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Fort Hays State University

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FACULTY SENATE MINUTES February 7, 1990

The following members were present: Dr. Bill Daley, Dr. Robert Stephenson, Ms. Martha Holmes, Dr. Fred Britten, Dr. Thomas Wenke, Dr. William King, Ms. Joan Rumpel, Dr. James Hohman, Dr. Lloyd Frerer, Dr. Bill Watt, Dr. Paul Phillips, Dr. Paul Gatschet, Dr. Raymond Wilson, Mr. Glen McNeil, Mr. Jerry Wilson, Dr. Ron Sandstrom, Dr. Mohammad Riazi, Mr. Kevin Schilling, Dr. Lewis Miller, Dr. Martin Shapiro, Ms. Dianna Koerner, Ms. Marcia Masters, Dr. Paul Faber (for Dr. Richard Huguen), Dr. Maurice Witten, Dr. Jack Barbour, Dr. Robert Markley, Dr. Robert Schellenberg, Dr. John Zody, Dr. Michael Kallam, Ms. Sharon Barton.

Members absent: Mr. Dale Ficken, Mr. Jack Logan, Dr. Bill Powers, Dr. Ralph Gamble, Mr. David Ison, Mr. Glenn Ginther, Ms. Leona Pfeifer, Dr. Tom Kerns, Dr. Nevell Razak.

Others present: Provost Murphy, Dean Howe, Dean Bartholomew, Dr. Robert Nicholson, David Baker for Hays Daily News.

The minutes of the January 8, 1990, meeting were approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Budget: President Faber discussed Attachments A and B. These attachments provide information concerning the budget situation at Fort Hays State. President Faber indicated that there should be an additional plus sign between the first row and the second row in the chart showing the components of the budget. He also added that in Governor Hayden's Budget Recommendation in Part II, Items C and D are listed separately. The Governor's recommendation, however, lumps the two items together. Thus OOE, utilities, and student labor will all come out of the one common source of monies. It was noted by President Faber that the Wichita Eagle Beacon reported among the effects of the budget cuts was the necessity for Kansas State University to cut 24 sections of classes. This action will likely result in either increased class size with its accompanying dilution of quality or make it impossible for students to complete graduation requirements in four years. Provost Murphy stated that Fort Hays State is not in a similar situation as the one experienced by Kansas State University.

2. Planning: President Faber indicated that Attachment C outlines the processes used in planning both at the university level and at the state level. The senate was reminded that he has asked each of the chairs of the standing committees, with the exception of Bylaws and Standing Rules, to begin having the committee members do some planning as a preliminary step to the work of the Strategic Planning Committee which starts in September.

3. Cost Savings on Program Eliminations: It was reported that in the January meeting of the Board of Regents, the staff of the Board of Regents reported on cost savings due to discontinuance of programs reviewed in 1989. Kansas University and Pittsburg State will make their report this month, so the report covered only the remaining four universities in the Regents system. President Faber pointed out that in the four institutions on which the report was based, the Board of Regents discontinued a total of 14 degree or certificate programs based upon review in 1989. These programs were discontinued because of an insufficient number of faculty with terminal degrees, an insufficient demand by students, or both. Wichita State University reported a savings of \$86,000 by discontinuing "the Speech/Theater teaching field for secondary education...and the endorsement in Library Media" (quoted from the Minutes of the Board of Regents Meeting). Kansas State University reported no savings, Emporia State University reported no savings, and Fort Hays State University reported no savings. There were, therefore, no savings resulting from the discontinuance of 12 of the 14 programs last year.

4. Honorary Degrees and the Executive Committee: The Board of Regents reconsidered and reconfirmed its policy which allows the universities to bestow honorary degrees. President Faber, quoting from the policy manual of the Board of Regents, indicated the criteria for the reception of these honorary degrees are: outstanding academic achievement, outstanding service to the university, outstanding service to their profession, outstanding contribution to society, or...a significant association with the state of Kansas." He said it is possible for a university to award a Doctor of Fine Letters, a Doctor of Human Letters, a Doctor of Laws, a Doctor of Letters, a Doctor of Literature, or a Doctor of Science degree. President Faber said Fort Hays State is considering beginning the practice of awarding honorary degrees. The Board of Regents requires that the Board must approve the awarding of each honorary degree, and each nominee whose name is taken before the Board must be recommended by the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate. The Executive Committee will be meeting Thursday, February 22, and President Faber requested senators to submit names of potential individuals for honorary degrees to members of the Executive Committee. One individual is already under consideration to receive an honorary degree. President Faber warned the senate of complications that could exist. Fort Hays does not want to reject anyone from consideration for this honor. It is not possible to officially discuss the merits of any candidate because of the undersirability of having a name officially surface, having a person contacted by well-wishers or friends or whomever, and then not receive a nomination for the honorary degree. President Faber stated that he will talk privately with anyone about the individual currently being considered for the award, but he did not think it was prudent to discuss the matter at a public meeting. Finally, it was noted that the Fort Hays State administration and those proposing the candidate are not envisioning this as a quid pro quo arrangement.

President Faber is confident that the honorary degree will not be offered as a part of any deal for the university. In fact, he said the person under consideration at this time is very fond of Fort Hays State. It was also pointed out that the university could benefit from the candidate's generosity.

