



FROM **WATERLOO LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY**

WATERLOO UNIVERSITY COLLEGE — WATERLOO LUTHERAN SEMINARY

75 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, WATERLOO, ONTARIO, CANADA

TELEPHONE: AREA CODE 519, 744-8141

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Richard K. Taylor
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For Immediate Release

Special WLU Commission Approves
Student Representatives
on Faculty Renewal Committees

In its first major report, Waterloo Lutheran University's senate commission on responsibility has recommended that students have a place on faculty renewal committees and that their representation could rise to parity with faculty members.

The recommendation, just approved by the university's senate and ratified by the board of governors, thus becomes policy and will be implemented, said Dr. Frank C. Peters, WLU president.

George Dunbar, a retired Waterloo businessman heads the commission, which also has student and faculty members. A public meeting was held on campus to hear students views but the meeting was sparsely attended.

In its recommendations, the commission urged that faculty selection committees be set up by each department and that they have student members. The committees will serve as advisors to the department chairmen.

When the contract of a faculty member is up for renewal, a contract renewal committee will be named with student and faculty members. But equal student and faculty representation "may be deferred until adequate experience with student representation in the department has been acquired."

It was also urged by Mr. Dunbar's commission that a part-time student be included on the committee if possible in cases where the faculty member concerned has taught in the part-time program of the university.

Added the commission, "As experience is acquired within the department, the department may choose to increase the student representation" but in no case would students outnumber faculty.

while the contract renewal committee's views are advisory any dissenting views must be referred by the department head to the dean of his division.

In addition, the special commission also recommended that an official university newspaper be published each month of the eight-month academic year to inform the entire university community of policies and programs.

"We will be putting these recommendations into practice now that they have been approved," said Dr. Peters. "We think we have made good progress in meeting the desires of students for more participation in the affairs of the university."

The special commission was set up in the spring after students protested the refusal of the university to renew the contract of a professor in a department that had sustained a drop in student enrolments.

Dr. Peters said the dropping of many required courses, taken largely at the request of students, had resulted in similar enrolment shifts in several areas.

The senate commission also made some recommendations regarding tenure for faculty members. These were referred to the senate executive with instructions to consult with various areas in the university. The executive will bring recommendations to the WLU senate at its spring meeting.