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Minutes of the
Faculty Senate
of Fort Hays State University

February 4, 1992

President Willis Watt called the Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate to order on February 4, 1992, at 3:40 p.m. in the Trails Room of the Memorial Union.

The following members were present: Dr. Bill Daley, Dr. Michael Slattery, Dr. Robert Stephenson, Dr. Fred Britten, Dr. Michael Madden, Ms. Martha Holmes, Mr. Michael Jilg, Dr. Dale McKemey, Mrs. Joan Rumpel, Mrs. Sharon Barton, Dr. Max Rumpel, Dr. Serjit Kaur-Kasior, Dr. Stephen Shapiro, Dr. Robert Jennings, Dr. John Durham, Dr. Carl Parker, Dr. Paul Gatschet, Dr. Carl Singleton, Mr. Dewayne Winterlin, Dr. Gary L. Millhollen, Dr. John Zody, Dr. Tom Kerns, Dr. Helmut Schmeller, Dr. Merlene Lyman (for Mr. Glen McNeil), Mr. Jerry Wilson, Dr. Charles Votaw, Dr. Mohammad Riazi, Dr. Lewis Miller, Dr. Martin Shapiro, Ms. Dianna Koerner, Dr. Mary Hassett, Dr. Richard Hughen, Dr. Roger Pruitt (for Dr. Maurice Witten), Dr. Richard Heil, Dr. Robert Markley, Dr. Phyllis Tiffany, Dr. Nevell Razak, and Dr. Mike Rettig.

The following members were absent: Mr. Glen McNeil, Mr. Herb Zook, and Dr. Maurice Witten.

Also present were Dr. James Murphy, Dr. Larry Gould, Dr. Mary Hoy, Dr. Donald Hoy, Dr. Virgil Howe, Grant Bannister of the Student Government Association, a representative of the Leader, Ms. Adele Shaver of the Hays Daily News, and several faculty members of Fort Hays State University.

The minutes of the January 13, 1992, and January 28, 1992, Faculty Senate meetings were approved by unanimous vote. One typographic error under New Business on the January 13 minutes, "organized for collection bargaining purposes," was corrected to read "organized for collective bargaining purposes." Typographical errors on the January 28 minutes were noted by the secretary and have been corrected.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. President Watt reminded senators that he had distributed a draft document concerning the new general education committee, written by Dr. Larry Gould. President Watt encouraged senators to provide their opinions of the document.
2. He also requested that senators read Attachment A of the agenda, "How to Identify the Copyright Holder" and distribute to their department colleagues.
3. He referred senators to the announcements on the agenda and asked for any questions or comments; there were none. He noted the announcement about Grant Bannister, D.2.a., and added that Grant had reached the final stage in the Truman Scholarship

Competition. This type of activity is important to Dean Gould, and he would like to see an increase in this type.

4. President Watt also reminded senators of the beginning of the 1992 Annual Endowment Campus Fund Drive. The goal is \$42,000. It is an important drive; the money is used for student scholarships.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Academic Affairs. No report.
2. Bylaws and Standing Rules. Presented by Dr. Riazi.

Dr. Riazi introduced Dr. Gatschet who reported on his part of the review of the revised Faculty Handbook; he stated that there had been very few changes to Chapters 1 & 2 -- a new Mission Statement, a revised Table of Contents, an updated Affirmative Action Policy, an updated Drug & Alcohol Policy -- and that these changes maintained the spirit of the document. Dr. Murphy indicated that Dr. Thompson had made the changes, and then the Provost had approved them.

3. External Affairs. No report.
4. Student Affairs. No report.
5. University Affairs. No report.

OLD BUSINESS

President Watt suspended the order of business in order to address first the motion concerning the "visiting faculty" designation. Dr. Donald Hoy who had proposed this designation was present to answer any questions. In answer to the question, "Is this a new designation?" Dr. Watt said that it was a new designation. The designation would be given to a temporary position open for only a short time due to a sabbatical or temporary disability. The benefits for the university would be that more experienced or culturally diverse persons might be attracted to the university and might aid in recruiting culturally diverse applicants. The designation recognizes the importance of the position to the department and also enhances the status of the position. Not all temporary positions would fit this category. The motion was passed unanimously.

