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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, December 6, 1966

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Course Numbering System -- Committee appointed, Dr. McMechan, Chairman,
Dr. Fleharty and Mr. Tomlinson.
Executive Committ of Senate--Mr. Dalton, Dr. Garwood, and Mr. Johnson.
Dr. Dechant presented data on the present Junior Class. The study
dealt with grades made in some of the Basic Studies courses, etc.
(See attached.)

Minutes of the Meeting of the Faculty Senate, Tuesday, December 6, 1966 at
3:30 p.m. in the Office of the Dean of the Faculty.

Members present: Dr. Coder, Miss Cotham, Mr. Crites, Mr. Dalton, Dr.
Fleharty, Miss Gangwer, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Tomlinson,
Mr. McGinnis, Dr. McMechan, Mr. Schmidt, Dr. Wilkins,
and Dr. Garwood, Chairman.

Also present: Dr. Dechant

Absent: Dr. Youmans

The meeting was called to order by the chairman, Dr. Garwood.

At the last meeting it was suggested that the Senate might examine our
course numbering system. Since this will take considerable study, the chairman
appointed a committee to study it. The committee includes Dr. McMechan,
Chairman, Mr. Tomlinson and Dr. Fleharty.

This subject will be studied in great detail by the committee and their
findings will be presented to the Senate for consideration. The study is too
laborious to be handled by the Senate in its weekly meetings and so a sub-com-
mittee has been appointed for the purpose of doing the "leg" work. It was noted
that the present system leaves a range of 50 numbers (1 to 50) for the lower
division courses, and a range of 50 numbers (51 to 100) for the upper division.
It was suggested that we should strive for continuity between numbers in use
now with any changes made. For example, a course which is numbered 40
might be numbered 140, etc.

It was suggested that some colleges number their courses so that the
numbers indicate certain things for the computers. The first digit might be
the area, second digit, level of course, etc. The committee will examine cata-
logs and current literature in its appraisal of our numbering system.

Mr. Johnson is serving on the Executive Committee of the Senate. This
committee handles problems dealing with exceptions to the college regulations.
Such items as requests for permission to graduate with less than 40 hours of
high-numbered courses, requests for permission to take advanced standing
examinations, transfer of credit from the Armed Services, etc., are examples
of the work of this committee.

The Senate minutes will be made available for members to read prior to
publication in the Faculty Bulletin. They will be available for reading by Friday
following the Tuesday meeting. If there are major changes to be made they will
be brought before the meeting.

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Dr. Dechant presented data on the present Junior Class. The study dealt with grades made in some of the Basic Studies courses. The ACT does this scoring. Dr. Dechant explained the data. He noted that observations made were those of ACT and not his personal appraisal.

The discussion included the following: Is there some chance for error or are these figures absolutely right? There are many kinds of interpretations. It may be that the grading method should be appraised. Is the data based on one single course or a number of courses in an area?

Dr. Dechant warned that one year's data cannot be treated as final and should not be accepted as the true picture.

It was suggested that these reports should not be circulated at this time, and should not appear in the minutes as there are too many misleading interpretations which might be given to the data.

RECOMMENDATION: It was recommended that we not include this report in the minutes of this meeting. Seconded and carried.

Dr. Dechant also made a survey of the relationship of P. E. grades and ACT scores for freshmen for the spring semester, 1966. Although this data is not included, in the Senate minutes each Senate member has received a copy of the survey along with the Study of Basic Studies courses in other areas.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p. m.

John D. Garwood, Chairman

Florence Bodmer, Recorder