

**Minutes of the
ACADEMIC SENATE
Friday, 13 October 2006, 12.00-14.00**

Present: Yehuda Elkana (chair), Judit Bodnar, Eva Fodor, Julius Horvath, Zdenek Kudrna, Roderick Martin, Laszlo Matyas, Liviu Matei (*ex-officio, non-voting*), Howard Robinson, Tibor Varady

Not present: Janos Kis, Diana-Urge Vorsatz, Lajos Bokros,

Invited: Adam Tertak (for #7 of the agenda)

Minutes: Andrea Csele

Yehuda Elkana introduced the new Senate member, Roderick Martin. He is Professor of Organizational Behavior at the Business School.

1. Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved as submitted.

2. Approval of the minutes

Tibor Varady mentioned that there should be a reformulation in the minutes of 25 May 2006 meeting, regarding the evaluation report of the Master of Public Policy. It was agreed that Liviu Matei and Tibor Varady will check the recording of this passage and make changes if necessary. With this amendment the minutes were approved.

Julius Horvath inquired whether the report of the budgeting task force mentioned in the minutes was sent to the members of the Senate. Liviu Matei said that no formal separate report was prepared for the Senate. However, in his second report to the Board of Trustees the COO presented the activity of the task force. This report was distributed to all members of the CEU community after the July 2006 meeting of the Board.

3. Approval of validators

Zdenek Kudrna and Howard Robinson volunteered as validators.

4. Statement by the Rector regarding current state of affairs

The Rector emphasized that streamlining the administration was a very important task and this process consumed much time and energy during the last two-three years. We had been waiting for the opportunity that the management can concentrate primarily on educational issues and not on administrative reorganization, management and financial issues. Hopefully, CEU will soon reach this period.

He reminded the Senate members of the problems with the Rt., and the reorganization of the IT service at CEU. He also said that the Finance Office is being reorganized under the supervision of the COO and the Academic Secretary.

The Rector mentioned that CEU is making better and better academic appointments. However, the university has to find ways to raise salaries in order to remain competitive, especially compared to the American higher education scene. He mentioned that the

Rector's report to the upcoming Board meeting will explain in detail academic developments envisaged for the immediate and less immediate future.

5. Three-year budget projection

Lajos Bokros thanked all the members of the faculty and the administration for the enormous work in helping to gather data in order to do the three-year budget projection. However, the project has to be postponed because the restructuring of the whole university group is still not finished and more time is needed to see how the structure of the university will look exactly. The data already gathered would be analyzed together with the departments and hopefully by the next Board meeting in April 2007 a reliable and credible three-year projection will be submitted, including that for the Business School.

6. Hungarian accreditation

The Academic Pro-Rector reported that CEU (in its Hungarian legal embodiment as Kozep-europai Egyetem and as a U.S.-chartered entity) received the licenses to operate until 2010. After this date, both licenses will have to go under a revision, and CEU will have to operate under the regulations of the new Higher Education Law. He reiterated that some new aspects emerged from the new law, such as the fact that foreign maintainers of Hungarian universities are not accepted. He also reminded the meeting that the accreditation process of individual master's degree programs implies two steps:

- 1) The "establishment". CEU submitted establishment requests as part of a consortia with other Hungarian universities, in Economics and Political Sciences. CEU submitted stand-alone establishment requests in Gender Studies and Historical Science. IRES and Philosophy did not yet submit their requests.
- 2) Approval to start a given program. Economics already submitted its request to start a two-year Master's program and if approved, with the next academic year this Bologna-equivalent master's program can be launched. Political Science is working on the starting document.

When the doctoral schools were accredited, Economics received accreditation for seven years without any restrictions. However, the Doctoral School in Historical Studies received temporary accreditation for two years and this has to be renewed by the end of this year.

To the Rector's question regarding the position of other universities in Hungary with regard to the introduction of the Bologna system, the Pro-Rector said that since the first BA students just started this year, and they will graduate after three years after which they can apply for an MA, next year CEU will be the first one to start the Bologna-type MA programs.

Howard Robinson asked whether the advertisement of the new two-year MA program of Philosophy is possible. The Pro-Rector answered that the establishment documents of Philosophy have not been submitted yet, thus no advertisement is possible.

Howard Robinson asked whether it might still be possible to get American accreditation for an MA in Philosophy to start in 2007. Liviu Matei said that this might be possible if material were submitted to him quickly

7. Administration of research and other projects with outside funding

Liviu Matei said that a list of all externally funded projects was for the first time compiled at his request by the Research Development Support Office, with the help of the Budget and Finance Office. He explained that this initiative is part of a larger effort to put the finances of the university in order. It is for the first time now that one can see clearly how many projects are financed from non-CEU sources, for what amount, and what overhead should be charged by CEU. The overall picture is really impressive and it speaks for the quality of the research done at CEU and also indicates that RSDO does very good work in helping the faculty to apply for such projects and to administer them. He also said that the situation in the Finance Office is improving, and hopes that the results will be visible soon.

The Rector mentioned that Rositsa Bateson is preparing a report on recruitment and it will be distributed in due course.

8. Business School issues:

- Faculty regulations

Adam Tertak explained that when he took over the position of Interim Dean of the Business School, he found some good aspects:

- a) The School has an increasingly good international reputation
- b) Students are satisfied.

Nevertheless, from an operational point of view, he found great lacks: no open communication, no financial regulations inside the school, no transparency.

