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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, January 9, 1986

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FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

January 9, 1986

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

ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Mr. Frank Nichols, Dr. Robert A. Nicholson, Dr. Thomas L. Wenke, Mr. Jack Logan, Ms. Joan Rumpel, Ms. Sandra Rupp, Dr. Delbert Marshall, Dr. Marcia Bannister, Dr. John Ratzlaff, Dr. Bill Rickman, Dr. Art Hoernicke, Dr. Ninia Smith, Dr. Albert Geritz (alternate for Dr. Carl Singleton), Dr. Lloyd Frerer, Mr. David Ison, Dr. Mark Giese, Dr. Tom Kerns, Dr. Raymond Wilson, Mr. Glen McNeil, Mr. Jim Walters, Dr. Elton Beougher, Dr. Ronald Sandstrom, Mr. David Rasmussen (alternate for Dr. Lewis Miller), Dr. Martin Shapiro, Ms. Mary Anne Kennedy, Ms. Eileen Curl, Dr. Stephen Tramel, Dr. Roger Pruitt, Dr. Lawrence V. Gould, Dr. Robert Markley, Dr. Phyllis Tiffany, Dr. Nevell Razak, Mr. Mac Reed.

Members absent: Dr. Brent Spaulding, Dr. Zoran Stevanov, Dr. Billy Daley, Dr. Jean Salien.

Others present: Dr. Jim Murphy.

Approval of minutes: The December 10, 1985 minutes were corrected as follows: at page 1 in the Roll Call the typing of "Nichols," "Frere," and "Hoernicke" were corrected to Nichols, Frerer, and Hoernicke, and the heading on the final page of the Attachment was corrected from "Appendix 0, p. 16" to Appendix 0, p. 6. There being no other corrections, the minutes were approved as corrected.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Bill Rickman indicated that because Dr. Tomanek was ill, Dr. Murphy would stand in for him in presenting information regarding the Fiscal Year 1987 Budget. Referring to the Budget Picture sheet dated January 6, 1985, (see attachment) Dr. Murphy commented that it is very difficult to anticipate how the budget in its final form will be this year because of revenue short falls and the need to develop tax increases. In reference to the recommendations regarding Unclassified Salaries, Dr. Murphy pointed out the Board of Regents recommendation of 7% in contrast to the Governor's Budget Division recommendation of 0%, and the Governor's recommendation that the State pay the employee's share of the retirement contribution. The thinking behind that recommendation is that the State's paying an additional 5% in retirement is less costly than an additional 4% in salary. Following other comments on elements of the Budget Picture information, Dr. Murphy answered questions from the Senate floor.

Dr. Beougher questioned whether money would be available for base salaries for part time employees. Dr. Murphy indicated that the State has taken no
position on that matter. Dr. Beougher then asked whether the State's picking up the employee's share of the retirement contribution rather than providing for salary increases would impact on money for promotions. Dr. Murphy indicated that the retirement contribution change might be the only area where increases are possible.

Dr. Hoernicke asked whether there's any likelihood of our getting the $210,000 the Board of Regents had approved for Off-Campus Instructional Centers under Program Improvements. Dr. Murphy indicated that the hope is to get enough funding to expand to Liberal and Garden City on a half-time basis.

There being no other questions from the Senate floor regarding the budget information, Dr. Murphy added these comments: that enrollment as of today's date is the same as last year. The Enrollment Adjustment figure is based of FTE and the reduction of $264,656 is effective next year. If the university enrollment is up, there may not be a reduction for the following year. He concluded by saying that it is important that we maintain standards and "not give students anything but should do everything possible to keep students."

Dr. Rickman thanked Dr. Murphy for his report on the status of the budget process, then returned to the regular announcements, calling attention to item #1 that the Board of Regents had approved reinstatement of the Ed. S. in School Psychology at its December meeting.

