

11-3-1986

Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, November 3, 1986

FHSU Faculty Senate

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FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

November 3, 1986

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Mark Giese, President of the Faculty Senate, at 3:30 p.m. in the Pioneer Lounge of the Memorial Union.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Dr. Brent Spaulding, Mr. Frank Nichols, Dr. Zoran Stevanov, Dr. Thomas Wenke, Mr. Jack Logan, Ms. Joan Rumpel, Dr. Jim Rucker, Dr. Delbert Marshall, Dr. Fred Britten, Dr. Lloyd Frerer, Dr. John Ratzlaff, Dr. Bill Rickman, Dr. Billy Daley, Dr. Ninia Smith, Dr. Mike Horvath (alternate for Dr. Art Hoernicke), Dr. Paul Gatschet, Mr. David Ison, Ms. Leona Pfeifer, Dr. Mark Giese, Dr. Tom Kerns, Dr. John Klier, Dr. Merlene Lyman, Mr. Jim Walters, Mr. Marc Campbell, Dr. Jeffrey Barnett, Dr. Ronald Sandstrom, Dr. Lewis Miller, Dr. Martin Shapiro, Ms. Mary Anne Kennedy, Ms. Eileen Curl, Dr. Paul Faber, Dr. Roger Pruitt, Dr. Larry Gould, Dr. Robert Markley, Dr. Phyllis Tiffany, Dr. Nevell Razak.

Members absent: Dr. Robert Nicholson.

Also present: Dr. Leland Bartholomew, Dr. Cathy Hall.

The minutes of the October 7, 1986, meeting were approved. The following clarifications were made:

In Dr. Hoernicke's statement on page 6 of the minutes:

1. have line 7 read "focus on one or another (liberal arts or education) rather than focus on"
2. line 13: insert after other ", liberal arts or education,"
3. line 15: insert after that ",the Regents review process,"

Announcements: Dr. Giese received no comments or questions on the attached announcements. He commented that a copy of the resolution that left campus following the October meeting is attached.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS: Dr. Ron Sandstrom presented the following motions from the Academic Affairs Committee:

1. Approval of New Courses:

History 511/711: The Classical World: 3 cr. hours, non-gen. ed. Dr. Sandstrom commented that the course combines two courses, History of Greece and History of Rome. The motion passed unanimously.

History 525/725: Early Modern Europe and the French Revolution: 3 cr. hours, non-gen. ed. Dr. Sandstrom commented that the course combines two courses, Early Modern Europe and The French Revolution. The motion passed unanimously.

Political Science 555/755: Politics and Information Management: 3 cr. hours, non-gen. ed. This is a new course offering. Dr. Sandstrom commented that this is not a computer course as such, but rather focuses on the impact of new technology in decision processes and the new power structure. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Academic Affairs also brought to the floor of Senate a motion to approve an optional track for satisfying general education requirements. The proposal comes with the approval of the Council of Deans, Vice President Murphy and the General Education Committee.

Reason for the change:

Many transfer students have a great deal of difficulty trying to fit within the two years major requirements as well as career requirements along with the nine hour upper division general education requirement.

Features of the proposal:

1. This is an optional path.
2. The 42 hour General Education Program still remains.
3. The 9-hour upper division requirement will be discontinued for our "native" students (those students not using the Transfer/Articulation Agreement).
4. General Education courses taught at a participating community college which are to be used as part of the students' 42-hour G.E. program would have to be approved in advance by the department and by the Arts and Sciences General Education Committee. If you have a course in your department which is approved for G.E. credit, before a student can substitute a course from the community college for that course that particular course would have to be approved by your department and by the Arts and Sciences G.E. Committee. Courses will be approved in general, not on an individual basis.
5. Those transfer students that elect to use the T/A Agreement would have to complete 9 hours of upper division G.E.

Comments from Dr. Bartholomew concerning the proposal:

1. We have to continue the present arrangement because that is a matter of agreement among the Regents schools and the community colleges.
2. Presently the arrangements are that the community colleges offer G.E. programs of their own and they are minimally 30-hour programs which may include courses we may regard as courses in the major program. Our program does not let our native students use major courses to satisfy G.E. requirements.
3. The proposal is a 42-hour G.E. track which would have the same distribution as we have in our G.E. program.
 - a. Students would take more G.E. courses and less courses in the major at the community colleges.
4. We will start with getting the nine community colleges in our area on line, but students from other community colleges would have the opportunity to come in under the arrangement.
5. Community college courses are reviewed every year to determine whether or not they are equivalent to ours. They would be reviewed as to suitability for satisfying G.E. requirements.
6. The off-campus centers like this arrangement as it gives them an opportunity to determine what the students will take at the community colleges.

