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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, July 7, 1986

FHSU Faculty Senate

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

ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Dr. Brent Spaulding, Mr. Frank Nichols, Dr. Zoran Stevanov, Dr. Robert A. Nicholson, Dr. Thomas L. Wenke, Ms. Joan Rumpel, Dr. Jim Rucker, Dr. Delbert Marshall, Dr. Fred Britten, Dr. John Ratzlaff, Dr. Bill Rickman, Dr. Billy Daley, Dr. Art Hoernicke, Mr. David Ison, Dr. Mark Giese, Dr. Merlene Lyman, Mr. Marc Campbell, Dr. Jeffrey Barnett, Dr. Martin Shapiro, Mr. David Rasmussen (alternate for Dr. Lewis Miller), Ms. Mary Anne Kennedy, Ms. Marian Youmans (alternate for Ms. Eileen Curl), Dr. Stephen Tramel (alternate for Dr. Paul Faber), Dr. Roger Pruitt, Dr. Lawrence V. Gould, Dr. Robert Markley, Dr. Phyllis Tiffany.

Members absent: Mr. Jack Logan, Dr. Lloyd Frerer, Dr. Ninia Smith, Dr. Paul Gatschet, Ms. Leona Pfeifer, Dr. Tom Kerns, Dr. John Klier, Mr. Jim Walters, Dr. Ronald Sandstrom, and Dr. Nevell Razak.

Others present: none.

Approval of Minutes: The Minutes of the June 10, 1986, Faculty Senate meeting were corrected for two points on page 1: the expression "had approved the amendment" was corrected to "Executive Committee recommended", and the spelling "Cathy" was corrected to "Kathy" in reference to Dr. Kathy Hull. There being no other corrections, the Minutes were approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Giese reported in announcement #1 that the Board of Regents had requested each school to develop a Role and Scope Statement by September, 1986. They had provided Fort Hays State University with a suggested outline. Dr. Giese called on Dr. Bill Rickman to review the Regents' request.

Dr. Rickman indicated that the Role and Scope request mandates that each institution prepare a presentation itemizing its objectives to help eliminate "turf-fighting" among the Regents' institutions. He further commented that he had talked with Dr. Murphy regarding the time-line required for submission of this document because it does not permit input from faculty, the writing of being necessarily completed during the summer months when a large number of faculty are absent. Dr. Rickman reported that both the Council of Presidents and the Council of Faculty Senate Presidents had requested an extension on the deadline but, though the Board of Regents had been sympathetic, it had not changed that deadline. The document must be to the Board of Regents no later than December 31st, 1986.
Dr. Giese then reported that he had met with Dr. Murphy, Dr. Jack McCullick, Mr. Ron Fundis, and others already doing work on segments of the Role and Scope Statement, using demographics and other information readily at hand, and reported that Dr. Murphy has asked the Faculty Senate to develop a statement highlighting the strengths and unique situations we may experience as faculty here at Fort Hays State University. Dr. Giese has volunteered to work with information provided by faculty to him, and with Mr. Chris Powers of the Student Senate to provide Dr. Murphy with this element. Dr. Giese called for senators to provide written suggestions by the following Monday so that he could incorporate those suggestions in the section he is now responsible for writing.

In announcement #2, Dr. Giese reported that the Board of Regents approved $518,920.00 for program improvements for 1988.

In announcement #3, Dr. Giese reported that many of the budget items that had been discussed during the past six months were approved by the Board of Regents; of specific interest to us, they approved the request for 8% salary increases, 1% retirement increases, and an increase in OOE of 7.4%.

In announcement #4, Dr. Giese reported that the Board of Regents will meet at Fort Hays State University in September. Dr. Giese indicated he thought Dr. Tomanek would have the members of the Board in his home for a social gathering, and Dr. Giese would ask his counterparts from other Regents institutions' Faculty Senates to his home for a similar function. He commented that members of our Faculty Senate would likely be invited to one or both of these functions.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS--Dr. Ron Sandstrom.

No report.

UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS--Dr. Larry Gould

Referring to the proposed Student Grade Appeals Policy and Procedures statement, Dr. Gould indicated that if approved, the document would provide a "charge" to departments to write their own policy statements. Dr. Gould commented that his committee had focused on procedure rather than substance and that the resulting document had resulted from the joint efforts of the committee and Dr. Murphy. He further commented that Dr. Murphy wants "some" authority in handling student's appeals of grades.

Dr. Marshall questioned the time-line for implementation of the document, asking what happens during the summer? Dr. Gould indicated the Faculty Senate's recommendation of the document would go to Dr. Tomanek for his signature; once signed, the Student Grade Appeals Policy and Procedures document would be formally implemented.

Dr. Barnett asked whether in Dr. Tomanek's signing off on the recommendation, he assigns authority to Dr. Murphy. Dr. Gould responded yes.
Dr. Rickman commended the University Affairs subcommittee for its efforts in deliberating the issues carefully and for its concern for protecting academic freedom. He also commented that the Economics department faculty feel there is perhaps too much authority given to the Academic Vice-President.

Dr. Rickman introduced an amendment to Section II, Part B, Step E, Number 3 of the proposed Student Grade Appeals Policy and Procedures statement. His motion to amend would change the wording of that element as follows:

(3) change of original assigned grade (The option to change the original assigned grade can be exercised only as a result of unanimous agreement by members of the administrative hearing committee.)

Dr. Pruitt seconded the motion to amend. Dr. Giese called for discussion of the proposed amendment.

Dr. Tramel asked whether in a situation in which unanimous agreement by members of the administrative hearing committee could not be reached, the result would be a decision reflecting item (1) as indicated in the Policy and Procedures statement. Dr. Rickman commented that either (1) or (2) could then be exercised by the Academic Vice-President.

