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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, November 14, 1983

FHSU Faculty Senate

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FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

November 14, 1983

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Bill Welch, Faculty Senate President, at 3:30 p.m. in the Frontier Room of the Memorial Union.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Mr. Frank Nichols, Dr. Frank Potter, Mr. Jack Logan, Ms. Martha Eining, Ms. Sandra Rupp, Dr. Larry Nicholson, Dr. Marcia Bannister, Dr. Stephen Shapiro, Dr. John Ratzlaff, Dr. Bill Rickman, Dr. Billy Daley, Dr. Bill Robinson, Dr. Allan Miller, Dr. Richard Leeson, Mr. Stephen Clarke, Dr. Gary Arbogast, Dr. Mark Giese, Dr. Robert Luehrs, Mr. Glen McNeil, Mr. Don Barton, Dr. Elton Beougher, Dr. Jeffrey Barnett, Dr. William Wilkins, Dr. Lewis Miller, Ms. Rose Brungardt, Ms. Marilyn Scheuerman, Dr. Stephen Tramel, Dr. William Welch, Dr. Richard Heil, Dr. Robert Markley.

Alternates: Dr. Robert Nicholson for Mr. Elton Schroder, Dr. Albert Geritz for Dr. Carl Singleton, Dr. Gerry Cox for Dr. Nevell Razak.

The following members were absent: Dr. John McGaugh, Dr. Jean Salien.

Guests: Mr. Terry Weber, KFHS/CH 12; Dr. Maurice Witten, Chairperson, Department of Physics; Dr. James Murphy, Vice President for Academic Affairs; Ms. Lorraine Kee, FHSU Leader.

The minutes of the October 7, 1983 meeting were approved as distributed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The Senate Presidents of the Regents institutions met in Topeka on Friday, October 20, after having attended the Board of Regents meetings on both Thursday and Friday. Topics of discussion included Early Retirement, Employee Contracts, and the Regents Program Review. The contract issue was extensively discussed with Mr. Bill Kauffman, the Board of Regents lawyer. The Senate Presidents will be meeting and attending the Board of Regents meetings on the FHSU campus, November 17 and 18.
2. An Early Retirement program was presented by COP to the Board of Regents for approval at the October meeting. The program, as proposed, allows incentives for partial retirement in the age range of 60 to 65. The incentives are T.I.A.A. contributions based on a full time salary and health insurance benefits would continue for contracts of fractions of a full time load of greater than .24 up to .50. In addition a retirement counselor would be available on each campus. A question about the proposal delayed a vote on it and the proposal will most likely be considered again this month.
3. COCAO's recommendation to COP to not use system wide employment con-

tracts created some pressure, by the Board of Regents, on COP. As a result COCAO has been requested by COP to recommend to them, approximately within a month, employee contract forms. It now appears that employee contract forms will be used on a system wide basis for the 1984-85 academic year. COCAO continues to receive input into this matter from the faculty senate presidents. On our campus the lines of communication have, and continue to be, wide open on this issue between both President Tomanek, Vice President Murphy, and other interested parties.

4. During their stay on our campus the Board of Regents will have a luncheon meeting with some of our students and a breakfast meeting with faculty. The faculty in attendance at the breakfast will be the faculty senate officers and a few other faculty to represent the major student populations and interest on campus. The faculty senate officers welcome any input that you would like to give them regarding appropriate points of discussion at this meeting.
5. About thirty legislators will be on our campus November 29 and 30, and the faculty senate officers and a few other faculty members will be interacting with them during part of their visit.
6. The Regents Program Review recommendations were submitted to all of the regents schools before the recommendations were made public. On our campus a procedure, which involved both faculty and administrators, to review these recommendations led to a document, signed by President Tomanek, that was sent to every Board of Regents member. The document clearly outlined many good reasons for retaining the Masters Degree Program in Chemistry.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive:

Dr. Welch discussed committee assignments and procedures. He indicated that our By-Laws do not clearly suggest procedures for distributing work throughout the various standing committees. He indicated that the By-Laws and Standing Rules committee will look into this issue and that the executive committee has determined the procedure to be followed this year. Topics can be referred to the standing committee for action by the full senate or by the executive committee.

