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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, February 17, 1960

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Minutes of the meeting of the Faculty Senate, Wednesday, February 17, 1960

in the Dean's Office at 4:00 p.m.

Members present: Dr. Coder, Mr. Dalton, Mrs. Bogart, Mr. Friesner, Dr. Garwood, Dr. Martin, Dr. Moreland, Dr. Parish, and Dr. McCartney, Chairman.

Members absent: Dr. Herren, Mr. Toalson.

The meeting was called to order by the chairman, Dr. McCartney.

Policy on cheating: Recently the question of cheating has been under special consideration which was brought about by some very glaring instances on our campus. A committee has been set up and they have had several meetings to discuss the problem. At present the committee is working on policies—a statement is being prepared for the catalogue, one for the publicity purposes and one which is to be presented at the next faculty meeting. The committee would welcome any suggestions. Two questionnaires were prepared by the committee for the Improvement of Instruction. These were sent to the faculty and students. When the results are compiled they will be presented.

Introduction to Music Course: The chairman reported regarding a questionnaire which was given to the students enrolled in the course, Introduction to Music. Dr. Herren said they made this survey of the classes with the idea of determining if the general education course was fulfilling the needs, and to discover weaknesses and strengths so that improvement might be made.

Enrollment in the course, Education 27: It was asked if students who have been teaching in the public schools for some time and then come back to complete work for degrees should be required to enroll in the course, Introduction to Education 27. It was explained that the State Department of Education sets up these requirements and it would be their decision whether students must have credit for this specific course or if there might be a substitution.

English Proficiency: In previous discussion regarding proficiency in English, it was suggested that this might be determined by the grades made in the courses, English 1, 2, 26, and Speech 29, in place of the testing. Dr. Coder presented a report of the grades made in these four courses for the last two years. After some study of these grades and percentages, it was suggested that this would not be a good criterion by which to judge as there appears to be a preponderance of high grades particularly in some areas.

Two methods of deciding English proficiency were suggested:

1. Use a standardized test. It was suggested that the faculty members from all departments should help with the reading and marking of these papers.

2. The teachers in the English Department determine which students are proficient. Then the others would be required to enroll in Expository Writing.
The value of the English Proficiency testing was discussed. It was suggested that one of the best uses is to determine if students write well enough to do graduate work. Probably everyone makes errors but the point is that one should be able to go back over a paper and recognize and correct the errors.

Dr. Coder was asked to discuss the problem with his staff and present a plan for the English proficiency at the next meeting of the Senate.

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

E. R. McCartney, Chairman

S. V. Dalton, Secretary