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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, July 13, 1964

FHSU Faculty Senate

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Minutes of the meeting of the Faculty Senate, Monday, July 13, 1964 at
3:30 p.m. in the Office of the Dean of the Faculty.

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

Member absent: Dr. Coder

Others present: Dr. Craine, Mr. Slechta and Mr. Witt

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

The Social Science area of the Report of the Faculty Senate Committee for
the Investigation of General Education was considered. The Report suggested
the following:

- V. Social Science: 12 hours. Six hours taken must be in history. The
remaining six hours may be elected from any of the remaining areas
without requirement of sequence. All courses carry three hours credit.
1. History of Western Man I
History of Western Man II
 2. History of the Americas I
History of the Americas II
 3. Africa and the Orient I
Africa and the Orient II
 4. Economics I
Economics II
 5. Introduction to Political Science
American Government
 6. Sociology I
Sociology II
 7. Principles of Geography
World Geography

This would supplant the 10 hours in Modern Civilization and Man and Society as
it is at present.

Dr. Staven was asked to report the reasoning of the Committee members in
their planning of this area. Dr. Staven reported that it was the thinking of
the Committee that there had been some concern about the present five-hour
courses as to whether they were providing enough depth. It was thought that

there should be a choice available which the student might make. The Committee believed that the program would not create any problems regarding staffing. The Committee considered this to be an important area and thought that the students should be provided with the best possible in the area.

Dr. Garwood said that three members of the staff from the Social Science Division, Dr. Craine, Mr. Slechta, and Mr. Witt, were here to be consulted about the proposed program.

In a brief review of what had been discussed, Dr. Garwood reported that at a previous meeting, it was pointed out that six hours in the history area and six hours in political science, sociology, economics, and geography was being proposed. Since history is taught in the grade schools and in high schools, the six hours in college, as proposed, would give it a dominating position. At this time it was suggested that three hours of history might be required and permit a choice of six hours in one of the other areas and three hours in another area.

Dr. Craine was asked to give his opinion regarding the program as it would affect the history area. Dr. Craine said first he wished to call attention to item "3. Africa and the Orient I and II." He said that such a course was virtually impossible as a qualified instructor would be almost impossible to locate. He suggested that Item "3" should be eliminated.

The idea of the sequence is a fine one but this would require the classes to be much smaller, Dr. Craine said. Actually if a sequence is followed, it would require more staff members and would have to be handled similar to the English I and 2 classes. This plan would present the problem of failures and also those who wait and take the course late in the college program. Dr. Craine pointed out that the Modern Civilization course as it is taught at FHKSC is the only course of this kind which is accepted by K.U. from any other college in Kansas. That is, they will accept this course for transfer but not a similar course as taught in any of the other Kansas colleges. K.U. students take this course here in our summer sessions and transfer the credit.

Dr. Craine said that they are in a position to give a choice between American History and Modern Civilization with the present staff. It is possible that there might be a rush into the American History course just at first as students would think of it as being an "escape" from the Modern Civilization course.

It was suggested that the Social Science area be set up to require three hours in history and six hours in any one of the other areas and then three in another area.

Dr. Craine said that the Modern Civilization course is not actually a history course and it is not even an introduction to the history area. The emphasis in the Modern Civilization is placed on feelings and ideas in an attempt to explain how civilization reached its present status.

Mr. Slechta said that he wished to speak for the present Modern Civilization course. He said that what we have in this course is the best that he has seen anywhere. In the political science area, it is required as a prerequisite.

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If the course is to be spread out over two semesters, this would defeat the purpose for the political science area. Mr. Slechta was asked if there could be a minimum of three credit hours; or go to a sequence of six hours; or leave it at the present five hours. He said that it is very satisfactory as it is giving five credit hours and that to add to it would not be advantageous. If it is to be changed to two 3-hr courses the objective would have to be changed.

Mr. Dalton said that transcripts which come from other colleges for students who are transferring have to be checked against the catalogs in an attempt to interpret the course transferred to see if it is equal to our requirements.

It was suggested that the Modern Civilization course might be left as it is and then require 11 hours in social science, five of which would be Modern Civilization. This would permit students to select six hours from the other four categories.

There was a discussion regarding the freedom of choice by students. It was asked if it was assumed that every student must take Modern Civilization, i.e., it is absolutely essential. The opinion seemed to be general that Modern Civilization represents an extremely important part of the general education program.

Mr. Witt was asked regarding the need for Modern Civilization in the Sociology area. He said that he agreed that this course is a very vital part of a college education, and that it is required in the sociology area.

Dr. Staven said that the committee had studied the general education program very carefully before making the report but he felt that some ideas had been given in this meeting which they had not considered, and that perhaps the suggested program should be changed in the light of this discussion.

It was asked if the Modern Civilization course could be taught by someone other than a history faculty member. Dr. Craine explained that this course could be taught from the standpoint of art, music, etc., and is not necessarily a history course. For the coming year there will be a staff member who has a background in humanities teaching the Modern Civilization. This will give a different approach. The big problem connected with the teaching of this course is to find a suitable textbook. It would be best if it could be taught as a readings course but the lower division students cannot seem to get along without a textbook and even the upper classmen seem to have to have a text in most classes.

It was asked if this course should be sophomore or high level. Generally speaking, Dr. Craine said it would be better if it could be on the junior level.

Mr. Slechta asked what was intended in the Report by the course Introduction to Political Science. At present there is no such course. The Senate agreed that the present American Government was satisfactory.

Dr. Garwood said that at the next meeting, Monday, July 20, the Senate would discuss the Physical Education and Humanities areas. He said he would

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compile in capsule form what has been discussed in these meetings as it appears there is some unanimity of opinion in certain areas.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

John D. Garwood, Chairman

S. V. Dalton, Secretary

Florence Bodmer, Recorder