5. Double-Numbered Courses: President Faber reported that the staff of the Board of Regents is beginning to think about double-numbered courses (courses numbered both at 500 and 700 levels). A 700 level course may include both undergraduate and graduate students, but its graduate enrollment must be more than one-half of its total enrollment. The staff's concern is that double-numbered courses are violating the spirit of the law. They may try to alter the letter of the law so that such classes would violate the letter as well. It was further reported that in the past it has been financially desirable for the university to have students counted as graduates rather than undergraduates, but that is probably changing. So if the Board of Regents disallows double-numbered courses it will not have that particular negative impact on Fort Hays State. President Faber did say that it would still have an important negative effect on the university because it would make some graduate programs not feasible. This is an issue that may be coming up more fully in the future.

6. Student Labor Allocation: It was stated by President Faber that the university has been conducting a study of student labor allocations under the direction of the Vice President of Student Affairs, Dr. Dawson. It was decided to expand the current study. So far it has been a study of expenditures; now each department will be asked to explain its needs as well. Nothing, therefore, has been decided on the basis of the part of the study completed to this date.

7. Problem with Social Security Contributions for 1986: President Faber indicated some faculty members at Kansas State University have found upon retirement that the Social Security Administration has credited them with 0 earnings in 1986. Apparently a tape got lost between the state and federal governments. The state has promised to correct the problem. Faculty members at Fort Hays State wishing to see a record of their contributions can contact the Social Security Administration by visiting the local office or calling its toll-free number which is 800-234-5772. Only about 10% of the Kansas State University faculty experienced problems with crediting in 1986. President Faber indicated that he had not heard of any faculty member at Fort Hays State having a similar problem.

8. The Strategic Plan: It was reported by President Faber that the strategic plan for CY 1990 will be distributed within the week. An innovation that President Hammond has added since the last meeting of the Strategic Planning Committee is the highlighting of six action plans for university wide application.

STANDING COMMITTEES

1. Academic Affairs: No report.
2. University Affairs: Presented by Ms. Holmes.

Motion: The Faculty Senate endorses the proposal that the University replace "School" with the word "College" in the names of various administrative units wherever appropriate.

Motion approved.

3. Student Affairs: No report.
4. Bylaws and Standing Rules: Presented by Ms. Masters

It was reported that each department has received a notice about upcoming elections of Faculty Senate senators.

5. External Affairs: Presented by Ron Sandstrom.

Refer to New Business.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Dr. Robert Nicholson, chair, Select Committee on Student Evaluation of Faculty, reported the results of the committee's work. The study had a 30-40% response rate. The committee attempted to meet the charge of the senate to investigate the use of various instruments used to conduct student evaluation of faculty performance. Dr. Gatschet asked if the committee had considered the issue of a university-wide instrument for evaluation. Dr. Nicholson responded that the committee had discussed the subject but had not reached any definite conclusion concerning the issue. He stressed that this was a status report and now that the report was in, the senate could consider related issues. Dr. Nicholson concluded with a restatement that the committee had striven to meet the senate's charge to study the use of teacher evaluations at Fort Hays State.

Motion: It was moved by Dr. Miller, and seconded by Dr. Frerer, that the senate accept the report of the Select Committee on Student Evaluation of Faculty as presented by Dr. Nicholson with the thanks of the senate.

Motion approved.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Shrinkage Dollars.

Motion 1: It was moved by Dr. Sandstrom, and seconded by Ms. Koerner, to adopt the following resolution.

Resolution: The Faculty Senate of Fort Hays State University

endorses the concept that the University should return to the State Budget its fair share of shrinkage monies for the fiscal year 1990.

Discussion: Dr. Frerer asked what was meant by "fair share." Dr. Sandstrom responded that it was a phrase used by President Hammond when discussing this issue. President Faber suggested that although he was not a party to drafting the resolution, he thought "fair share" referred to something more like the historical average of shrinkage monies (roughly \$200,000 per year). Dr. Markley noted that it is unrealistic to say Fort Hays State should not receive budget cuts, but it should be more in line with our "fair share" of dollars.

Motion carried.

2. Board of Regents' Financial Priorities.

Motion 2: It was moved by Dr. Sandstrom, and seconded by Dr. Frerer, to adopt the following resolution.

Resolution: The Faculty Senate of Fort Hays State University endorses the "Regents' Financial Priorities for the 1990 Legislative Session" as adopted by the Kansas Board of Regents at their January 18, 1990 meeting and contained in FHSU's Faculty Senate Agenda February 6, 1990. (refer to Attachment B)

Motion carried.

3. Letters to the Regents.

Dr. Sandstrom provided a list of state senators and representatives serving on the Education Committee and related committees. He urged concerned individuals to write to express their opinions on the Margin of Excellence, budget shrinkage, and restoration of Fort Hays State's base budget. Dr. Sandstrom cautioned the senators to use personal, not FHSU letterhead stationary. It was his point that private letters would have more influence.

LIAISONS

1. Dr. Hohman reported on the January 16, 1990 meeting of the Library Committee. He noted that there is a proposed journal collection review which will be conducted department by department. This review is critical to the School of Education.

2. Dr. Sandstrom pointed out that on Thursday the Student Government Association would be discussing a task force on environmental research. This is an important issue because it affects staff, faculty, and student use of paper, cardboard, and other such items.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Willis M. Watt, Secretary
FHSU Faculty Senate