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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, May 6, 1954

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Minutes of the meeting of the Faculty Senate, Thursday, May 6, 1954, at 3:30 p.m. in the Dean's Office.

Members present:

E. R. McCartney	Emmet C. Stopher
Ralph V. Coder	L. W. Thompson
Katharine Nutt	Gerald Tomanek
Ivan Richardson	Margaret van Ackeren

Members absent:

S. V. Dalton	Calvin Harbin
Katherine Bogart	Joel Moss

Others present:

Mrs. Nita Landrum (part of the meeting.)

Commencement-week activities:

The meeting was called to order and the question regarding commencement-week activities which was discussed briefly at the last meeting was discussed. It was mentioned that the faculty-senior reception has been shifted from Friday night to Saturday night in order to avoid having it conflict with high school commencements. Sometime ago, it was agreed that commencement day would be not later than Thursday in order to have a long weekend between the close of the spring semester and the opening of the summer session so as to allow time for the houses to be cleaned and preparations made for the incoming students. This has worked out very well. Last year, the alumni dinner was held on Wednesday night before commencement day. It has been suggested that the alumni dinners would be more satisfactory for people if held on a weekend as more alumni would be able to come at that time.

The plan which is being used this year at Emporia for their commencement was reviewed. The plan of having the baccalaureate on Sunday afternoon, the alumni dinner that night with the commencement program Monday morning and the dinner at noon was discussed. In this case the semester examinations would be after the commencement. Usually, the lower classmen do not stay for the commencement but go home after their last tests are completed. This has made it difficult to have the orchestra, choir, band, etc. on hand for the commencement program. Dr. Thompson said that he had made a survey of the faculty members since our last meeting in an effort to get their reactions; and they were in favor (4 to 1) of having the baccalaureate and commencement programs on the same day.

Mrs. Landrum was called and asked to come to the meeting to discuss the effect which a one-day commencement might have on the alumni-dinner question. Mrs. Landrum reported that there would be no reunion dinner this year. There has not been sufficient interest in this affair to justify continuing it at commencement time. The reunion activities will be concentrated at Homecoming time.

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It was suggested that baccalaureate be at 10:00 a.m., commencement dinner at 1:15 p.m., and the commencement exercises at 3:30 p.m. or possibly 4:00; and another plan was that the baccalaureate be at 11:00 a.m. and the dinner at 12:30 and the commencement exercises at 8:00 p.m. This would allow time for the alumni dinner at 6:00 p.m. If the reunion or alumni dinner is held during the weekend without regard to the commencement, the commencement exercises might be at 3:30 or 4:00 p.m.

The question of the examination schedule was discussed. Some of the faculty members have indicated that they would prefer to give their final examinations earlier so that they would have a class period after the examinations in which to discuss them. Further discussion of this matter will be taken up at a later date.

RECOMMENDATION: It was recommended that all commencement activities which includes baccalaureate, commencement dinner, and the commencement exercises be held on the same day. Seconded and carried.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

E. R. McCartney, Dean

Standlee V. Dalton, Secretary