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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, March 24, 1964

FHSU Faculty Senate

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Report of Com. on Improvement of Instruction regarding the study made on the present form, Evaluation of Teaching. Dr. Dick presented two forms, Proposal for Change in the Form and Evaluation of Teaching. This was discussed. The Senate suggested that

The Proposed Plan be duplicated and sufficient copies sent to the Senate representatives for the division and they (representative) should hand them to the members of the division and get the reactions.

Minutes of the meeting of the Faculty Senate, Tuesday, March 24, 1964, at 4:00 p.m. in the office of the Dean of the Faculty.

Members present: Dr. Bartholomew, Mr. Berland, Dr. Coder, Mr. Dalton, Dr. Edwards, Dr. Falls, Mrs. Hellem, Mr. Marcus, Miss Rowlands, Mr. Spomer, Dr. Staven and Dr. Garwood, Chairman

Members absent: Dr. Pierson, Miss Veed

Others present: Mr. Aldrich, Dr. Dick, Mr. Faulkner

Evaluation of Instruction. Dr. Garwood explained that the Committee on Improvement of Instruction had made a study of the present form--Evaluation of Teaching which has been in use for some time. Dr. Dick, Mr. Faulkner, and Mr. Aldrich, student, were here to explain the thinking of the committee and the proposal for a change in the form. Copies of a Proposal for Evaluation of Instruction and the Evaluation of Teaching which were prepared by the Evaluation of Instruction committee were handed to the Senate members for their consideration.

Dr. Dick and his committee were asked to present their reports.

Dr. Dick reminded the Senate of the statement made in the Fall Conference regarding the improvement of instruction which prompted this study of the present form. The proposal for administering the Evaluation of Instruction is designed to operate through the IBM Data Processing and should improve the method of tabulating the results and also the results would be available to the faculty member involved and only to him. Mr. Faulkner explained this briefly as outlined in the proposal. Mr. Aldrich representing the ASC said that the students would cooperate in helping as outlined in the proposal; and that it appeared that this evaluation was a satisfactory one.

This was discussed. Some of the questions and comments were as follows:

- Where would the evaluating take place?
- Should this be done in the Union, in the Library or classroom?
- Where would the records be kept?
- What about the size of the classes? Would this affect the administration and results of the testing as proposed?
- The students' concern seemed to be that this evaluation should not be done by the student during the time he is in the class but rather after he has completed the course.
- It was asked if it might be administered on a voluntary basis?
- Could the instructor give it to every student in the class?
- Why should the students evaluate the instructor?

Dr. Dick suggested that there must be some trust, and asked why this sort of evaluation should be feared? Perhaps the best critique of an instructor's teaching is by the students in the class.

The problem arises of teacher evaluation sheets in student hands. This seems to be the crux of the entire situation. Is there a better way of administering this evaluation report?

It was suggested that the proposed plan should be duplicated and sufficient copies sent to the Senate representatives for each division and they should hand them to the members of the division and get the reactions of staff members. The Faculty Senate will not meet on March 31 or on April 7. The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 14. The Senate representatives might present this proposal to their division staff members and report reactions to the Senate on Tuesday, April 14.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

John D. Garwood, Chairman

S. V. Dalton, Secretary

Florence Bodmer, Recorder