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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, October 7, 1983

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FAOULTY SENATE MINUTES

October 7, 1983

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Bill Welch, Faculty Senate President, at 3:30 p.m. in the Trails Room of the Memorial Union.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Mr. Frank Nichols, Dr. Frank Potter, Mr. Elton Schrodier, Ms. Sandra Rupp, Dr. Larry Nicholson, Dr. Stephen Shapiro, Dr. John Ratzlaff, Dr. Bill Rickman, Dr. Bill Robinson, Dr. Allan Miller, Dr. Carl Singleton, Dr. Richard Leeson, Dr. Jean Salien, Mr. Stephen Clark, Dr. Gary Arbogast, Dr. Mark Giese, Dr. Robert Luehrs, Mr. Glen McNeil, Dr. Elton Beougher, Dr. Jeffery Barnett, Dr. Lewis Miller, Ms. Marilyn Scheuerman, Dr. Stephen Tramel, Dr. William Welch, Dr. Richard Heil, Dr. Robert Markley, Dr. Nevell Razak.

Alternates: Dr. Brent Spaulding for Dr. John McGaugh, Ms. Joan Rumpel for Ms. Martha Eining, Ms. Marian Youmans for Ms. Rose Brungardt.

The following members were absent: Mr. Jack Logan, Dr. Marcia Bannister, Dr. Billy Daley, Mr. Don Barton, Dr. William Wilkins.

Guests: Mr. Darrell Preston, Hays Daily News; Dr. James Murphy, Vice President for Academic Affairs.

The minutes of the September 12, 1983, and the September 20, 1983 meetings were approved as corrected. The corrections and additions are at the end of the minutes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The Senate Presidents of the Regent's institutions met in Topeka on the afternoon of Friday, September 16, after having attended the Board of Regents meetings on both Thursday and Friday. Topics of discussion included Early Retirement, Faculty Contracts, and the possibility of arranging meetings with the Governor and Legislative Committees and Representatives. The Senate Presidents will again be attending the Board of Regents meetings in Topeka on October 20 and 21. The November 17 and 18 Board of Regents meeting will be held on the FHSU campus. Any Faculty Senators are welcome to attend the meeting on November 17 and 18.

2. The Council of Presidents (COP) has been considering an Early Retirement Program which when finalized will be recommended to the Board of Regents for approval. At this point the program would include a Pre-retirement Counseling Program, a Phased Early Retirement Program which could begin as early as age 60, and appropriate changes in the T.I.A.A. and Medical Insurance contributions to make the program attractive.

3. The Board of Regents has been considering the use of employment contracts on a system wide basis for over a year. The overriding concern about
these contracts that has been expressed by faculty members at all of the Regents institutions is that they represent an infringement on academic freedom in the form they presently are written. This concern has been expressed on this campus to President Tomanek and Vice President Murphy and on other campus at least to the Vice President for Academic Affairs. The Council of Chief Academic Officers (COCAO) has recently recommended to COP that employment contracts not be used. COP will make their own recommendation to the Board of Regents. The Senate Presidents will be making their concerns known to the Board of Regents in the near future.

4. The Executive Committee sent academic year calendar recommendations to Dr. James Murphy, Vice President for Academic Affairs. The committee did not have a great deal of input from the faculty as a whole. The basic thrust of the recommendations was to start the Fall Semester as close to the beginning of September as possible and finish before Christmas. The University Affairs Committee will continue to study the academic calendar this year.

5. Dr. Allan Miller, Professor of Education, has been appointed to the Unclassified Personnel Planning Committee (U.P.P.C.).

6. Nominations for the Tenure Committee from the Schools of Business, Education, and Arts & Sciences were made by the Executive Committee and sent to Vice President Murphy, who will select a member for each school to sit on this committee.

