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Recommended Citation

FHSU Faculty Senate, "Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, January 4, 1965" (1965).
Faculty Senate. 477.
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Presentation, Discussion: English Proficiency.

Proposal was discussed.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the proposal as presented.

Course presented: Biology 452.

RECOMMENDATION: Readings in Biology 452 approved.

Minutes of the meeting of the Faculty Senate, Monday, January 4, 1965 at 3:30 p.m. in the Office of the Dean of the Faculty.

Members present: Mrs. Brown, Mr. Cleland, Mr. Dalton, Dr. Edwards, Miss Felten, Mr. Forsythe, Mrs. Hellem, Dr. Nelson, Mr. Osborne, Dr. Pierson, Dr. Rice, Dr. Staven and Dr. Garwood, Chairman.

Others present: Mr. Duckworth, Dr. Reindorp.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Dr. Garwood, for the transaction of business.

Administration of the English Proficiency Examination. Dr. Garwood presented the proposal of the English Division to change the English Proficiency procedure. The details of the proposal are as follows:

1. There will be three proficiency examinations administered annually. All eligible students will take the examination simultaneously.
2. All entering freshmen will take the proficiency examination at night during the second or third week of the fall semester beginning in 1965.
3. All second semester entering freshmen, sophomores who have passed English 1 and 2, and eligible repeaters will take the proficiency examination during the second semester at night.
4. All entering freshmen in summer school will take the proficiency examination during the afternoon.
5. All freshmen who fail the examination will wait until they are sophomores to repeat the examination.
6. A student who misses an examination for which he is eligible must skip a semester before applying for it again.
7. A freshman who fails the proficiency examination must complete the freshman English requirements before repeating the examination.
8. Once a student has passed the examination he will not be required to take it again regardless of his classification.
9. At the beginning of each proficiency examination each student will be asked to fill out a questionnaire not only for the purpose of later identification of the student's paper, (which will bear only a number for this purpose) but also to obtain other needed information.
10. The customary system of readers will be employed to grade the papers, i.e., three possibly four faculty members will each have their teaching load reduced by three hours in exchange for reading approximately 300 papers each semester.
11. The data obtained from the questionnaires will be programmed for analysis by computer.

12. Other tests that may throw light on proficiency in English will be selected and used for purpose of comparison and evaluation. These will be administered to smaller groups of students probably during class hours.
13. For the sake of obtaining the best possible results it is deemed advisable to place no time limit on this experiment and to stop it as soon as sufficient information has been obtained.

PROFICIENCY EXAMINATION

Confidential Questionnaire

- Student's Proficiency Examination No. _____ Date _____
1. Name _____ Age _____ Class. _____
 2. Student Social Security No. _____ Major _____
 3. Adviser's Name _____ List Languages _____
Spoken at Home _____
 4. Number in your high school graduating class _____
 5. How many times in college have you previously taken Eng. Comp. 1 _____
English Comp. 2 _____?
 6. Which class in English Composition 1 did you take?: 5-days-a-week _____,
3-days-a-week _____, advanced _____.
What grade was recorded on your transcript for this course? _____
 7. Which class in English Composition 2 did you take? Regular _____,
Advanced _____. What was your grade for this course the last time
you took it? _____
 8. Your grade index (grade point average): _____
 9. How many semesters passed between your last composition course and the
first time you took the English Proficiency Examination? _____
 10. How many times have you taken the English Proficiency Examination in-
cluding this one? _____
If more than once, answer the following:
 - a. If you did not pass the first time, did you undertake any special
preparation for the second try? _____. If so, what _____
 - b. Did you pass the second time?? _____. If not, what did you do,
if anything, to prepare for the third try? _____
 - c. What do you think helped you most to pass? _____

Dr. Reindorp said that the present method has not been too satisfactory and this proposal is an attempt to find a better method. In one English Proficiency Examination two out of three students failed. Although students having B or A grades are not required to take the English Proficiency, the number of students failing seems to be too high. This is an experimental program and it is hoped that it will bring to light information which will be helpful. It may be that it will help to find out how many times it is necessary for students to take English Composition 1.

The proposal was discussed as follows:

How long a time is this experimental program to cover.

It is expected that this will take approximately one and one-half to two years.

Discussion (Continued.)

Some of the papers may be graded by machine but not all as some of the examination will be theme writing.
The details regarding the administration were discussed and explained.
It is hoped that this questionnaire will be helpful in finding what has been helpful after the first failure.
The possibility of administering the test in the English 1 classes was discussed.
The possibility of giving it to freshmen and sophomores only was discussed.

RECOMMENDATION: It was recommended that the Senate approve the Administration of the English Proficiency Examination proposal by the English Division and permit them to conduct the experiment. Seconded and carried.

Application for a new course. The following course was requested by the Biological Science Division:

452. Readings in Biology. Three credit hours. Readings and written reports on special topics in biology.

It was explained that this course would provide a course for students working toward a Specialist in Education degree and would familiarize the student with the literature available in a particular area of biology.

RECOMMENDATION: It was recommended that the Senate approve the course, 452 Readings in Biology, as requested. Seconded and carried.

The next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be Monday, February 1, due to semester examinations and enrollment.

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

John D. Garwood, Chairman

Standlee V. Dalton, Secretary

Florence Bodmer, Recorder