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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, January 4, 1962

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Minutes of the meeting of the Faculty Senate, Thursday, January 4, 1962 at 3:30 p.m., in the Dean's Office,

Members present: Dr. Cain, Dr. Dick, Mr. Friesner, Dr. Herren, Dr. Marple, Dr. Parish, Mr. Richards, Dr. Tomanek, Dr. Coder, and Dr. McCartney, Chairman.

Members absent: Dr. Moreland

Also present: Mrs. Hopkins

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

Request for approval of a course. The following request from Dr. Choguill was read: "I wish to submit the following request for approval of a course to start during either the spring or summer sessions of 1962:

"293. Research Projects. Two to four credit hours. Prerequisite, Permission. Research will be carried out under staff supervision on projects selected by the student. This may be used for participants in Chemistry Institutes or for the major program."

This was discussed. It was asked if this would be the same as a problems course, and if so could it be included in the course 260 Special Problems which is in the Catalogue. It was explained that this course is being offered especially for those people enrolled in the Institute. The course requested is designed to cover some of the research which is being done in the Chemistry Area under special grants.

RECOMMENDATION: It was recommended that the Senate approve the course, 293 Research Projects, for two to four credit hours. Seconded and carried.

Workshops and/or courses. All workshops are presented to the Senate for approval. It was asked whether the content for each workshop needs to be approved by the Senate. A workshop may be offered several times using the same content; or with a different content each time it is offered. This is being done now. In the Schedule of Classes, the workshop is shown by listing the number and the word, Workshop, followed by a descriptive title of the content, i.e., 140-340 Workshop (Aero-Space Education) or 140-340 (Developmental Reading), etc. This was discussed.

RECOMMENDATION: It was recommended that the workshop should be subject to the approval of the Faculty Senate but that the specific content of the workshop should be the responsibility of the division. Seconded and carried.

Study Skills Program proposed by the Student Personnel Committee. Copies of the proposal of the Student Personnel Committee were sent to the Senate members previously.

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The details of the plan were discussed. The question regarding credit was discussed. One suggestion was that unless credit is given the plan would not be "popular," and would not last. It was noted that the reading program is offered without credit. Basic Mathematics and Basic English do not give credit as they are considered to be preparatory for college work and are used to correct a deficiency. Since this study skills program is the same type and is not college-caliber work, it should not give credit.

It was observed that requiring students to do things does not accomplish what is intended. If students can be made to realize that they need help and seek help in an effort to do satisfactory work, they get the real value from such aids as well as from the courses. The students need to be motivated. It was pointed out that two examples of this are, 1) the student who is dismissed on probation finds that he really does want to go to college and returns, and 2) the student whose college work is interrupted to serve in the armed services.

It was suggested that students do not realize that they do not know how to study or what may be done in an effort to correct it. For this reason it would be better to start the study skills program the second six weeks after the six-weeks grades have been sent to the students. Use-of-the-library might be included in a study-skills program.

It was suggested that perhaps we should be doing more in the way of aids for the average and above-average students. We have provided several aids for the below-average students but have not added special aids for the exceptional students. Are we failing to give our best students the advantages they should have. Is it better to try to improve the aids for the "fringe" students. Will this tend to give the college the reputation that poorer students get more aid here than at other institutions. Also, it was asked if staff members might examine their methods of communicating with the students--are the directions given very clearly, often enough, and when the students are "ready?"

It was decided that Miss Stouffer and Dr. Dechant of the Student Personnel Committee be asked to meet with the Senate next Thursday to answer questions regarding the Study Skills Program.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

E. R. McCartney, Chairman

Florence Bodmer, Recorder