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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, April 5, 1954

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Minutes of the meeting of the Faculty Senate, Thursday, April 5, 1954, in the Dean's Office at 3:30 p.m.

Members present:

E. R. McCartney
S. V. Dalton
Ralph V. Coder
Katherine Bogart
Calvin Harbin
Joel Moss
Katharine Nutt
Ivan Richardson
Emmet C. Stopher

L. W. Thompson
Gerald Tomanek
Margaret van Ackeren

Others present:

A. Leland Forrest, N.C.A.
Coordinator.

The meeting was called to order by the chairman, Dean McCartney, and he presented Dr. A. Leland Forrest, N.C.A. Coordinator. Dr. Forrest has been visiting the campus today, and was asked to give his impressions gained from his visit and suggested that the Senate was especially interested in suggestions for improving what we are doing.

Dr. Forrest's report:

Dr. Forrest said that he had a most stimulating and busy day. He met with the groups on Improvement of Instruction, Education Department Staff, Student Counsel, English Department Staff and also with individuals. These groups reported on their work which seems to be excellent. The improvement of instruction is an area with which every college should be concerned. Dr. Forrest said this committee has been doing good work and will be glad to help anyone who brings a problem. In the meeting with the Education Department Staff, it was brought out that the main concern of this group is setting up good laboratory experiences and high professional standards. Dr. Forrest said that the Student Council members said they felt free to go to faculty members and express their views. This indicates that students and not courses are being taught and speaks well for the teaching. The English Staff discussed the way the course in English Composition I is set up. They are concerned about how to care for the superior students. The people in languages are concerned about the language courses at this time when there is much talk about internationalism.

Dr. Forrest said that the religious life on the campus was discussed. There seems to be multiplicity of organizations and he suggested that perhaps a study should be made of the need and responsibilities of these groups.

The A.A.C.T.E. report regarding the personnel services was discussed with Dr. Forrest. It was explained that the Visitation committee believed that there should be a central personnel office. However, it was explained that it has been the philosophy on this campus that each faculty member is to consider himself a counselor and work closely with the students.

Dr. Forrest left the meeting to drive back to Lincoln, Nebraska.

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Requirement about the number of high-numbered courses for graduation.

Previous to the meeting a notice was sent to the Senate members asking them to give some consideration to our requirement of 40 credit hours of high-numbered courses for graduation. Frequently there are cases of students asking the Executive Committee to waive this requirement and allow students to graduate with less than 40 hours.

This was discussed. It was suggested that sometimes the shortage is caused by the fact that students change their programs after a semester or more of study. Also if a student's program is planned and then a course is cancelled at enrollment time, frequently it is not possible to enroll in some other high-numbered course because the student does not have the necessary prerequisite. There are various things to be taken into consideration and probably each of these cases should be considered separately. It was suggested that the major professor or department chairman should report about these cases; and that when a student requests consideration, a statement from the major professor should accompany his request to the executive committee.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

E. R. McCartney, Chairman

Standlee V. Dalton, Secretary