Dr. Giese called for additional discussion of the motion to amend. Hearing none, he called for the vote. The motion to amend carried unanimously.

Dr. Giese called for additional discussion of the main motion to approve the Student Grade Appeals Policy and Procedures statement.

Dr. Markley moved to further amend the same item by the addition of the following language: The change will be footnoted on the transcript as an Administrative Grade Change by Academic Vice-President. He commented that the person responsible for the grade change should be identified.

Dr. Giese called for a second. Dr. Rickman seconded the motion. Dr. Giese called for additional discussion. Dr. Gould asked whether Dr. Markley’s motion would necessitate a change in language on the bottom of page 7 and the top of page 8. Dr. Hoernicke asked how the addition of this language relates to the unanimouness of the committee decision necessary for the grade change to be made. Dr. Singleton commented that the intention seemed to be to require a unanimous decision before an Administrative Grade Change could be made, so that it doesn't matter whether it is recorded on the transcript as such.

Dr. Pruitt asked whether the addition of this language would appear as a second parenthesis in item 3 or would be incorporated within the first parenthesis. He commented that unanimous agreement must be achieved before this action could take place. Dr. Giese indicated he would trust Dr. Gould’s committee to clear up the manuscript presentation. There being no further discussion of this motion to amend, Dr. Giese called the question. The second motion to amend passed unanimously.

Dr. Giese referred the Senate to the original motion from Academic Affairs to
approve the Student Grade Appeals Policy and Procedures statement. Dr. Markley commented in discussion that he really disliked the language at the bottom of page 7 speaking of "expunging" a grade. His personal feeling is that the document should allow the normal procedure to apply. Dr. Markley moved that the asterisked material on the bottom of page 7 and top of page 8 be removed from the statement. Dr. Tiffany seconded this motion to amend by removal of the asterisked materials identified. Dr. Tramel commented in discussion of the motion that we need to look at the procedure from the student's point of view; there is a presumption that something is amiss in a situation calling for retaking a course. Dr. Markley responded by saying that we would be removing the professor's original statement.

Dr. Giese read the language challenged in the motion: "Upon completion of the retake, the disputed grade will be expunged from the student's transcript and the grade for the retake will replace the original," indicating the motion would remove this language. The third motion to amend the statement failed, the vote being 12 for and 13 against.

Dr. Giese referred the Senate to the original motion now amended, and called for additional discussion. Mr. Ison commented that there is an existing policy that a retake for a course must be the original line-item, that courses designated as Topics cannot be substituted for another course, in response to Dr. Markley's observation that a student could retake a substitute for the course completed but disputed. There being no further discussion, Dr. Giese called for the vote. The motion carried.

Dr. Gould indicated that there was a second motion from Academic Affairs to be dealt with. He referred the Senate to the attachment 2 to the committee report distributed at the June meeting, and the motion to change the existing language at page 59 in the University Catalog, to read as indicated in this attachment. There being no discussion of the motion, Dr. Giese called for the vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Gould called attention to a third motion from Academic Affairs to recommend to the Graduate Council that the language of the Graduate School Catalog at page 90 be changed to correspond to the approved policy. There being no discussion on this motion, Dr. Giese called for the vote; the motion passed unanimously.

BYLAWS AND STANDING RULES--Dr. Zoran Stevanov

No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Dr. Giese called for any unfinished business to come before the Senate. There was none.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Giese called for any new business. Dr. Gould indicated that since there is no Faculty Senate meeting in August, he is concerned that there is no provision for faculty input in the development of the Role and Scope Statement,
nor for faculty evaluation of the draft version of the Role and Scope Statement that must leave campus by mid-August. Dr. Gould called for a delay or postponement of the date by which the draft version of the Role and Scope Statement must leave campus. He offered a resolution as follows: That the Faculty Senate encourage the Board of Regents to extend the suspense date for the Role and Scope Statement's leaving campus until after the Faculty Senate's meeting in September.

Dr. Giese offered a comment that the Faculty Senate Executive Committee had charged Dr. Giese with the responsibility of calling Dr. Murphy to ask for an extension, but in doing so found that Dr. Murphy was out of town until the 14th of July.

Dr. Rickman seconded the resolution, then commented that in discussing the Role and Scope Statement development with Dr. Murphy prior to his leaving campus, that just because there is a faculty member on the steering committee developing the document does not mean the faculty or Faculty Senate approve the document. He indicated that he had told Dr. Murphy the faculty saw the Statement as a potentially politically sensitive document, and that it should be sent to the Faculty Senate or to a Committee of the Whole Faculty for review. Dr. Gould emphasized that the resolution was to "encourage" the Board of Regents to extend that deadline.

Dr. Giese called for a vote on the proposed resolution; it carried unanimously, with the understanding that Dr. Gould would write the resolution to be sent to the Board of Regents.

Dr. Giese called for any additional new business. Dr. Tramel offered a suggestion that the members of the new External Affairs Committee are the logical persons to deal with the issues of the Role and Scope Statement. Dr. Gould commented that the External Affairs Committee could be tapped to serve as the Faculty Senate's voice on this matter. Dr. Giese added that the Faculty Senate Executive Committee had really wanted to see the document early enough to deliver an opinion and or consult the External Affairs Committee members. Dr. Tiffany commented that in her opinion faculty concerns have not been taken into account in the existing procedures for developing the Role and Scope Statement.

Dr. Giese called once again for written suggestions for him to include in the segment Dr. Murphy has assigned Dr. Giese to write.

Dr. Giese called for a motion to adjourn, there being no other new business. The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David L. Ison, Secretary
Faculty Senate