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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, April 4, 1994

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Minutes of the Fort Hays State University
Faculty Senate
April 4, 1994

A. President Dianna Koerner called the meeting of the Faculty Senate to order in the Pioneer Lounge Room of the Memorial Union on April 4, 1994 at 3:35 p.m.

B. Senators present were Harry Teitelbaum (for Bill Daley and Warren Shaffer), Robert Stephenson (for Garry Brower), Martha Holmes, Fred Britten, Michael Madden, Dale McKemy, Joan Rumpel, Sandra Rupp, Max Rumpel, Stephen Shapiro, Lance Lippert, John Durham, Donna Ortiz, Albert Geritz, Michael Meade (for Richard Leeson), Jean Salien, Gary Millhollen, Helen Miles, John Zody, Norman Caulfield, Merlene Lyman, Anita Gordon-Gilmore, Charles Votaw, Mohammand Riazi, Lewis Miller, Martin Shapiro, Michelle Hull-Knowles, Jo Ann Doan (for Eileen Deges Curl), Stephen Tramel (for Richard Hughen), Maurice Witten, Richard Heil, Robert Markley, Marc Pratarelli, and Michael Rettig.

Senators absent were Michael Jilg, Ralph Gamble, Gerry Cox, and Herb Zook.

The Guests of the Senate were Vice-Provost James Forsythe, Provost Rodolfo Arevalo and Dr. Cliff Edwards, Chair, English Department.

C. The minutes of the March 8, 1994 meeting were approved.

D. Announcements
   1. See agenda for written announcements.
   2. President Koerner met with President Edward Hammond on April 1 instead of April 8 as printed (announcement #1).

   Topics of discussion included the General Education Program and its impact on majors. Total hours for a major should be 124 ± 3 hrs. Degrees requiring more than this need to be reexamined and perhaps no longer termed a 4 year degree but rather a 5 year degree.

   Gerry Cox informed the President that he would be resigning as president-elect of the Faculty Senate since he has taken a new job out of state.

   3. External Affairs Chair, Jean Salien and President Dianna Koerner had tentatively decided to invite the BOR members to visit FHSU on May 4. However, since President Hammond had invited the new BOR members to visit on April 14 it didn't make much sense for them to return so quickly. Therefore a letter will be sent this spring inviting them to visit on October 3, which is also a Faculty Senate meeting day. The regents will then have an opportunity to address the senate, as well as spend a day with faculty.

   4. Vice-Provost James Forsythe addressed the senate about vitaes and the Course Approval Process.

   Faculty will soon be able to update their vitaes from their own computers. Vitaes are accessed by a variety of individuals and groups for information. Therefore, it is important that the information be as current as possible.

   There are going to be some changes in the form used for a course change. A cover page will be used so less retyping and mistakes will be made. Vice-Provost will be making some suggestions to President Koerner about how to speed up the course approval process. Another problem is that we seem to add courses but do not delete any that are no longer being taught on a regular basis.

E. Standing Committees
   1. Academic Affairs -- Senator Martha Holmes
      a. Motion 1: The Faculty Senate recommends approval of the following courses for inclusion in the General Education Program (results of the committee voting follow the course title):

         PHIL 100 General Logic (8-0-0)
         ENG 327 Introduction to Fiction (9-0-0)
         ENG 126 Introduction to Literature (9-0-0)
         MUS 151 Listening to Music (9-0-0)

         Course descriptions were printed in the agenda. The above courses are very similar to the courses taught under the old General Education Program.

         Motion passed.

      b. The Academic Affairs Committee would like to meet with the Nursing Department about the Pass/NC policy and any other department that may be interested in using this policy in their area.

      c. Foreign Languages courses previously approved for the General Education Program by the Faculty Senate have been returned by the Vice-Provost (see memorandum in agenda). A response by the Foreign Language to this memorandum was made (attachment A).

         President Koerner stated that when courses have not been approved upon recommendation of the faculty this then becomes an issue for the Vice-Provost and the concerned department to discuss. After these issues have been taken care of then the courses may come back before the senate.

         Senator Stephen Tramel moved 1) that the Faculty Senate endorse the reply by the Foreign Languages Department of March 31 to the Vice-Provost's memorandum of March 22, and 2) the Faculty Senate strongly urge the Vice-Provost to reconsider the rejection of the Foreign Languages Courses. Senator Robert Markley seconded the motion.

