Bateson. He mentioned that some universities solve it by eliminating non-paying disciplines or by consolidating down. He emphasized again the strong opposition to the idea of consolidating down at CEU.

4. Three-year Business Plan (2007-2010) of the Central European University Group

Lajos Bokros said that it is for the first time when a consolidated business plan is prepared with all entities of CEU, except for the Business School. As mentioned in the business plan distributed to the Senate members, it is also for the first time when distinction is made between operating costs and capital expenditure. He explained that the business plan has *three priorities for the next three years*:

- 1) to increase the stipends for doctoral students and master students
- 2) the transformation of Kerepesi dormitory into full student dormitory. Thus, from September, the dormitory will offer accommodation only for CEU students and Business School students. The dormitory will host CEU conferences as well as it has been done before.
- 3) the improvement of IT services

At Julius Horvath's question concerning the availability in the future for more office space and his remark about the decrease of share for instructions, Lajos Bokros explained that for the next AY there are EUR 10 million allocated for instruction. Concerning the office space, he said that although the Frankel Leo building has available rooms, it is still

far away. There are also negotiations running with the Vth district City Council about buying the whole Zrinyi 14 building. At Michael Miller's question concerning those students who would not receive rooms, Lajos Bokros emphasized that by changing the Kerepesi dormitory into full student dormitory, basically there will be rooms for most of MA students. It was also noted that this issue was extensively consulted with the Student Union that supports the proposal.

Michael Miller also asked for justification that for the Economics department higher stipends are to be distributed. Both the Rector and Lajos Bokros said that there should be investment in that department to bring it to the level required to remain competitive in present market conditions.

5. Election of a Pro-Rector for Hungarian and European Affairs

The Rector explained the need for the creation of the new position. He also said that after further consultation with senior members of the faculty, he would like to present a revised proposal regarding the creation of the position of a part-time Pro-Rector, and also to make a nomination to this new position. He said that the part-time position of a *Pro-Rector for Hungarian and European affairs would have to be created*.

It is also important that a clear line of command would be needed and thus the new Pro-Rector for Hungarian and European Affairs would report to the Provost. He/she would have to be a senior faculty and able to represent the university at the Rectors' conference. Following consultation with many faculty members he decided to propose for nomination Professor Susan Zimmermann for this position.

Robert Sata and Michael Miller repeatedly emphasized that before electing a new Pro-Rector for HU and EU affairs there should be a clear and detailed description of his/her duties and responsibilities. They also reminded that there was a decision to this effect at the previous meeting of the Senate. The Rector as well as Howard Robinson pointed to the impracticality of defining the position in too scrupulous detail.

Tibor Varady suggested that an amendment to the By-laws be made since the By-Laws do not contain the name of the new position. He suggested that the one of the following texts be submitted to the Board:

- 1) "The Senate may appoint a Pro-rector for Hungarian and European Affairs. The scope of duties of such Pro-Rector will be defined by the Senate. The Pro-Rector for Hungarian and European Affairs reports to the Pro-Rector/Provost".
- 2) "The Senate may appoint Pro-Rectors for special areas, such as Hungarian and European Affairs. The scope of duties of such Pro-Rectors will be defined by the Senate. Pro-Rectors for special areas report to the Pro-rector/Provost".

He proposed that a conditional appointment be made, the condition being the approval by the Board of the proposed amendment.

Janos Kis said that concerning the regulations, in order not to create conflicting situations, the following sentence should be added to the proposed amendment: "The Pro-Rector for Hungarian and European Affairs could not issue binding instructions to departments or staff unless those are countersigned by the Provost".

Laszlo Kontler inquired whether such a Pro-Rector for HU and EU Affairs who cannot issue instructions without the consent of the Provost, could represent the university at the Rectors' Conference. The Pro-Rector explained that at this conference, decisions are

made on every aspect of the Hungarian Higher Education from financing to accreditation, to distributing scholarships. The Rectors' Conference has a plenary session and it has different bodies where serious decisions are made. At the plenary session it is only the Rector who can participate and has no power whatsoever to delegate this. Once anybody else but the Rector is there, he/she can issue on the Rector's behalf a vote. The Rectors' conference has also different bodies where a representative designated by the Rector represents the university.

The Rector asked Tibor Varady to formulate the amendment to be submitted to the Board of Trustees. At Janos Kis' proposal, the Senate voted on the following amendments:

1) amendment to the By-Laws to be submitted to the Board:

“The Senate may appoint a Pro-Rector for Hungarian and European Affairs. The scope of the duties of such Pro-Rector will be defined by the Senate. The Pro-Rector for Hungarian and European Affairs reports to the Pro-Rector/Provost”.

The Senate endorsed it with 1 vote against it.

2) amendment to the OOR:

“The Senate may appoint a Pro-Rector for Hungarian and European Affairs. The scope of the duties of such Pro-Rector will be defined by the Senate. The Pro-Rector for Hungarian and European Affairs reports to the Pro-Rector/Provost and cannot issue binding decisions without approval of the Provost”.

The Senate endorsed it with 1 vote against it.

Following these decisions, the Senate members held a secret vote on the proposal to elect Susan Zimmermann for the position of Pro-Rector for Hungarian and European Affairs. With 5 (five) votes for, 2 (two) against, and 3 (three) abstentions, the proposal was not accepted.