President Watt returned to the first item of old business, the Curriculum Review Committee (CRC) report. He explained that at the last regularly scheduled Faculty Senate meeting the Senate had accepted the CRC report from the committee and had dissolved the committee. The Senate had called a special meeting on January 28 to discuss the report. He now opened the floor for further discussion.

Dr. Markley introduced his motion previously sent to senators: M.1. "The Faculty Senate recommends adoption of the (2.1) Goals and

Objectives of the Basic Skills Component of the General Education Program and the (2.2) Goals and Objectives of the Liberal Arts Component of the General Education Program which are located in Part (2), pages 4-5, of the Ad Hoc Curriculum Review Committee Report." Dr. Miller seconded.

Dr. Britten asked if approval of these goals and objectives had implication for later changes; can changes to the goals and objectives be made after approval? President Watt and Dr. Heil affirmed that changes could be made later.

Dr. Markley explained that the goals and objectives establish a framework for the proposed general education program; the curriculum will be filled in later. If something were introduced later that did not fit the goals and objectives, the Senate could amend them.

President Watt and Dr. Votaw pointed out that approval of the goals and objectives provides the new general education committee with a framework within which it must work.

Dr. Hassett asked if the Senate was adopting specific courses in approving the goals and objectives; the areas listed under Goal A as Objective 1-5 are similar to specific courses. For example, Objective 2 is critical thinking; does that mean there has to be a course in critical thinking, or would it be part of another course? Dr. Sandstrom answered that it could be part of another course. Dr. Markley replied that the objectives were areas of emphasis and not specific courses. President Watt pointed out that if there was disagreement with any of the objectives, there could be amendments to the goals and objectives now or later.

Sections 2.1 and 2.2 of CRC report were unanimously adopted.

Dr. Markley offered the second motion: M.2. "The Faculty Senate recommends adoption of the specific curriculum proposals for the General Education Program which are contained in the entire Section 3.1.1 on pages 6 and 7 of the Ad Hoc Curriculum Review Committee Report." Dr. Huguen seconded.

Dr. Durham offered the following amendment to Dr. Markley's motion: to replace the words, "entire Section 3.1.1 on pages 6 and 7 of the Ad Hoc Curriculum Review Committee Report," with "memorandum from Provost Murphy to the Council of Deans and Department Chairs dated January 15, 1992, of which a copy has been circulated to the Faculty Senate, from the title "GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAM" through the sentence "Students are to complete the two distributive departmental courses prior to enrollment in the area integrative course." Dr. Pruitt seconded.

Dr. Durham explained that this amendment would replace the curriculum recommendations of the CRC with those of Dr. Murphy. He said in support of Dr. Murphy's proposal that it is a compromise acceptable to the largest number of faculty and causes the minimum amount of disruption to programs that already exist. It complies apparently with appropriate procedures already introduced by the administration. He stated that this would help the senators to focus more on areas where they agree.

Dr. McKemey proposed an amendment to the amendment: to delete the World Geography course (3 hours) from the Liberal Studies component, II. A., of Dr. Murphy's proposal. Dr. Britten seconded.

Dr. McKemey explained that he proposed this amendment in response to Dr. Ratzlaff's memo on this course.

Dr. Votaw noted that this deletion would reduce the total hours of Dr. Murphy's proposal from 52 hours to 49 hours, or in the Liberal Studies section, from 31 hours to 28 hours; the change of hours should be part of the amendment. It was pointed out that the CRC proposal has a total of 55 hours; Dr. Murphy's, 52 hours, and with the McKemey amendment Dr. Murphy's, 49 hours. Dr. Miller emphasized that the differences between the proposals was not only a difference of total hours, but also and more importantly there are substantive differences.

In support of the World Geography course, Dr. Singleton reminded faculty that national surveys have demonstrated the lack of knowledge in this area by students and the American public. Dr. Rumpel stated that this amendment is not responsive to Dr. Ratzlaff's Profs note; Dr. Ratzlaff did not object to a course in World Geography but rather to the two-hour course. Dr. McKemey quoted Dr. Ratzlaff: "It is extremely doubtful that the stated goals and objectives 2.1 could be fulfilled with a two-hour course; even with the current three-hour course Dr. Phillips must emphasize either the developed world or the developing world in order to provide the depth necessary for synthesis, analysis, and critical thinking." Dr. McKemey inferred that a three-hour course was inadequate so he recommended elimination of it. Dr. Ratzlaff pointed out that he supported the three-hour course for general education, but did not believe that a two-hour course would be worthwhile. Dr. Markley reminded senators that no matter the decision made on this amendment, the course would still remain in the CRC proposal and the Senate would have to act on it there also. He pointed out that the two-hour course could be amended when the Senate acts on the CRC proposal. The question was called.

