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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, October 15, 1963

FHSU Faculty Senate

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Discussion: Advising students - Mr. Stones
met with Senate to present some
questions encountered in the Place-
ment Office in this regard.

To: Pres. Office
10-18-63

Minutes of the meeting of the Faculty Senate, Tuesday, October 15, 1963 at
4:00 p.m. in the Dean's Office.

Members present: Dr. Bartholomew, Mr. Berland, Dr. Falls, Mrs. Hellem,
Mr. Marcus, Dr. Pierson, Miss Rowlands, Dr. Sackett,
Mr. Spomer, Miss Veed, and Dr. Garwood, Chairman.

Members absent: Dr. Coder, Mr. Dalton, Dr. Staven.

Others present: Mr. Stones.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Garwood, chairman. He said that the minutes of the last two meetings of the Faculty Senate will be attached to the Faculty Bulletin which is to be put in the mail in the next day or two.

Advising. Dr. Garwood said that the advising had been the topic of discussion at the last two meetings, and in line with this, Mr. Stones was at the meeting today to present some ideas and views of the advising in the light of his experiences in the placement of students. Dr. Garwood asked Mr. Stones to present his ideas to the Senate at this time.

Mr. Stones said that at the end of the first semester of the senior year, students are requested to come to his office and leave the information for their credentials. It has been his observation that many of these students do not have a very clear idea about what occupations are available or occupations in which they might be interested. He wondered if the advisors might be more helpful to entering college freshmen, especially those who are vague about what they wish to do, in suggesting fields, occupations, etc. The advisors who help the group not having a specific area in mind have been content because of lack of time, etc., with enrolling the students in the general education courses and this is the extent of the counselling. The divisions send out brochures and these might include occupations for which study in that division would lead students.

It was asked if the occupational or interest testing which is directed by Dr. Dechant might be a good way for these students to be helped in the selection of a field of interest.

It was noted that many instructors are interested in promoting their own fields and students who come to inquire about fields which are available may find instructors anxious and ready to "promote" the subject area. This is one of the methods utilized in gaining increased enrollments in a particular area.

The instructors who are advising students who do not have a declared area of interest may not have sufficient time to discuss information of an occupational nature.

The program for Career Day has for its purpose the explanation of the different areas, and occupations which study in an area may lead.

In many of the high schools it may be that there is very little opportunity for a student to be made aware of occupations available. Students may think they are interested in a certain area but they may come with a very shallow background in the area. Many students change their minds as they progress through college.

It was suggested that students should be directed to the great amount of material to be found in the documents areas of the Library and also that there is a great deal of material to be found catalogued in the card files and also in the reference area of the library.

It was asked how can one assess what is being done and how are such results being used? Is there a way to stimulate the student to do some exploring such as going to the library, reading, contacting instructors, advisors, etc? Are freshmen students ready for this type of counselling or does he regard this as something to be done later? What about the student-principal conference which is held on the campus? Could this be used to advantage in this respect. Should the Senate study this problem to determine whether there is a need, what is being done, etc? It was felt that each division needs to establish a closer relationship with the Placement Office so that advisors may be cognizant of opportunities available in their field. Advisees need to have this information brought to their attention continually.

Dr. Garwood announced that the Faculty Senate would not meet October 22 nor 29; and that the next meeting will be November 5.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

John D. Garwood, Chairman

Standlee V. Dalton, Secretary

Florence Bodmer, Recorder