Academic Affairs:

The Chairperson of Academic Affairs, Dr. Mark Giese, presented the following motions:

1. Motion: To accept a new course entitled Psychology 245 - "Motivation." The course is not a general education offering.

No discussion; motion passed.

2. Motion: To accept changes made in the course Psychology 350 - "Current Issues in Psychology." Dr. Markley moved to table the motion. Seconded by Dr. Tramel. Motion passed.
3. Motion: To accept a new major, a Physical Science major, for education students. The students will become certified to teach in two areas of physical science by choosing from three physical science options.

No discussion; motion passed.

4. Motion: To request that the present policy for improving a grade in a course be replaced by the former policy as stated in the 1981-83 FHSU catalog, which indicates, "A student may attempt to improve the grade in a resident course only by repeating the course in residence. All grades remain on the student's transcript and the grade for the last enrollment in the course will be used in determining grade points."

The following discussion ensued: Dr. Allan Miller asked if grades were to be averaged on repeat classes. Dr. Welch read the current policy on repeat courses, indicating that this policy was changed over the Summer. He indicated that currently, the best grade, whenever it occurs, will be used for the calculation of the G.P.A.

Dr. Tramel wondered why the committee felt it was better for the last grade to be used as opposed to the best grade for calculation of G.P.A. Ms. Brungardt responded to this question by indicating that a student's transcript should reflect current knowledge. Dr. Wilkins added that the transcript should also reflect a student's past experience with a repeat course. Dr. Welch indicated that this has been done by drawing a line through all previous course enrollments, therefore, not completely removing from the transcript.

Dr. Allan Miller asked if the proposed procedure was typical of other universities' policies. Dr. Welch responded saying that this was the policy at the five universities with which he had been associated. Dr. Markley asked if there was in fact a problem with the old procedure, and what condition had brought about this change. Dr. Murphy said that there does not necessarily have to be a problem before a procedure is changed. The attempt in this case was to improve upon the existing procedure.

Dr. Potter indicated that this new policy was to help students accept greater responsibility.

No further discussion; motion passed.

5. Motion: To retain the current policy on the handling of grades for courses transferred for credit to FHSU.

The following discussion ensued: Dr. Allan Miller asked why there had to be a motion to support an already existing policy. Dr. Welch said that the Senate was asked to examine the existing policy because there were some concerns about the policy.

Dr. Ratzlaff asked about the loose grade. Dr. Giese and Dr. Welch clarified what base G.P.A. was as related to transfer students.

Dr. Robinson asked what the reason would be for not using our existing policy. Dr. Welch indicated that some four-year institutions in Kansas do not use the policy regarding transfer course grades that FHSU uses.

There was no further discussion, motion passed.

By-Laws and Standing Rules:

Mr. Nichols reported that the vote concerning the new By-Laws Amendments was passed 56-0 in favor of the new amendments.

Student Affairs:

No report.

University Affairs:

No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Dr. Welch discussed the topic of Local Procedures for Regents Program Review. About a year ago the Regents asked each institution to determine their own review procedures. Dr. Welch indicated that the executive committee will continue to discuss the development of the procedures until clarification of the use of the procedures is received from the Board of Regents.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Welch discussed the progress of the School of Arts and Sciences General Education Review. He asked Dr. Tramel (chairperson of the committee) about the review procedure. Dr. Tramel indicated that the review was to proceed as such: Humanities, Natural Science and Mathematics, and Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Dr. Welch indicated that the report in the Humanities Area was almost complete. When each area report is completed they will be presented to the Academic Affairs Committee for review.

Dr. Robinson moved to adjourn. Motion seconded by Mr. McNeil. Motion passed at 4:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary W. Arbogast
Faculty Senate Secretary