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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, March 1, 1966

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Report: Final Examination-Commencement Policies prepared by Mr. Blickenstaff presented to Senate. Discussed.
Application for new course--Nurse Education--30. Nursing I. 6 cr. hrs. This course approved. Delete courses 28 and 60.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Faculty Senate, Tuesday, March 1, 1966, at 3:30 p.m. in the Office of the Dean of the Faculty.

Members present: Mrs. Cobb, Mr. Dalton, Dr. Edwards, Mr. Evans, Miss Felten, Dr. Fleharty, Mrs. Hoffman, Dr. Hollister, Dr. Proctor, Mr. Osborne, Dr. Rice, Mr. Schmidt and Dr. Garwood, Chairman.

Also present: Mr. Blickenstaff.

The meeting was called to order by the chairman, Dr. Garwood, who said that Mr. Blickenstaff would present his report regarding policies on final examinations.

The report dealt with Final Examination-Commencement Policies of a group of colleges and universities. Mr. Blickenstaff said that copies of this report were sent to Senate members previously for their study.

Mr. Blickenstaff explained the selection of colleges to whom he sent the questionnaires. A copy of the report is attached.

In the report reference was made to the "Commencement Exercises for Recognition Rather than for Diplomas," which appeared in College and University, Spring, 1965. This explains the procedure followed by the University of Oregon.

The discussion included the following:

1. It was asked if the statement that President Cunningham makes to the graduates at Commencement would have to be changed if this plan were to be followed. The statement used at Oregon University was read.
2. Mr. Dalton explained that this was the procedure used here many years ago. At that time it was a big problem to go over the records to determine those who had completed the requirements for graduation. Students who participate in the Commencement and do not have the requirements completed may or may not complete the work the following session and those who wait until later always have problems.
3. It was suggested that when the student files his application for a degree that he should be well aware of the deficiencies which should be completed before graduation.

4. The final examination schedule has not always been used for testing. Some instructors do not give a test but meet the class for a few minutes and then dismiss them. The final examination should cover the complete course and is a means of getting students to go over all the material and get the general objective of the course.
5. In the Oregon plan all the grades would be brought in at the same time. Not all those on the senior list would graduate unless they completed all the requirements.

RECOMMENDED: It was recommended that all seniors be required to take final examination at the regularly scheduled time.

It was suggested that since every faculty member is involved that this should be brought to the attention of the divisions and the staff before action is taken. The motion was withdrawn.

6. The question was raised as to how near to graduation should students be before they would be allowed to participate in this kind of commencement program.
7. The printed program has been the official program and the names printed are those who actually graduate. With the Oregon University plan, there would be a notation on the program regarding this. All students who participate in the Commencement might be those who actually graduate and the names would not be read unless they did graduate.
8. It was asked if this would affect our graduates "with distinction." The consensus was that it would not since this is determined on the work of the seven semesters previous to graduation.
9. One Senate member noted that at his graduation a card with his name on it was given to each person graduating, the graduate handed the card to the Dean as he came to the platform where his name was read. The printed program followed no order within the area of study and some not graduating had their names in the program.

Dr. Garwood asked that the members of the Senate take this to their division meeting and get the opinion of the division members. It was suggested that it would be well to read and study the Oregon University plan.

Application for new course--Nurse Education. The following course was presented:

30. Nursing I. 6 cr. hrs. This course is designed to help the student develop the skills of nursing as derived from the application of principles from the psychosocial, physical and biological sciences to the care of individual patients. It provides the opportunity to develop understandings, attitudes and skills fundamental to good interpersonal relations.

Mrs. Cobb explained that the Nurse Education division is hoping to move into the baccalaureate program and this course relates to that change. The courses 28 Introduction to Nursing and 60 Medical-Surgical Nursing I, will be dropped and this material will be covered in the new course. The student will be expected to acquire the following beginning skills: communication, problem-solving, manual, and teaching. This course would cut down on the number of laboratory hours. It would be offered each spring semester and is a sophomore course. The present course, Medical-Surgical Nursing I, has been taught at the hospital and the 28 Introduction to Nursing has been taught on the campus. This course would be the first experience with actual patients. It was explained that in going from a diploma to the baccalaureate degree program many of the present courses will be changed.

This was discussed.

RECOMMENDATION: It was recommended that courses 28 and 60 be removed from the catalog and that 30 Nursing I for 6 cr. hrs. be approved. Seconded and carried.

Dr. Garwood said that the question of "dead week" was the next item of business. Copies of the discussion were distributed to the members and it was suggested that members discuss this with their division staffs. Dr. Garwood explained that the "dead week" was established in answer to the protests of students about the many tests which were given just preceding the semester finals. Sometimes these actually amounted to the final examination. Students complained because they had two and three of these tests in one day. It was the abuse of this testing which brought the "dead week" to the attention of the administration.

The Faculty Senate will not meet on March 8 and 15, and the next meeting will be March 23, it was announced.

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p. m.

John D. Garwood, Chairman

Standlee V. Dalton, Secretary

Florence Bodmer, Recorder