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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, August 5, 1969

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Discussion: REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CHEATING. Copy of report included at end of Minutes.

RECOMMENDATION: It was moved by Dr. Sackett that the report of the Committee be made a policy of the College. Motion seconded by Mr. Schroder.

Discussion ensued regarding suspending & expelling student; academic dishonesty in classroom; Committee on Academic Dishonesty be established.

Dr. Sackett proposed that the Report be amended. His amendments are included at end of Minutes. ^{He proposed Amendment I to the Committee Report.} Motion to amend was seconded by Mr. Ginther.

Dr. Miller moved to amend the Amendment by striking out the last paragraph of the Amendment. Motion seconded by Mr. Forsythe.

Should "suspended for academic dishonesty" be placed on student's transcript?

The question was called for. The motion to amend the Amendment was passed.

A motion was made by Dr. Randall that we amend the Amendment I. His motion reads as follows: (See page 5 of Minutes.) Motion seconded by Mr. Schroder.

Discussion will be carried forward to the next meeting.

Minutes of the meeting of the Faculty Senate Tuesday, August 5, 1969, at 3:30 p.m., in the Office of the Dean of the Faculty.

Members Present: Mr. Ginther, Mr. Schroder, Dr. Randall, Mr. McConnell, Dr. Sackett, Miss Christopher, Dr. Miller, Mrs. Theis, Dr. Witten, Mr. Forsythe, Mr. Dalton and Dr. Garwood, Chairman.

Members Absent: Dr. Thomas and Mr. Rayl.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Garwood, Chairman.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CHEATING. The Committee on Cheating was appointed in December, 1968. The Committee members are as follows: Mr. Ginther, Chairman, Dr. Sackett, Dr. Thomas, Mrs. Popp and three students from the Student Council.

At the present time the subject of cheating as covered in the Faculty Handbook, page 8, is as follows:

"It is the responsibility of each faculty member to exercise every possible precaution in the preparation and care of all quizzes and examinations, and in administering them. The faculty member can reduce to a minimum the cheating in his class by diligent proctoring and by being vigilant at all times.

"Administering the same test or examination semester after semester is encouragement for students to cheat.

"In case of cheating, the faculty member should report the case to the Chairman of the Division and to the Dean of the Faculty. Necessary action will then be taken. Appeals may be made to the Student-Faculty Discipline Review Board."

Mr. Ginther summarized the Committee report. A copy of the Committee's recommendation is included at the end of the Minutes.

RECOMMENDATION: It was moved by Dr. Sackett that the report of the Committee be made a policy of the College. Motion seconded by Mr. Schroder.

Paragraph 4, in Part I of the Committee report, deals with the right of a faculty member to handle academic dishonesty in his classroom. Does a faculty member have the right to suspend a student from college?

No faculty member may suspend a student from college although he may flunk that student in his class for cheating. The report recommends that a Committee on Academic Dishonesty be established to carry out College policy on cheating. The faculty member could recommend the case to the Committee on Academic Dishonesty.

May a faculty member expel a student from class? On occasion, faculty members have told a student he may not continue in a class. This action has never been challenged. Were the action to be challenged, it appears that the question could be carried to the President of the College for final decision. No statement in the Faculty Handbook or Catalog deals with this question. When a student pays his fees to attend College, does the College have the right to remove him from a class? Removal from the College must come from someone other than the instructor of a particular class.

Paragraph 2 of Part I of the Committee Report states that students will be chosen from Seventh Cavalry, Women's Leadership Organization and one

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graduate student appointed by the Graduate Council. The question was raised as to why these organizations were selected to provide students for the Committee on Academic Dishonesty? The undergraduate organizations stress leadership and for this reason they were chosen.

Dr. Sackett proposed that the Report be amended. He distributed "Proposed Amendments" to the Senate. Dr. Sackett indicated he would like to make several amendments. The amendments which he will propose are included at the end of the Senate Minutes.

He proposed Amendment I to the Committee Report. Amendment I reads as follows:

"AMENDMENT ONE (in order to replace the Committee on Academic Dishonesty with the Student Court)

"That paragraphs two and three be stricken from the report; that paragraph four be amended to read as follows--"

"The student has the right to appeal the decision of the faculty member to the Student-Faculty Court. Cases in which the appropriate punishment is suspension or expulsion shall be brought before this court. Any faculty member or student may refer to the court any instances for which there are substantial grounds for belief that a breach of academic honesty has been committed.

"--and that the last paragraph of Section I be amended to read as follows:

"Action taken by the Student-Faculty Court which involves suspension or dismissal as a punishment for academic dishonesty shall be communicated by the Court to the Registrar and shall be made a part of the student's permanent record."

Motion to amend was seconded by Mr. Ginther. Amendment I, which utilizes a Student-Faculty Court, is in line with the resolution passed by the Student Senate May 6, 1969, where the Student Senate recommends that where cases involving student cheating which cannot be resolved by the student and the instructor may be appealed to the Student-Faculty Court.

Dr. Miller moved to amend the Amendment by striking out the last paragraph of the Amendment. Motion seconded by Mr. Forsythe.

Mr. Ginther stated that Kansas State Teachers College, Emporia; Kansas State College of Pittsburg and Kansas State University of Manhattan had provisions similar to that which Dr. Miller moved that we strike from the Amendment.

The question was raised as to whether the student should be penalized by having "suspended for academic dishonesty" placed on his transcript. Is the College justified in penalizing an 18 or 19 year old student who has made a mistake? The transcript is something which accompanies him wherever he goes. If the student is suspended from College for a period of time, is this not sufficient? Would placing this information on the transcript be too severe a punishment?

Dr. Sackett said that the purpose of the recommendation was to protect the honest student. If the dishonest student gets hurt in the process, it is his fault.

Some instructors would be more likely to recommend cheating cases to the Student-Faculty Court to hear the case than would others. If instructors

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knew that a student might be suspended from school and have this information placed on his transcript, they might be very reluctant to refer the case. Thus, the choice of instructors might determine whether a student would be penalized severely.

The position of the College in an issue such as this should be made very clear.

A record of the student's transgression would be kept in the Dean of Students Office and the Office of the Dean of the Faculty. Is there any need to make this information public by placing it on his transcript? Any student may make a mistake. Possibly in the course of two or three years, he would never engage in cheating but this one action has stamped him for life.

Some students do not know the meaning of plagiarism and may plagiarize without realizing any wrongdoing.

The question was called for. The motion to amend the Amendment was passed.

A motion was made by Dr. Randall that we amend the Amendment 1. His motion reads as follows:

"Action taken by the Student-Faculty Court which involves a recommendation of suspension or dismissal from a class or the College as a punishment for academic dishonesty shall be communicated by the Court to the Dean of Students and Dean of Faculty for their records."

Motion seconded by Mr. Schroder.

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What type of information needs to be communicated to the Student-Faculty Court? The question was raised as to how cheating in one test would affect the final grade in a course. Does this mean that the student has flunked the course or does it mean that he has flunked one test?

The discussion will be carried forward to the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p. m.

John D. Garwood, Chairman

Lucille Drees, Recorder