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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, April 1, 1996

FHSU Faculty Senate

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Minutes of Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate
1 April 1996

A. President Stephen Shapiro called the meeting to order in the Pioneer Lounge Room of the Memorial Union on 1 April 1996 at 3:30 p.m.

B. Senators Present were: Warren Schaffer, James Murphy, Jean Gleichsner, Alan Schoer, Martha Holmes, Richard Packauskas, Ann McClure, Joan Rumpel, Jean Anna Sellers, Max Rumpel, Steven Shapiro, Fred Britten, John Durham, Carl Parker (for Tom Johansen), Steven Trout, Richard Leeson, Evelyn Toft, Richard Zakrzewski (for Kenneth Neuhauser), John Zody, Norm Caulfield, Phyllis Schmidt, Erv Eltze, Lewis Miller, Martin Shapiro, Dianna Koerner, Marilyn Maier (for Eileen Deges Curl), Richard Huguen, Keith Krueger, Joseph Aistrup, Robert Markley, Alice Humphreys, Don Barton (for Bill Havice), and Debora Scheffel.

Senators absent were: Gary Hulett, Bruce Bardwell, Donna Ortiz, Steve Sedbrook, and Mike Miller.

Guests of the Senate were: Provost Arevalo, LaNette Schmeidler, and Kenzie Singleton.

C. The Faculty Senate approved the minutes of the March 1996 meeting.

D. Announcements:

1. The University Association is raffling off a video recorder to raise funds.

E. Standing Committees:

1. Academic Affairs - Senator Martha Holmes

a. Course approval: IDS 440. Conceptions of the Mind. 3 cr. hrs. Description: An integrative look at our historically changing conceptions of the mind, and how to best study and understand them. The course will cover elements of philosophy, psychology, neural science, computer science, linguistics, and their convergence into the interdisciplinary field of cognitive science. This course was approved on a vote of 6-2-0 by the committee and unanimously approved by the Faculty Senate. 118-440-0-2002.

b. The Academic Honesty Policy, which will go into

the student catalogue, was presented to the Senate (see Attachment A). The committee vote on the policy was 7-0-0. The Faculty Senate passed the policy unanimously.

2. Bylaws and Standing Rules - Senator Richard Huguen

a. Senator Huguen conducted elections for officers. Senators Aistrup, Schaffer, and Toft were nominated for President-elect, while senators Schmidt and Sedbrook were nominated for Secretary. Senator Aistrup was elected President-elect and Senator Schmidt was elected Secretary.

3. External Affairs and Faculty Salary - Senator Phyllis Schmidt

-No Report

4. Student Affairs - Senator Sellers provided the report for Senator Sedbrook.

a) Student Affairs recommended that FHSU give full reimbursement to students who are called to active duty. SAC also recommended that the student should be allowed to pursue alternative arrangements (such as an incomplete) if he/she desires. The Faculty Senate sent the issue back to Student Affairs to be drafted in the form of a policy statement.

b) The committee recommended that the Senate oppose the proposed change in the full time requirements for learning disabled students because they felt that the university should not "treat any student differently." Senator Parker noted that it takes much more time for those who are disabled (such as the blind) to prepare for classes and study for tests. Other senators questioned the definition of who qualifies to be disabled and who will make the determination that a student is disabled. The Senate requested that Student Affairs study this issue further and come back to the Senate with a policy statement.

c) The Student Affairs Committee reported that it was strongly opposed to the proposed four year degree guarantee. A number of senators expressed concern about what would happen if an advisor made a mistake that resulted in the student not graduating within the guaranteed four year time span. Senator Koerner

requested that the Student Affairs committee draft their recommendation into a policy statement that could be voted on by Faculty Senate. The Senate sent the question of the guaranteed four year degree back to the Student Affairs Committee for further consideration.

5. University Affairs - Senator Martin Shapiro

a) The committee presented a policy dealing with chronically underperforming faculty (see Attachment A from April 1 Agenda). Senator Durham expressed support for the policy. He felt that it was logical to use the merit process to identify chronically underperforming instructors because the process is already in place and if it is incapable of identifying levels of performance than "we are all in trouble." Senator Humphreys questioned the use of the merit process since the guidelines for merit varied across departments. Senator Leeson stated that the idea behind the BOR policy is to undermine the tenure process and that Faculty Senate should reject any effort to make us define chronic underperformance. Senator Markley suggested that FHSU should use the AAUP standards to define the policy. Senator Parker felt that if somebody is underperforming they should receive aid immediately, instead of after three to five years.

Two friendly amendments were accepted by the committee. The first was to change Section A.2.b. to "Department faculty" rather than "Each Department." Senator Koerner made this suggestion because she wanted to insure that department faculty versus department chairs made the departmental policy. The committee also suggested the friendly amendment to allow chronic underperformers to seek aid from an outside agency if the faculty member requested it (Section B.1.).

The policy passed on a vote of 18-9-0.

F. Old Business

- None

G. New Business

- None

H. Reports from Liaisons

1. Classified Senate - Senator Richard Leeson

-No Report

2. Instructional Technology Policy Advisory Committee - Senator Max Rumpel

-No Report

3. Faculty and Staff Development - Senator Bruce Bardwell

-No Report

4. Library Committee - Senator Steven Trout

-No Report

5. Student Government Association - Senator Steve Sedbrook

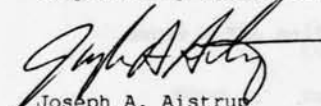
-No Report

6. General Education Committee - Senator Martha Holmes

-No Report

I. Adjournment: 5:00

Respectfully submitted,


Joseph A. Aistrup
Secretary