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Discussion: Probation and Suspension Regulations--
Report of Committee was discussed.
Letter from President Cunningham was read.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Faculty Senate, Tuesday, September 29, 1965, at 4:30 p.m. in the Office of the Dean of the Faculty.

Members present: Mrs. Cobb, Dr. Edwards, Mr. Evans, Miss Felten, Dr. Fleharty, Mrs. Hoffman, Dr. Hollister, Dr. Proctor, Dr. Rice, Mr. Schmidt, and Dr. Garwood, Chairman.

Members absent: Dr. Coder, Mr. Dalton, Mr. Osborne.

The meeting was called to order by the chairman, Dr. Garwood, who identified the members and the divisions they represent.

Dr. Garwood explained the work and purpose of the Faculty Senate. The role of the Senate in relation to the Council of Division Chairmen was discussed.

Probation Regulations. Dr. Garwood said that the first item of business would be the discussion of the probation regulations. Copies of the present probation regulations were given to the Senate Members. Last year a Committee of three Faculty Senate Members, (Dr. Rice, Chr., Mr. Cleland, and Miss Felten) made a study of the present probation and proposed changes which they thought would improve the present plan. The report was made to the Senate on July 7, 1965. The complete report was attached to the Minutes of that meeting which appear in the Faculty Bulletin, September 22, 1965. Copies of the report were given to members of the Faculty Senate.

Dr. Garwood said that he felt that the Probation regulations should be studied thoroughly before a decision is made. It is hoped that once we have established a probation system we can "live" with it for some time.

Several reasons have been given for not dismissing students at the end of the first semester. One of the problems is that it is difficult to get the information in time to be ready for the enrollment on Monday morning. Students returning home at mid-year may find it difficult to secure employment. It may not be easy to explain the return home. Housing at College may have been contracted for the school year. These reasons have been advanced for not dismissing at the mid-year.

On the other side of the coin, why should a student be permitted to remain in school after two bad semesters. He may waste his time a third semester and cause others to waste time with him.

A letter to the Senate from President Cunningham was read to Senate Members on this point. The letter was as follows:

To: Dean Garwood, Chairman
Faculty Senate

Date: September 27, 1965

From: M. C. Cunningham

I would like to express my views to you and, through you, to the Faculty Senate relative to one facet to our probation system.

I firmly believe that it is a mistake to allow a student who has gone on academic probation the spring semester and does not remove that probation during the fall semester to remain on the campus during the following spring semester. I know at the time that this rule was passed, we were thinking that it was a hardship upon a student to suspend him from the college in the middle of the academic year. The theory was that he had very little chance for a job and that it would be better to keep him on the campus.

However, after putting this regulation in practice, I am firmly convinced that when a student goes on academic probation the spring semester and does not remove it the fall semester, he should be suspended just the same as any other student on academic probation. I feel that many of the students do not take advantage of this semester of grace and, therefore, should be treated as any other student and suspended.

Dr. Rice explained the report which his Committee prepared. This was discussed. The term dismissal was used in the report rather than suspension. It was asked what suspension is, and if it is considered to be a penalty. The Committee believes that a student who is improving slowly would be benefitted by the proposed plan. The method of figuring the grade point was discussed and compared with the present system.

The Faculty Senate will meet again on Tuesday, October 5, at 4:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

John D. Garwood, Chairman

Standlee V. Dalton, Secretary

Florence Bodmer, Recorder