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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, October 9, 1957

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Discussed remedial courses, Basic Eng. and Math, for credit.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Basic Math. and Basic Eng. courses shall not be offered for cr. in the regular college program after Sept.'60.

Faculty Bulletin, Vol. XVI, No. 3 Whatever opportunity is given to make up deficiencies in these two areas should be provided in the summer or evenings of regular school year. (NOTE: Faculty approved the first part of this recommendation in mtg. of Oct. 15, 1957.)

Discussion: General education course in mathematics, etc.

Minutes of the meeting of the Faculty Senate, Wednesday, October 9, 1957 at 4:00 p.m. in the Dean's Office

Members present: Mr. Dalton, Dr. Coder, Dr. Craine, Mr. Friesner, Dr. Martin, Dr. Parish, Dr. Ray, Mr. Remanron, Dr. Richardson, Dr. Tomenek and Dr. Richardson, Chairman

Members absent: Dr. Garwood

Other present: Mr. Toalson

The meeting was called to order by the chairman, E. R. McCartney, who presented the question regarding the remedial courses. Attention was called to a statement from the University of Oklahoma regarding their announcement of a new policy which is that beginning in the fall of 1959, Okla. U. will make important changes in offerings of remedial mathematics. Remedial courses include high school elementary and intermediate algebra and plane and solid geometry. Plane geometry and elementary algebra will not be offered in the curriculum in 1959. Courses in intermediate algebra and solid geometry will be limited. The University will offer remedial courses by correspondence and during summer sessions. This was discussed by the Senate.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Faculty Senate recommends to the faculty that the Basic Mathematics and Basic English courses shall not be offered for credit in the regular college program after September, 1960. Whatever opportunity is given students to make up deficiencies in these areas should be provided in the summer or in the evenings of the regular school year. Seconded and carried.

Dr. Craine and Dr. Parish who attended the Zone School meeting in Hoxie recently, both reported that they had suggested this possibility to some of the school people there and that they did not seem to be surprised but rather that their main concern was that it might be inaugurated before the high schools had time to get ready for it.

It was asked if there would be any remedial work on the campus and it was suggested that this meant that the remedial work would not give college credit. If the remedial work does not give college credit, it was asked how long a student would be permitted to remain in college if he continues to fail to meet the minimum proficiency in these areas.

Questions asked were: Should there be a general education course in mathematics? If so, this would add to the total number of hours in the general education program. Should there be some mathematics qualification for a degree? It was stated that the mathematics might be a part of the physical science, social science and biological science courses. The arithmetical processes would be performed by the instructors and used by them to demonstrate the problems of the course. Graphs, data, etc. are used in these courses. One suggestion was that a two-hour course in mathematics as a general education course might be added to the program and the five-hour general education courses changed to four-hour courses which would not increase the total credit hours of the general education program.
RECOMMENDATION: It was recommended that the mathematics requirement be eliminated from the general education program. (This motion was lost for want of a second.)

Mr. Toalson reported regarding the Basic Mathematics course. He said that about 50 per cent of our graduates do not take Basic Mathematics. If an elective course in mathematics is to be offered, he wondered if there would be a demand for it.

It was suggested that no further planning be done until the faculty and the administration approve the recommendation regarding the credit for the remedial courses, Basic English and Basic Mathematics. If this recommendation is approved then the Senate could go ahead with further planning.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

E. R. McCarty, Chairman

S. V. Dalton, Secretary