The amendment was to delete the World Geography course from Dr. Murphy's proposal. The amendment was defeated: 14 for, 20 against, 0 abstentions.

President Watt turned the Senate's attention to the first amendment made, which was to replace the CRC proposed curriculum with Dr. Murphy's proposed curriculum.

Dr. Hassett proposed an amendment to the amendment: to delete Principles of Critical Thinking course (3 hours) from the Basic Skills component, I.A.3., of Dr. Murphy's proposal. Dr. Britten seconded.

Dr. Hassett did not believe that critical thinking should be taught in a separate course. Dr. Huguen believed that it should be taught across the curriculum, but he believes that there should be one basic course that addresses itself to these particular issues. Dr. Faber noted the appropriateness of such a course; he pointed out that there was a well established precedent for teaching skills in a specific course and then elaborating on them in other courses. Experimental work has suggested that students who take a course in which the

principles are addressed directly, shorn of application to other content or to stylistic considerations, are far more able to generalize what they have learned than students who took it on a disciplinary context. Dr. Singleton expressed the hope that we would not continue to fine-tune Dr. Murphy's proposal until the Senate had voted on it; he asked that there be no more amendments to the amendment. After the vote on this amendment, he hoped that the Senate would vote on Dr. Murphy's proposal, and then the Senate can fine-tune whichever one it wants to work with.

The question was called. The amendment to delete Principles of Critical Thinking course (I.A.3.) from Dr. Murphy's proposal was defeated: 9 for, 22 against, 2 abstentions.

President Watt directed the senators to the original amendment : to substitute Dr. Murphy's curriculum recommendations for the CRC curriculum recommendations. Dr. Singleton asked that no more discussion occur and that a vote be taken. Dr. Durham asked that Dr. Murphy's proposal be considered on its own merits and not rushed to a vote.

Dr. Huguen asked the merits of Dr. Murphy's proposal other than a reduction of hours. Ms. Koerner indicated that the CRC two-hour courses were increased to three-hour courses in Dr. Murphy's proposal. Dr. Markley pointed out that Dr. Murphy had proposed three separate integrated courses, one for each division of Humanities, Math/Sciences, and Social Sciences, instead of the one integrated course proposed by the CRC; he noted that implementation of these courses would be problematic since 3 times the number of faculty would be needed. He also suggested that another limitation of courses was the restriction of the courses within the divisions instead of transcending the divisions as the CRC course would.

Dr. Pruitt noted that the Physics Department teaches a Physical Science course which was team taught by three different disciplines in the past. Now it is taught solely by the Physics Department, and the faculty have difficulty covering all the material; three hours is not enough to cover the material. He also believed that the senators should talk about specific courses rather than the framework for courses. He stated that he also opposes the CRC proposal because it requires too many hours in general education. He needs more hours, not less, for the students in pre-engineering 3+2 program. Dr. Durham supported Dr. Pruitt's point that there were too many hours in the proposal; he believed that some compromise is necessary and Dr. Murphy's proposal was an appropriate compromise between the goals of the CRC and the requirements of a wide variety of the majors.

Dr. Miller pointed out that the CRC proposal gives more flexibility for courses than Dr. Murphy's proposal and emphasized that integrated courses may still be developed by departments within the divisions, but that such courses are not mandated as in Dr. Murphy's proposal. Dr. Schmeller reminded the Senate that the members of the CRC had spent many months of work on their proposal; he stated that the CRC recommendations are serious and carefully developed and should not be thrown aside with the flick of a wrist. Dr. Huguen added that the CRC saw their report as a compromise. Dr. Britten pointed out also that the CRC proposal is not the result of unanimous decisions but rather

of many compromises.

The question was called. The amendment to accept , in place of the 55-hour CRC curriculum recommendations, the 52-hour proposal by Dr. Murphy as presented in the memorandum containing "GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAM" was defeated: 15 for, 19 against, 1 abstention.