Faculty-wise, he said that the Business School has 15 FTE faculty members, that there have been chairs and different types of other internal units, but that given the small number of faculty this structure will be simplified, and departments will be replaced by area coordinators in: Finance and Accounting, Marketing, Technology Management & Entrepreneurship, Operations and Supply Chain Management, Management (incl. Strategy, IB, OB/HRM/Leadership), Business Economics, Quantitative. Studies, Social Sciences and Humanities, Social Foundations of Business (Ethics, CSR, Env, Law).

The Pro-Rector mentioned that there was no concise document containing faculty regulations for the Business School. However, since the Business School is integrated with CEU they should have the same set of rules and regulations as CEU has, with exceptions that were necessary clearly indicated (resulting from the specific profile of the School). Roderick Martin agreed with the Pro-Rector about the need to have as much as possible the same corpus of faculty regulations, with appropriate amendments.

- Middle States visit to additional location in Bucharest; Status report regarding degree programs offered in Bucharest

Liviu Matei briefed the Senate members about the visit and report of Jean-Avnet Morse, Executive Director of Middle States, to Bucharest and her positive evaluation about the Business School's programs in Romania. The visit is part of a standard Middle States procedure for additional locations. She was particularly impressed because unlike similar

experiences, the Business School does not hire local professors but the same professors teach in Bucharest as in Budapest.

FOR DECISION

9. Proposal for a CEU Social and Environmental Responsibility Charter

The Draft submitted for approval by the Senate was approved with 9 votes for and 1 abstention.

10. Revisions to CEU regulations regarding doctoral studies

The Pro-Rector said that the Doctoral Committee met several times and proposes the two changes (*distributed in writing prior to the meeting*) because CEU doctoral regulations were not clear enough in order to face real-life problems. Answering Julius Horvath's question, Laszlo Matyas confirmed that according to these changes, a student has a maximum ten years to complete doctoral studies. He also drew attention to the pressure to increase the number of two years to three years in order to allow extra time for maternity leave, so instead of the two years mentioned in the proposal submitted, three years are proposed.

Eva Fodor proposed that every PhD student who has a baby should have an additional one year allowed per child. Tibor Varady proposed that the two years in the proposal should be accepted and one additional year might be added but only for childcare.

The following proposals were submitted for vote:

- 1) the addition that the date for the defense of the dissertation be maximized to two years after the submission of the dissertation plus one additional year for childcare only: 2 voted for and 6 against*
- 2) the addition that the date for the defense of the dissertation be maximized to two years after the submission of the dissertation plus one additional year for any other special reason, accepted by the doctoral committee, thus the maximum years allowed to be increased to three: 6 voted for and 2 against.*

The Pro-Rector proposed increasing the number of faculty in the Senate Committees, especially those doing regular work, in order to make possible their normal operation in case of some absences. The members of the Senate Committees would have to be appointed by the Senate.

11. Regulations regarding non-research track academic staff

The Rector explained that, according to the Faculty Compendium, CEU is a university where research is a major component of academic activity. Therefore, all academic staff members are required to do research alongside their teaching activities. However, there have been three, or four, cases of scholars who are good teachers, do good research but without a solid publication output. So, the question is whether CEU is open to the possibility of a limited number of non-research track appointments.

Eva Fodor expressed her support in favor of the new appointment possibility if there is some flexibility in it and colleagues concerned could go on sabbatical as the others do to be able to concentrate on finalizing research for publication.

The Pro-Rector emphasized that the limited number of credits that the appointed teacher can deliver is up to 15% of the total number of credits offered.

The introduction of the new non-research-track appointment was submitted to vote and it was endorsed with 6 votes for, 1 against, 1 one abstention.

Also submitted to vote were the following criteria on the introduction of the appointment:

- 1) the Lecturer can deliver up to 15% of the total number of credits offered within a given Department/Program - *unanimously endorsed*
- 2) Lecturers should not be scheduled to teach in doctoral programs unless permission given by the University Doctoral Committee- *unanimously endorsed*
- 3) The full teaching load of a Lecturer will be 16 classroom credits- *unanimously endorsed*
- 4) The sabbatical of the Lecturer will be 1 semester after 6 FTE taught semesters- *unanimously endorsed*
- 5) The Lecturer will not supervise doctoral students- *unanimously endorsed*

As consensus has not been reached on whether to give a different name for the new appointment or not, everybody accepted Tibor Varady's proposal that this very special item be put on the agenda of the next Academic Forum.

11. Guidelines for Senate elections

Tibor Varady said that in order to comply with the new Higher Education Law and following CEU's accreditation status, new Senate elections are to be organized, thus, new regulations and guidelines are needed. A draft of these guidelines has been prepared following a meeting of the Senate-appointed special committee chaired by him in consultation with the General Counsel.

He called the attention of the Senate members to some points on which the Senate Election committee did not manage to reach consensus.

- 1) the right to be elected- the Senate Election Committee decided to increase the number of credits to 6, but there was no agreement about whether the eligible professor should be at CEU for at least 14 or 18 weeks during the academic year. *The Senate members unanimously agreed on 16 weeks.*
- 2) Eligibility of administrative staff- whether only full-time employees are eligible to be elected. *With 2 votes against and 6 votes for, it was endorsed.*

The submitted Guidelines with the above mentioned amendments have been unanimously endorsed by the Senate members.

12. Formal newspaper announcement regarding the re-appointment of the Rector

The Pro-Rector said that the Rector had been originally appointed for only two years because according to the previous HEA law there was an age limit to this appointment. However, this law has been abolished by the new HEA law, which means that the Rector can be reelected. This can be done only by a formal advertising, which has to be published not later than December 1, 2006. *The Senate members unanimously endorsed the reappointment of the Rector.*