7. One of the projects going on this year is to lay out contractual arrangements with the individual community colleges with respect to our individual programs here which will save problems with students when they transfer to FHSU.

Dr. Pruitt commented that he felt the proposal not to require nine hours of upper division G.E. courses from all transfer students is a step backwards. Dr. Bartholomew said he felt the upper division courses were created for political reasons rather than philosophical ones. Dr. Pruitt asked what will happen to the upper division courses under the new proposal. Dr. Bartholomew said they will still be there and available for anyone to take. Dr. Pruitt was concerned with the lower enrollments in upper division courses if they are not required. The effect remains to be seen.

Dr. Gatschet is concerned with the number of courses coming in here from community colleges which the students took in outreach programs. Dr. Bartholomew said statistical information on that is available in Dr. Murphy's office. Dr. Gatschet is concerned about what is really going on in those outreach programs.

Dr. Razak commented that he felt we are not entering into any new territory as chairmen evaluate community college courses once a year. He also felt that eliminating upper division requirements would not mean wholesale moving away from upper division courses.

Dr. Rickman asked if this proposal had any effect on the degree requirement to have forty hours of upper division courses. Dr. Bartholomew said it did not.

Dr. Rickman asked Dr. Bartholomew to summarize the benefits of the new proposal to the potential student who is transferring in here from a community college. Dr. Bartholomew said it would depend to some extent on what particular program that student is in. If the student is in any teacher education program there will be substantial benefits. In the teacher certification program there are 27 hours of professional education to take here and the remainder of the major program. If they are going for a B.A. degree there is the ten hour foreign language requirement. If they have to take the nine hours of upper division general education they may have as high as ninety hours to take here, although they have transferred in sixty hours from the community college. The benefit is greater for the larger major hour program. The community college ambassadors are also going to encourage foreign language to be taught at the community colleges so that B.A. students can get part of that requirement out of the way there.

Dr. Gould asked how we compare to other Regent schools. Dr. Bartholomew said that the "Big 3" institutions don't pay any attention to the articulation agreement. They say that each individual college has its own general education program and that the articulation agreement doesn't apply to them. Pittsburg State has recently adopted a forty-two hour general education requirement. Dr. Markley asked if we could adopt the policy of the "Big 3". Dr. Bartholomew said he would not want to. One of the things that makes FHSU distinctive is that we have a university-wide general education program.

Some community colleges teach foreign languages and some do not. Ms. Pfeifer is concerned with the quality of the teaching at the community colleges in foreign languages. Dr. Horvath asked if this change in general education accepted from the community colleges will be perceived as backing off from quality at FHSU. Dr. Bartholomew does not think so. He thinks they will have a higher quality program if they have forty-two hours of general education rather than the current thirty-hour requirement which is really less than that.

Dr. Frerer is concerned that there is a potential downside in not requiring our native students to have nine hours of upper division general education. Dr. Bartholomew said he does not believe there will be a wholesale slide out of the upper division courses.

Dr. Marshall asked if the impacts have been thoroughly investigated.

Dr. Gould asked about the extent of the problem with the current general education requirements. Dr. Bartholomew said he feels the problem is the current poor general education program the transfer students have. The proposed program would give us more opportunity to control the general education program; there will be a net gain.

The motion to accept the proposal passed 20-15.

UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS: No report.

STUDENT AFFAIRS: No report.

BY-LAWS AND STANDING RULES: No Report.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dr. Klier, Senate representative on the University Library Committee expressed concern with the retention of 10% of the OOE budget as regards the library. He handed out a document from Dr. Garry Warren concerning this matter. (Due to the length of the document, it is not reproduced here; faculty members may ask their Senators to see the copies they have.) Before the retention of the 10%, the library's budget was identical to last year. Even if the additional funds are returned the library is facing some problems, specifically in the area of rising periodical costs. There is about a 10% inflation factor on these periodicals. The net result is there will be a resulting decrease in funds available. The library may be forced to eliminate unnecessary materials. Also, the OCLC network increase forced the library to absorb an additional \$12,144 within its own budget. Because of this, the library cut into the book budget. There is essentially no budget for standing book orders. If present conditions continue, the situation will get worse. Dr. Klier feels that the weakness in our library has dangerous implications in our ability to offer advanced degrees. Dr. Klier believes that the Senate must take steps to show the administration its support for the maintenance and the improvement of the library. It should be a major goal, and the Senate should show support for the proposed library improvements that were not funded last year.

Dr. Klier moved that we invite Dr. Warren to appear before the Senate to discuss the situation. Seconded by Dr. Ratzlaff. Motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Giese numbered the Senators off for assignment to break-out groups headed by Dr. Frerer, Dr. Smith, Dr. Faber and Mr. Nichols. Groups are to consider priorities and program improvements.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Rumpel, Secretary
Faculty Senate