Referring to item #2, Dr. Rickman reported that Faculty Senate Presidents met with Bill Bunten, Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee and Mike Johnston, Senate Minority Leader in December to discuss funding of higher education in FY '87. Dr. Rickman's perceptions from these meetings were: (1) Funding to preserve and augment past investments in higher education is in jeopardy, and (2) that for faculty to isolate themselves from the political system and depend upon the Legislature and the Governor to represent our interests is a mistake. Dr. Rickman emphasized the need for the faculty to write letters to members of the Legislature to express their view points on issues of funding.

Dr. Rickman reported in item #3 that at the December meeting of the Council of Presidents, the recommendation from COCAO concerning evaluation of instruction was discussed. The recommendation states: "The Council of Chief Academic Officers reaffirms its support of systematic evaluation of instruction. The Council believes this is done most effectively on an institution by institution, and in some cases, discipline by discipline basis. That evaluation should normally include student participation. The Council urges the Regents to continue to expect systematic evaluation of instruction and the responsibility for implementation to continue with individual institutions." Discussion focused upon inclusion of the word "normally" in the last sentence of the recommendation. The Council of Presidents referred the recommendation back to COCAO for reconsideration.

Dr. Rickman reported in item #5 that the 1985 program review approved by the Board of Regents contained the recommendation that no new students be admitted into the Master's degree program in Mathematics at Fort Hays State University beginning Fall 1986 and extending to Fall 1989. During the 1988-89 year or at an appropriate earlier time, a review will be conducted to determine the feasibility of reopening the program.
Dr. Rickman added a fifth announcement concerning the Senate's action to approve revision of the Faculty Handbook's material on tenure policy, that Dr. Murphy had approved the revisions recommended by the Faculty Senate.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academic Affairs—Dr. Sandstrom

Dr. Sandstrom indicated that the motion from Academic Affairs to approve Psychology 355 - Drugs and Behavior should have two corrections in the course description: a comma should follow the word "historical," and the preposition "in" should be changed to the preposition "by." The motion to approve then read:

To approve Psychology 355 - Drugs and Behavior - 3 credit hours as a non General Education course.

Course Description: "A course aimed at consideration of the historical, philosophical, crosscultural, social, biological, and psychological issues surrounding the use of psychoactive substances by humans."

The motion carried unanimously.

University Affairs—Dr. Gould

No report.

Student Affairs—Dr. Kerns

No report.

Bylaws and Standing Rules—Dr. Stevanov

No report.

OLD BUSINESS

Dr. Rickman called for any old or unfinished business. There was none.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Rickman called attention to the proposed Resolution from the Executive Committee for transmittal to Governor John Carlin and Kansas Legislators appearing in the Agenda as follows:

The Faculty Senate at Fort Hays State University strongly opposes the Budget Director's recommendations for the Regents institutions for fiscal year 1987.

These recommendations, by providing no faculty salary increases, no program improvements, and miniscule increases in operating expenses, will have a negative impact on the quality of higher education in the State of Kansas. In addition, these recommendations will perpetuate the decline in the percentage of general fund allocated to higher education. At a time when economic development is crucial to Kansas, past investments in higher education must, at a minimum be maintained.
We, therefore, strongly urge the Legislature to demonstrate a strong commitment to higher education. Specifically, we recommend that minimum funding for fiscal year 1987 be equal to that recommended by the Board of Regents "level C" budget.

Dr. Rickman commented that according to what he learned through discussions in Topeka with various legislators, faculty should communicate the needs of higher education to the Legislature. Dr. Rickman also indicated that the word "the" should be inserted in the expression "percentage of general fund allocated" before the word "general," and explained that "level C" funding is what the Board of Regents had approved and appears on the sheet "The FY 87 Operating Budget Picture" previously discussed during this meeting.

Dr. Rickman called the question on the motion to approve and transmit the resolution thus corrected. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Ratzlaff asked from the Senate floor whether faculty should use university stationery in writing to legislators. Dr. Rickman responded no. Dr. Murphy commented that such letters should perhaps address the Governor's recommendations and that the Governor's address before the Joint Session of the House was scheduled for 1-14-86.

Dr. Rickman called for any additional new business. Hearing none, he called for a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 4:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

David L. Ison
Faculty Senate Secretary