2-22-1961

Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, February 22, 1961

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Minutes of the meeting of the Faculty Senate, Wednesday, February 22, 1961, at 3:45 p.m., in the Dean's Office.

Members present: Mr. Dalton, Dr. Coder, Mrs. Bogart, Dr. Dick, Mr. Friesner, Dr. Garwood, Dr. Moreland, Miss Parish, and Dr. McCartney, Chairman.

Members absent: Dr. Herren, Mr. Toalson, Dr. Tomanek.

Others present: Mr. Rematore.

The meeting was called to order by the chairman, E. R. McCartney, for the transaction of business.

Honors at Graduation: Dr. Garwood and Dr. Herren were appointed to make a survey of the practices followed by other colleges about Honors at Graduation. A summary was given the Senate members by Dr. Garwood. He reported that the catalogues of 29 colleges and universities were examined as to the requirements for honors at graduation. Twenty-one of the catalogues examined were of colleges located west of the Mississippi River, and eight east of the Mississippi. Twenty-two of the schools based honors at graduation solely upon the grade point and the others based it upon grade point plus other requirements.

Mr. Rematore, Chairman of the Honors Committee, said that as a result of its deliberations, the Honors Committee recommends the adoption of the following plan for awarding honors at graduation, to supercede all previous proposals:

The bachelor's degree "With Honors" shall be awarded to those students who demonstrate an exceptional degree of excellence throughout their normal undergraduate studies, and who are recommended by the Honors Committee as having successfully completed special honors work. Specific requirements for honors at graduation shall be as follows:

1. The student must apply for and be admitted to the Honors Program.

2. The student must specifically identify himself as a candidate for honors at graduation by registering as such with the Honors Committee.

3. The student shall maintain a minimum grade-point index of 2.70 for all course work offered for the bachelor's degree.

4. The student must successfully complete at least two Honors Seminars, be recommended for honors by the seminar consultants, and have his seminar papers approved by a majority of the Honors Committee.

5. In the event that special circumstances prevent a student from participation in Honors Seminars, an
Honors Thesis may be substituted for requirement 4 above. The thesis must be approved by the thesis director, and by a majority of the Honors Committee.

The notation "With Honors" shall appear on the student's diploma, on the graduation program, and on the student's official transcript.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew I. Rematore
Chairman, Honors Committee

The above requirements were discussed. It was the consensus of the Senate members that Items 1, 2, 4, and 5 were very satisfactory. Item 3 was questioned regarding the "2.70 grade-point index for all course work offered for the bachelor's degree." Mr. Rematore said that this grade average had been determined by considering the number of students who might qualify. He said that it is the opinion of the committee that With Honors should be highly selective and that after considering the number of students and their overall indexes, it was decided that 2.70 would be about right to accomplish this.

This was discussed.

RECOMMENDATION: It was recommended that Item 3 should be changed to read:
The student shall maintain a minimum grade-point index of 2.60 for all course work offered for the bachelor's degree. Seconded and carried.

RECOMMENDATION: It was recommended that the Senate approve the requirements for honors at graduation as stated above with the correction in Item 3 to 2.60 as recommended above. Seconded and carried.

It was asked when the graduation With Honors would be put into effect. It was suggested that it was too late to use it in the 1961 commencements and that the 1962 commencement would be the best time. This would give sufficient time for students to be aware of the plan.

RECOMMENDATION: It was recommended that graduation With Honors be put into effect in the spring commencement of 1962. Seconded and carried.

It was suggested that two diplomas would have to be ordered for each of those candidates for degrees who are likely to graduate With Honors in order to be sure to have diplomas on hand. The cost of the diplomas is not prohibitive and could be handled this way very well Mr. Dalton said.

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

E. R. McCartney, Chairman
S. V. Dalton, Secretary