7. The N.E.A. invited a few faculty members, including the Faculty Senate President, to a recent meeting in Hays. Various N.E.A. professionals were present to discuss N.E.A.'s interest in increasing their membership on this campus as well as throughout the Regents System. Similar meetings have taken place or will take place on the other campus'. Positive and negative comments concerning the role that N.E.A. plays on any campus were expressed during the meeting. Dr. Welch feels that a rather neutral position was taken by those faculty members present who were not N.E.A. members. Each person who attended the meeting most likely realized that N.E.A. will continue to explore the possibility of increasing their membership on this campus.

8. Dr. Welch recently met with Mr. Steve Wood, Memorial Union Director, and Mr. Dave Richard, Bookstore Manager. Problems and concerns were discussed and problem solutions were agreed upon. A more detailed report will be finalized and distributed in the near future.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive:

No report.

Academic Affairs:

No report.
By-Laws and Standing Rules:

No report.

Student Affairs:

No report.

University Affairs:

Dr. Frank Potter, chairperson, University Affairs Committe, announced the formation of the following sub-committees: Salary Study (Dr. Heil, Dr. Ratzlaff), Graduation Ceremonies (Ms. Eining, Dr. Potter), Early Retirement (Dr. Wilkins), University Calendar (Dr. Robinson, Dr. Arbogast), Local Fringe Benefits (Dr. Salien, Dr. Shapiro), Affirmative Action (Dr. Salien).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Dr. Welch reported that the By-Law Amendments were on the verge of being submitted for vote to the entire faculty.

A.A.U.P. Guidelines for the U.P.P.C. have been submitted to President Tomanek, and the response so far has been favorable. Dr. Welch indicated to the Senate that last year President Tomanek provided appropriate reasons to the Executive Committee concerning why he would not accept "blanket" A.A.U.P. Guidelines. President Tomanek suggested the Faculty Senate extract pertinent A.A.U.P. Guidelines from the A.A.U.P. Guidebook, then submit them to him and Dr. Murphy at a later date.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Welch discussed the development of Procedures to be used for Unit or Program Discontinuance. Dr. Welch emphasized that tenured faculty could be eliminated as a result of this situation. Dr. Welch also indicated that Unit or Program Discontinuance Procedures could logically be part of the existing Procedures for Reduction of Unclassified Personnel due to Financial Exigency, and that this document would include items other than financial reasons for discontinuance. Dr. Welch informed the Senate that the Board of Regents requested each Regents institution to create a set of guidelines for Unit or Program Discontinuance. Dr. Welch suggested that we review these procedures from other institutions as they become available. Until this time, however, the Executive Committee will deal with the development of said procedures for the U.P.P.C. and when appropriate involve the University Affairs Committee.

Dr. Welch brought up the topic of specific general education courses required by some major programs. Some faculty have a concern about this item. Dr. Welch felt that if there was enough concern over this issue, the Academic Affairs Committee should be designated to review the issue in greater detail.

Dr. Welch indicated that some courses have been required by major's programs without knowledge or discussion by the Senate, whereas others have
had Senate approval when the entire program was approved by the Senate. Dr. Markley asked for a concrete example of this problem. Dr. Welch said that the School of Business requires particular general education courses for their majors. The School of Education is now requiring specific general education courses for their majors. This is a trend and its appropriateness should be discussed.

Dr. Tramel indicated he would personally like to see this issue explored in some detail. He was aware of particular concern with the School of Education's new General Studies Program. Dr. Lewis Miller indicated that the ancillary matter of creating a general education course to specifically meet the needs of a department be investigated. Dr. Potter indicated that some majors require cognate courses that might also satisfy general education requirements. This practice may restrict the student's opportunity for obtaining a diverse general education.

