CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 3:40 p.m. by President L. Amine.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the September 29, 1998 meeting were approved with the following correction. R. Gabriel was present. It was decided to distribute and attempt approval of the minutes of this meeting via e-mail.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Copies of a Senate membership list were distributed and senators were asked to check the list and make corrections.
2. President Amine introduced Ellen Carnaghan, the new Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee.

INVITED SPEAKERS:

1. Bob Webster (Assistant VP for Research, Research Administration - Health Sciences Center) described the major aspects of the University's new patent policy and answered questions. A copy of the policy can be viewed on the web page. It compares favorably to those of other universities.
2. Fred Wolinsky (Public Health - Instruction) described the recent activities of the University Research Advisory Council and answered questions. The council was formed after several other research committees had reached conclusions that the University should make a greater commitment to research and to report directly to the Executive Vice President and Provost on matters concerning research. Major issues to be discussed this academic year include:
   a. Development of an Academic and Scientific Misconduct Policy
   b. Development of a Copyright Policy
   c. The University's Support for Research
3. The following members of the Retention Management Committee:  
Celerstine Johnson, Assistant Academic Vice President  
Edwin Harris, Associate Provost  
Tim Delicath, Enrollment and Academic Research  
Bridget Cole, Secretary, Academic Services Center  
gave a presentation on the activities of this committee and some of the conclusions that were reached. Some of the major points raised were:  
a. Our retention rate is around 64% [this number is from data in their report (page3) showing that 64% of the students who entered in the fall of 1992 had graduated after 6 years]. This is about average for all universities and for Jesuit institutions.  
b. Of the students who left, 69% had GPAs greater than 2.0.  
c. Financing does not seem to be a major problem.  
d. The majority of students that leave are commuters.  
e. Students that leave are working more at outside jobs.  
One of the major complaints from departing commuter students is that they had not made a personal attachment to the university.

During the question and answer session that followed, one of the major points made was that if most departing commuter students complained that there did not seem to be much attention paid to them in the form of a better student union and more activities for commuter students, then why weren't improvements in these areas listed among the recommendations to improve retention? The response from the committee members was that these points would be added.

Senators were invited to attend a seminar on November 20 by Dr. Vincent Tinto whom many regard as one of the most prominent authorities on retention.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. President Amine reminded the senators of the November 3 meeting of the Executive Committee with Father Biondi and asked for suggestions for any topics to be discussed. A number of things were mentioned which included the Executive Committee's plan to bring up the following subjects.  
a. The administration's plans for moving the faculty forward.  
b. The administration's reaction to reports of student concerns.  
c. An update on reorganization of the University administration.  
d. The administrations plans for investment in new technology.

2. President Amine announced that she had not yet received Father Biondi's selections of the faculty members to be appointed to the Subcommittees of the Board of Trustees.
NEW BUSINESS:
  None

President Amine reminded the senators that the November 17 meeting will be the Second Annual Showcase on Faculty Excellence featuring the 1998 Burlington Northern Award winners.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.