         Senator Martha Holmes objected to the whole-hearted support of the reply by the Foreign Languages Department, particularly the paragraph about irregularities occurring in Academic Affairs when these courses were discussed. There were no irregularities. A quorum voted and appropriate alternates were present for members that could not attend.

         Senator Gary Millhollen asked how the students were counted when determining the number taking foreign languages for general education. Were all students majoring in Arts and Sciences not counted even if they were Bachelor of Science students?
Foreign Languages Department Chair, Ruth Firestone responded that it was very difficult to count, especially in areas where either a B.S. or B.A. could be earned. The primary interest was to determine how many other colleges outside of Arts and Sciences had students taking foreign languages. It doesn't appear that students outside of Arts and Sciences are being served by the current general education courses offered in foreign languages.

Senator Helen Miles asked if foreign languages could be counted as meeting general education requirements and also in the B.A. degree? President Koerner responded no to the question.

Chair Ruth Firestone responded to Senator Holmes comment. Chair Firestone indicated that she should of called Senator Holmes and asked about what had transpired at the Academic Affairs meeting. Perhaps miscommunication is also responsible for some of the inaccuracies in the Vice-Provost's memorandum.

Senator Fred Britten asked what the procedure has been in the past for courses passed by Faculty Senate and not approved by administration. Senator Britten felt that it might be more productive for the department to meet with the Vice-Provost to work out their concerns and then return to the senate.

President Koerner indicated that has been the procedure in the past.

Senator John Durham felt that the Foreign Languages Department and Vice-Provost should discuss the following: 1) a specific discussion and agreement about the impact on enrollment and faculty positions from teaching these courses, 2) consideration of the issue of duplication with existing courses (the memorandum from the Vice-Provost was not very specific about this concern), and 3) the treatment of these courses within Academic Affairs and whether matters were handling appropriately.

Senator Durham moved to table the motion. Senator Richard Heil seconded the motion.

Senator Stephen Tramel would also like the description in the humanities area of General Education Program to be taken into account. The General Education Committee spent considerable time putting together RFPs (request for proposals) that were extremely detailed in order to translate the senate's intention into guidelines for courses appropriate for each area of the general education program. Senator Tramel feels that the courses proposed by foreign language do a good job of meeting this description.

Senator Max Rumpel supported the motion to table. Perhaps the senate acted hastily in approving the foreign languages courses since there currently seems to be a number of unresolved issues.

Senator Jean Salien feels that the issues were adequately addressed in a meeting with Academic Affairs. Many of the issues that have recently arisen had already been answered.

Senator Albert Geritz commented that although procedure is important it sometimes gets in the way of offering students good courses. He felt that the foreign languages courses were good courses.

Senator Richard Heil pointed out that according to parliamentary procedure a motion to table is not debatable.

Motion to table passed.

Senator John Durham moved to request that the Foreign Languages Department and the Vice-Provost discuss student enrollment, faculty positions, duplication of existing courses and other matters deemed appropriate. Senator Robert Markley seconded the motion.

Senator Durham commented that the senate has virtually no power. The Vice-Provost has the power to deny these courses and if the senate is to prevail then the Vice-Provost must be convinced that these are the right courses to approve.

Senator Robert Markley pointed out that a fourth area of discussion in this meeting must be the goals and objectives of the General Education Program. President Koerner included that under the other matters mentioned by Senator Durham.

Provost Rodolfo Arevalo did not feel that we would be in this position if the two committees (General Education Committee and Academic Affairs) of the senate with opposing recommendations had met and discussed this issue before it came before the senate. Many senators had not seen the course syllabi and yet the senate voted to approve these courses.

Senator Martha Holmes thought that this idea had merit. President Koerner commented that she would be contacting Academic Affairs and the General Education Committee for the minutes concerning the discussion of the foreign languages courses.

Senator Norman Caulfield felt that in the future making the course syllabi available to senators might avoid the problem of senators approving something they haven't seen.

President Koerner suggested making the course syllabi for the foreign languages courses available on PROFS rather than sending hard copies.

Senator Jean Salien pointed out that the courses are survey courses and introductory books are available for all three areas of civilization being proposed.

Senator John Durham moved to request that the Foreign Languages Department Chair, Ruth Firestone respond that it was very difficult to count, especially in areas where either a B.S. or B.A. could be earned. The primary interest was to determine how many other colleges outside of Arts and Sciences had students taking foreign languages. It doesn't appear that students outside of Arts and Sciences are being served by the current general education courses offered in foreign languages.

Whether the courses reversed than did the courses have to come back before the senate?