Dr. Welch asked if there had been any interaction between the General Education Committee and the Academic Affairs Committee. Dr. Tramel indicated that the General Education Committee in the School of Arts and Sciences is currently reviewing the general education courses and will be making recommendations to the Dean. Dr. Tramel indicated that he and the Dean of Arts and Sciences would be happy to share their recommendations with the Academic Affairs Committee. Dr. Tramel indicated that the General Education Committee in the School of Arts and Sciences has addressed the issue of designing general education courses for particular major programs. Dr. Welch asked if there was a motion to consider this issue. Dr. Tramel moved that the Academic Affairs Committee consider the issue of requiring particular general education courses for some degree programs (including the ancillary issue of developing general education courses for specific majors). Dr. Heil seconded the motion.

Dr. Beougher asked for clarification of the charge to Academic Affairs. Dr. Tramel said he intended the Academic Affairs Committee to look into the practice of various schools and programs requiring general education courses and not a full review of the general education program. Dr. Markley asked if there was going to be a distinction between departments requiring general education courses as cognates and a department or a school requiring student use of a particular course for their general education requirement. Dr. Tramel agreed that there was a difference, e.g., chemistry may be a cognate for a science major; on the other hand, when the School of Education prescribes all the general education courses that must be taken, then these are not cognates. Dr. Markley indicated that the Psychology Department requires a math course, but whether they use that course or not for general education is a separate matter.

Dr. Arbogast indicated that required general education courses for the School of Education such as general psychology, English composition, and fundamentals of speech were essential courses (cognates) for education majors. Dr. Tramel asked why art history was required by the School of Education but no music course. Is art essential to education but not music? Mr. Nichols indicated that all of the changes in the general education program for teacher education were made so students could pass specific exit exams.
The exams had no questions on music; therefore no music requirement was deemed necessary.

Dr. Allan Miller indicated that education has had a difficult time conforming to the many new state teacher education requirements. Dr. Allan Miller asked that the committee who investigates this issue keep state department mandates in mind. Dr. Miller also suggested that those people effecting changes in teacher education may not have the student's welfare in mind. Dr. Tramel suggested that tailoring a general education component around an exit examination seems to be an artificial limitation on what should be general education. Dr. Beougher indicated that the decisions made by the committee who devised the new general studies program were based upon the following constraints: 1) the new State Department of Education mandates, 2) the exit examination, and 3) the current University general education program. Dr. Beougher said the overriding concern when developing the new general studies program was not the passing of the exit examination. However, Dr. Beougher did state that the art course was chosen over a music course because of art content on the examination.

Dr. Singleton indicated that the accounting majors and nursing majors have had programs geared for succeeding in exit exams for years. He did not see how the new education program was not a matter of established precedence. Dr. Leeson indicated that the general education requirement might be an additional requirement to required cognates, thus leading to a true liberal arts education.

Dr. Welch called for the question. The motion unanimously passed.

ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS
FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
September 12, 1983


Announcements: Number 4, second sentence. Change Ms. Atkins will remain on that committee but Dr. Jennings' service is terminated, to, Ms. Atkins will remain on that committee and Dr. Jennings has completed his term on the committee.

Number 5, change appointed, to created.

Number 7, second sentence. Change regional, to, Regents'.

Unfinished Business: Third item of unfinished business, first sentence. Change moved, to, removed.
Announcements: Number 2, change the first sentence from Dr. Welch informed the Senate that Roberts Rules of Order will be used for procedural matters not covered in the Senate By-Laws, to Dr. Welch informed the Senate that the Senate's By-Laws state that Roberts Rules of Order have to be used for all matters not covered by the Senate By-Laws.

Unfinished Business: Change the second sentence from, Due to procedure inconsistent with Roberts Rules of Order concerning election of officers a new election for the office of Vice-President was held at the September 20, 1983, Senate meeting, to Due to procedures inconsistent with the Faculty Senate By-Laws concerning the election of officers, the Vice- Presidential election continued at the September 20, 1983, Senate meeting.

Last sentence, change the phrase "the nominees," to the remaining nominees.

Dr. Heil moved to adjourn. Motion seconded by Dr. Giese. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Arbogast
Faculty Senate Secretary