The meeting was called to order at 11:02 a.m. The first item of business was the approval of the minutes of the February 10, 1999 minutes. The minutes were approved with a spelling correction.

Dr. Gowen introduced the next agenda item: the discussion of the role and organization of the University Senate. The subcommittee that was supposed to meet to draft a "statement of principle" could not find a mutually agreeable meeting time. The committee reviewed and discussed various items Dr. Gowen had distributed to committee members. Discussion of these items centered on the role of the University Senate and the Staff Advisory Council, the definition of faculty membership as per the Board of Regents Academic Affairs Handbook, faculty status versus faculty rank, academic advisement, and related topics. At the end of the discussion, Dr. Gowen proposed that Dr. Brown, Dr. McWilliams, and she draft a short "statement of principle" and distribute it to committee members prior to the next meeting.

Dr. Gowen introduced the next agenda item: the discussion and consideration of the proposals from the Senate Committee on Cultural Diversity. The first proposal asks that the Director of Diversity Education Programs and the Executive Director of International Services and Programs be added to the committee as ex-officio members. Dr. McWilliams observed that in the cited passage in the Bylaws, the words "ex-officio" are left out. Dr. Gowen proposed that the Statutes and Bylaws Committee needs to develop the Senate "statement of principle" first before acting on this proposal. Ms. Paton mentioned that she had been a member of the Cultural Diversity Committee in a previous year and gave some history and general information about that committee. The second proposal would change the Cultural Diversity Committee's duties as written in the Senate Bylaws. There was much discussion about the proposed change in the duties. It was mentioned that some of the duties cited may already be duties of the Office of Affirmative Action or some other offices on campus.

Dr. Gowen introduced the next agenda item: the discussion of a resolution regarding fees from the SGA that was submitted by the student member of this committee. Discussion centered on determining what the SGA is requesting and the fact that the Senate Bylaws do not state that the Senate Committee on Athletics reviews athletic fee requests. Dr. Gowen proposed that Ms. Weiner could read the resolution on the Senate floor.

There being no further business, Dr. Gowen adjourned the meeting at 12:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Nell Stone
committee assistant