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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, March 18, 1954

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RECOMMENDATION: That we rescind the action of the Faculty
Faculty Bulletin, Vol. XIX, No. 12 Senate on Dec. 17, 1953, (that "Band ~~Page 5~~ choir,
ensemble, orchestra, debate, and other such offerings
which have been offered with or without credit shall
be listed only as courses with credit").

Minutes of the meeting of the Faculty Senate, Thursday, March 18, 1954,
at 3:30 p.m. in the Dean's Office.

Members present:

E. R. McCartney, Chairman
S. V. Dalton, Secretary
Ralph V. Coder
Katherine Bogart
Katharine Nutt
Emmet C. Stopher
L. W. Thompson
Gerald Tomanek
Margaret van Ackeren

Members absent:

Calvin Harbin
Joel Moss
Ivan Richardson

Others present:

Eugene Etter
Harold Choguill
Everett Marshall
Wilmont Toalson
Doris Stage
Harvey Zinszer

The chairman opened the meeting by asking for the report on the general
education courses, Basic Mathematics and Physical Science.

Dr. Stopher's report on Basic Mathematics:

Dr. Stopher said that the cutting score in the test taken by all freshmen
students determines whether they will enroll for Basic Mathematics. He said,
"The Basic Mathematics is a sort of remedial course in mathematics. Many
of the students have had little or no mathematics in high school and many
have forgotten or do not know very simple arithmetic. Realizing that some
of these students will be teachers and the desirability of knowing arithme-
tic, it is attempted to fill these needs. We present some of the tricks
which would be useful for teachers. Some of the students prefer to enroll
in algebra and if the score is quite close to the cutting score, students
are allowed to enroll in algebra in place of Basic Mathematics."

It was explained that the emphasis is given to word problems and not to
drills. Particular emphasis is on areas and volume. An understanding of the
number system is stressed. The real need is for a better understanding of
what should be done--understanding the problem. Sometimes the students in
the summer session classes have asked for a certain phase of arithmetic and
in that case, the instructors give that specific phase special consideration.

It was suggested that the cutting score seemed to be very low. The mathe-
matics faculty explained that if this were higher, it would be necessary
to section the classes. This course is at a low enough level so that the
students will not fail if they hand in the work and are on hand for the
class sessions. Most of the failures are caused by absences.

Not all the students who are interested in pre-engineering take the Basic
Mathematics course. In some cases it would be better if they did take this
course before enrolling for College Algebra.

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Dr. Stopher said that they believed that the Basic Mathematics course should be designed primarily for those students who will be teachers.

Dr. Zinszer's report on Physical Science:

Dr. Zinszer explained that Mr. Doyle Brooks has been in charge of this course but since he is not on the campus this year, Dr. Zinszer has been handling it. The syllabus gives the objectives of the course and also the textbook material covered. The examinations are prepared by all the instructors and a common examination is used for all the sections. There is an excellent set of films--30 or more--available and these are used,

About two-thirds of the way through the course some instructors encourage the students to prepare an essay on some phase of the course which appeals to them. They are expected to study this particular subject using library material as well as the textbook material. This is a most satisfactory method as it is not so much a question of covering the textbook as it is using the textbook as a reference in its application to problems.

It was suggested that there has been some objection that the course is too technical. This is probably due to the fact that the students are "afraid" of the mathematics involved which is very simple. There is very little chemistry and the physics is not as inclusive as some feel it might be. The staff members suggested that it might be better if more of each of these were added.

The staff members for these two general education courses were commended for their reports.

Plan presented by the Music Department for musical organizations and activities:

The following letter from Mr. Barr was read:

"Dean McCartney and Members of the Faculty Senate:

"Since our most recent meeting with you, members of our staff committee on Musical Organizations and Activities have met and wish to recommend the following:

"That all of the sponsors and conductors of musical organizations in this department from this time forward make a difference between the requirements for those students who take the courses for no credit and for those who take the courses for credit. More specifically, students who take these courses for credit will be asked to perform extra duties in preparations for rehearsals and concerts. In some instances they will also be asked to perform in sectional rehearsals which will not be required of students who are taking the course for no credit. When it is possible, an examination will be given at the end of the semester to those students who will be expecting credit for the course.

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"We hope that these changes, as proposed above, will remove the necessity for taking to the faculty the minute which the Senate has approved. If the changes which we are trying to make in the department do not remove the obstacles to proper progress in this matter, please let us know and we shall try again to find a solution. Sincerely yours, /signed/ C. Thomas Barr, *Head of* Department of Music."

This was discussed. It was suggested that these courses should be put in the catalogue to show that credit is given and also that they should be listed in the activities for those wishing to enroll for activity credit only.

RECOMMENDATION: It was recommended that we rescind the action of the Faculty Senate on December 17, 1953, which was that "band, choir, ensemble, orchestra, debate, and other such offerings which have been offered 'with or without credit' should be listed only as courses with credit." Seconded and carried.

The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

E. R. McCartney, Chairman

Standlee V. Dalton, Secretary