Dr. Singleton asked President Watt to allow Dr. Cliff Edwards to speak before the Faculty Senate. President Watt recognized Dr. Edwards. Dr. Edwards indicated that the English faculty are sensitive to faculty concerns about adding unnecessary hours in general education and yet are concerned that FHSU graduate fully educated students; their recommendations address duplication and proliferation of courses in Basic Skills and the need to regain balance, to strengthen the global perspective by restoring Humanities to the required courses in Section II.A. of the CRC proposal, and to restore foreign language to the humanities division. To summarize the English Department's modifications to the CRC proposal, he recommended the deletion of the Principles of Critical Thinking course (2 hours) in the interests of setting reasonable limits to the general education program; he recognized the value of the course, but indicated that English Composition II covered some of the same information. The second recommendation is the addition of a required course of World Literature and the Human Experience (3 hours) to the required courses of World Civilization (5 hours) and World Geography (2 hours); he demands coordination and planning between the three courses such as in selection of texts to achieve integration. He pointed out that both the University of Kansas and Emporia State University require students to take a world literature course and that literature is included in core curriculum throughout the nation. If this addition were adopted, he recommended deletion of the literature area in the Humanities division of the CRC proposal and addition of the foreign language area in its place. Discussion of the change of total hours followed; there was general agreement that Dr. Edwards' recommendations added hours to a total of 56-59 hours. Dr. Edwards pointed out that the University of Kansas require 63 hours of general education in the College of Business, and 60 hours in the College of Education. Dr. Edwards referred senators to the English Department document they have been sent, "Modifications to CRC Report on General Education," for additional information.

President Watt noted that there were a variety of proposals which several faculty had circulated; he suggested that these confused the issue. He pointed out that at the present time the motion to adopt the specific curriculum proposals, (3.1.1) Outline of the Proposed Program, of the CRC report was on the floor. He indicated that the senators could offer amendments to the outline.

Dr. Singleton offered the amendment to delete the Principles of Critical Thinking course (I.A.3.) from the Basic Skills component. His amendment was seconded. Dr. Huguen suggested that students could be given a choice of Principles of Critical Thinking or English Composition II. In response to some faculty's belief that the Philosophy Department would teach the course, Dr. Markley pointed out that the CRC report did not recommend which department would teach the course; only the course was recommended. Several different departments might teach sections of the course. Dr. Votaw noted that

students take English Composition II, and yet they do not demonstrate an understanding of critical thinking after taking it. Dr. Britten asked if they would after they took the proposed course. Dr. Faber pointed out that of necessity English Composition II does not cover critical thinking as completely as the proposed course would. Dr. Durham added that English Composition is directed more towards persuasion, a different subject from critical thinking.

The question was called. The amendment to delete the Principles of Critical Thinking course (I.A.3.) from the Basic Skills component of the Outline of the Proposed Program, CRC report, was passed: 22 for, 11 against, 2 abstentions.

Dr. Singleton then moved to amend the CRC proposal in three ways: 1. to delete literature from the Humanities distribution (II.B.1.b.), 2. to add World Literature and the Human Experience (3 hours) to section II.A., and 3. to change the title of section II.A. from World History and Geography (7 hours) to International Studies: World History, Literature, and Geography (10 hours). Dr. Martin Shapiro seconded. Dr. Pruitt pointed out that this raised the total hours to 58; Dr. Votaw corrected that total to 56. Ms. Koerner wondered if it would not be better to table this amendment until other things such as World Civilization and World Geography had been considered; the vote on this might be different in those circumstances. Dr. Rumpel suggested dropping the third part of the amendment and just saying that the section should be appropriately retitled; that would allow the Senate to move on. Dr. Singleton agreed.

At this point, Dr. Jennings called for adjournment and recommended that the Faculty Senate reconvene for a special meeting to continue discussion and that the senators be provided with a summary of the actions which have taken place today. His recommendation was seconded. The motion passed with 18 yeas, 14 nays, and 0 abstentions.

Dr. Pruitt requested that alternates to Faculty Senate receive the printed agenda and minutes. It has been learned that the Copy Center does send agendas and minutes to alternates.

President Watt announced that Senators would be notified of the time and place of the special meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Holmes, Secretary
Fort Hays State University
Faculty Senate