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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, April 20, 1960

FHSU Faculty Senate

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Minutes of the meeting of the Faculty Senate, Wednesday, April 20, 1960
at 4:00 p.m. in the Dean’s Office.

Members present: Pres. Cunningham, Dr. Coder, Mrs. Bogart, Mr. Friesner, Dr. Garwood, Dr. Herren, Dr. Moreland, Dr. Parish, Dr. McCartney, Chairman

Members absent: Mr. Dalton, Dr. Craine, Dr. Martin, Mr. Toalson

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

Final examinations for graduating seniors: The following letter from Dr. Welty was read:

"I think a definite policy should be followed by the entire faculty in regard to the seniors taking the final exams. Some examinations coming on Thursday and Friday morning would allow the instructor time to evaluate the final before handing in the grade on Friday. Should we require all seniors to take the examinations after commencement? I think a college policy should be adopted and notice published in the Leader and all faculty members should be instructed by the administration to conform. Maybe the Senate should decide on the policy." /s/ Raymond L. Welty.

This question was discussed. It was asked if tests were required of the seniors. It was suggested that if a final test is to be given to seniors, it may be given during one of the last regular class periods. This would not necessitate making out two sets of tests for classes having seniors and lower class members. The final grades for all graduating seniors must be in the Registrar’s Office before 5:00 p.m., Friday, May 20.

RECOMMENDATION: The following statements were recommended regarding the final examinations for graduating seniors:

1. Grades for the degree candidates to be reported to the Registrar’s Office before 5:00 p.m., Friday, May 20, are the FINAL GRADES.

2. Any final tests to be required of candidates for degrees may be given during the last one or two meetings of the class.

3. Candidates for degrees will have no class responsibilities after Friday, May 20, 5:00 p.m.

Seconded and carried.

More standardized screening of mental health: Communications from Dr. Flanders, M.D. and the Student Personnel Committee indicated that there seemed to be a need for an evaluation of mental health as well as physical health of students. This was discussed. It was suggested that the physical examination report which is
required of all students should be sent directly to the college by the examining physician. A mental health record might be included. It was suggested that this sort of testing might be very harmful if not handled very carefully. It was asked if there is sufficient personnel to handle this type of testing and information. It was questioned whether this type of information should be given to staff members and others since it appears that it might be very dangerous unless used correctly. It was asked if the Health Committee had studied this question, and suggested that they might be asked to make a recommendation regarding the mental health report. The Institute of Research has been working on the question of testing mental health and they hope to work out a system for testing so that there will be a record of the mental health of every school child. It was decided that this question should be referred to the Health Committee.

Report by President Cunningham: President Cunningham said that he had read the questionnaires regarding faculty meetings and commented on the replies. He said that the college is growing very fast and that the prediction is for continued increase. With the present size of the college, it is possible that the Faculty Senate is not the correct representation of the faculty. There is a plan to move toward divisions of the college as rapidly as possible. It may be that the Faculty Senate should be disbanded and that the chairman of the divisions make up the group to represent the faculty. Then the chairman would be responsible to the faculty members in the division to keep them informed regarding action, policies, etc. The minutes of the meeting should be sent immediately after the meeting to the division heads so that corrections might be made at once. In many colleges this group is called the Council of Deans. Since senate refers to an elected group, that would not be the proper name.

This was discussed.

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

E. R. McCartney, Chairman