President Koerner said that they would need to come back before the senate.

Motion passed.
2. By-laws and Standing Rules -- Senator Charles Votaw

a. There was some question whether CTELT should have representation on Faculty Senate. The bylaws state that "teaching faculty" must be on a full-time appointment and must teach at least four-tenths time. Some of the people in CTELT have appointments in the Communication Department and are represented through that department. Others in CTELT do not teach at all and presently would not have representation on the senate. The committee did not have a recommendation to address those individuals not represented through a department.

b. The Faculty Senate moved to change Standing Rule #9 (attachment B). The proposed change was in italics.

Motion passed unanimously (2/3 vote was required).

c. Senator Gerry Cox resigned and will not be able to serve as Faculty Senate President next year.

The following have been nominated for president-elect and secretary.

President-elect: Stephen Shapiro
Anita Gordon-Gilmore

Secretary: Michelle Hull-Knowles
Jean Gleichsner

Senator Charles Votaw moved to elect a replacement for Gerry Cox before electing new officers for next year. Senator Michael Madden seconded the motion.

Motion passed.

Senator Votaw asked for nominations from the floor. Senator Jean Gleichsner nominated President Koerner. President Koerner agreed to accept the nomination. Other nominations were made but none were accepted.

Senator Martha Holmes moved to close nominations. Senator Michael Madden seconded the motion.

Motion passed.

A unanimous ballot was cast for the election of President Koerner to serve as next year's president.

Senator Votaw asked for additional nominations from the floor for secretary. Senator John Durham moved to close nominations. Senator Fred Britten seconded the motion.

Secretary is Senator Jean Gleichsner.

Senator Votaw asked for additional nominations from the floor for president-elect. Senator John Durham moved to close nominations. Senator Fred Britten seconded the motion.

Motion passed.

President-elect is Senator Stephen Shapiro.

3. External Affairs and Faculty Salary -- Anita Gordon-Gilmore

a. A survey on salary equity will be sent to faculty by the end of this week or by the first of next week. Senator Gordon-Gilmore asked senators to urge faculty in their areas to respond to the survey.

4. Student Affairs -- No report

5. University Affairs -- Senator Robert Markley

a. The promotion recommendation was tabled at the last meeting until this meeting. The proposal from University Affairs is the last paragraph in attachment A included on pages 9 and 10 in the senate minutes.

The committee felt that this proposal would reward faculty for promotion. Senator Fred Britten asked why the percentages were not reversed. Senator Markley responded that had not been discussed in committee.

Senator John Durham moved to amend the proposal by changing the percentages from 2.5 and 7.5 to 3 and 7, respectively. Senator John Zody seconded the motion.

Amendment passed.

Motion passed.

Amended motion passed with 1 abstention.

F. Old Business – None

G. New Business

a. President Koerner was asked by President Hammond to find out how the senate feels about the following proposal since it appears that the Partnership for Excellence will not pass. KU and KSU are asking President Hammond and FHSU faculty to support the following: the state would give 2 1/2% for OOE increases, FHSU, PSU, and ESU would ask for a 3% tuition increase, WSU a 5% tuition increase, and KU and KSU a 9% tuition increase to fund faculty salaries. Differences in tuition increases have to do with parity of each institution with its respective peer institutions. This would mean a 4-5% salary increase for FHSU and a 6-7% salary increase for KU and KSU. The tuition increase would be dedicated to salaries.

Senator Michelle Hull-Knowles questioned whether tuition increases are the way to repair the problem with faculty salaries.

Senator Richard Heil felt that this would be a bad public policy.

Senator John Durham was opposed to the proposal because it takes too much money from students.

Senator Michelle Hull-Knowles felt that it sets a precedent for asking the students for money when the legislature doesn’t want to pay.

The Faculty Senate was opposed to the proposal from KU and KSU.
H. Reports from Liaisons

1. Classified Senate -- No report
2. Computer Advisory Committee -- No report
3. Instructional Media Committee -- No report
4. Library Committee -- Senator Jean Gleichsner

The committee met earlier today to distribute discretionary funds to departments. All department requests were met with any funds leftover going to Nursing since their request was not as itemized.

5. Student Government Association -- No report
6. General Education Committee -- Senator Martha Holmes

The committee is currently reviewing integrative courses.

7. Faculty & Staff Development -- Senator Anita Gordon-Gilmore

The committee is compiling information from the Needs Assessment Survey.

I. The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean A. Gleichsner
Secretary