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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, March 2, 1992

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President Watt called the meeting of the Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate to order on March 2, 1992 at 3:35 pm 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, Mrs. Joan Rumpel, Ms. Martha Holmes, Dr. Ann McClure (for Dr. Dale McKemey), Mrs. Sharon Barton, Dr. Max Rumpel, Dr. Stephen Shapiro, Mr. Lance Lippert (for Dr. Serjit Kaur-Kasior), Dr. Mary Romjue (for Dr. Robert Jennings), Dr. John Durham, Dr. Carl Parker, Dr. Paul Gatschet, Dr. Carl Singleton, Mr. Dewayne Winterlin, Dr. Gary L. Millhollen, Dr. Tom Korns, Mr. Greg Kandt (for Dr. John Zody), Dr. Helmut Schmeller, Mr. Glen McNeil, Mr. Herb Zook, Mr. Jerry Wilson, Dr. Charles Volzaw, Dr. Mohammad Riazi, Dr. Martin Shapiro, Ms. Dianna Koerner, Mrs. Mary Hassett, Dr. Richard Heil, Dr. Robert Markley, Dr. Phyllis Tiffany, and Dr. Mike Retzig.

Members absent were Dr. Michael Madden, Mr. Michael Jilg, Dr. Dale McKemey, Dr. Serjit Kaur-Kasior, Dr. Robert Jennings, Dr. John Zody, Dr. Lewis Miller, and Dr. Nevell Razak.

Also present were Dr. Larry Goulc, Grant Bannister, President of the Student Government Association, Dr. Cliff Edwards, Dr. Lloyd Frerer, Dr. Albert Geritz, Dr. Ron Sandstrom, Dr. Gary Hulett, Dr. Eugene Fleharty, and several other members of the Fort Hays State University faculty.

The minutes of the February 12, 1992, Faculty Senate meeting were approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Watt stated that the meeting between the Council of Faculty Senate Presidents and Governor Finney had been productive. (II.D.1. of the Senate agenda)

In clarification of II.D.2.c. of the agenda, President Watt said that the Council of Presidents referred to the Council of University Presidents. Mr. Glen McNeil indicated that the fifty cent allocation would be per ticket for one football game and for one basketball game a year.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Academic Affairs. Presented by Dr. Britten.


4. Student Affairs. Presented by Dr. Stephenson. No report.


OLD BUSINESS

When the Faculty Senate tabled discussion of the Curriculum Review Committee (CRC) Report at the February 12 meeting, the Senate was discussing section II.B.1. Humanities of the report. The Senate had just approved the addition of the area of Foreign Language to this section. Dr. Heil asked if the Senate should consider adding the areas of geography and history to their respective divisions of the distribution to be consistent. Dr. Gatschet supported these additions and added that he would recommend that students be allowed to take only one course in literature, history, and geography in the distribution section.

Dr. Millhollen made the motion that the area of geology (II.B.2.c.) be retitled geosciences, thereby including geography in II.B.2.c. Dr. Britten seconded the motion. The motion passed with 0 abstentions, 1 negative and the rest affirmative votes.

Dr. Heil moved that section II.B.3. be amended to add item (e) history (3 hours). Dr. Singleton seconded. Some general discussion concerning what courses could be listed under this area followed; the Senate concluded that the choice of the courses was the decision of the departments and the new general education committee and that the Senate should avoid too many complications and restrictions of the work of the general education committee. The motion passed: 26 for, 5 against, 2 abstentions.

Mr. McNeil made the motion to change the area of theater and film (II.B.1.e.) to communications to allow the inclusion of a broader subject matter in the distribution. Dr. Durham seconded. The vote was 1 abstention, 0 negative and the rest affirmative.

Dr. Parker made the motion to allow students to take two courses in one area of a division. Dr. Heil seconded. Dr. Parker stated that two courses in one area would make a student more marketable in the job market, would provide more flexibility to the departments, and would allow the professional areas to designate cognates in an area. Dr. Heil pointed out that a student could thus take courses in only two areas of a division; Dr. Frerer commented that
students need to take courses in more areas in order to receive a more liberal education. Dr. Markley stated that our students will be less educated, and he pointed out that a student always has the opportunity to take courses as electives outside the general education program. Dr. Durham stated that more than one course in an area is needed to educate a student; he believed that less students would come to FHSU and that the Colleges would have to appeal for special exemptions if the program went through as it was. Dr. Tiffany commented that faculty need to think about the type of education they want to give our students and not concern ourselves with the type of education received at other Regents' institutions. Dr. Rumpel pointed out that students will avoid areas that they do not like because of all the courses the student has plated in the distribution of divisions; if this motion passes, the students could limit their choices even more. Ms. Koerner commented that the professional programs had to consider the number of hours for a degree and that professional programs should have special courses for their areas. Dr. Geritz stated that the CRC had decided not to allow students to take more than one course in an area so that the students would receive a broader knowledge of the liberal arts, and that broad knowledge is valuable. He further commented that what he seemed to be hearing loud and clear here was that the Liberal Arts are of no value other than to service the professional areas; he disagreed with that and found it unfortunate that so many of the faculty present believed that the situation was not true and that somewhere the faculty were going to have to blend the two in order to accommodate the professional areas. Dr. Markley said that he could accept such arguments if the College of Business and the Department of Nursing were willing to drop 6 hours from their programs. Dr. Durham said that was absurd and impossible. Dr. Martin Shapiro suggested that the students might be required to take three different courses in three different areas, but that certain courses might be designated as required by particular majors. Dr. Parker commented that with high percentage of majors graduating from the professional areas the faculty have a serious responsibility to our students to be sure that they are prepared in professional areas. Dr. M. Shapiro moved that the Senate might make a distinction between the Bachelor of Sciences and the Bachelor of Arts degrees and find a compromise in that way; the distribution for a B.A. degree would be spread over three courses in each of the divisions, and the distribution for a B.S. degree would be two courses in one area and one course in another area in each of the divisions. Dr. Tiffany asked what the definition of a professional area was; she has always understood this to mean the university as a whole. In today's discussion, does this mean only the areas of Education, Business, and Nursing? She pointed out that the Department of Psychology was training professionals also. Dr. Durham replied that he regreted the division of the university into so-called professional and non-professional disciplines. But for purposes of this debate the only professional areas were Business, Education, and Nursing. He went on to say that it was unwise to make such a division between the professional education, general education, and liberal education. Unfortunately the FHSU faculty have to face this and make that division. Dr. Geritz commented that to have so many different programs in a small university would be difficult to administer.

Dr. M. Shapiro moved that Dr. Parker's Amendment be changed so that the departments would recommend two courses in an area if a department wished to use this approach. Dr. Watt seconded. Dr. Schmeller seconded. Dr. Rumpel pointed out that this change would allow departments to choose between breadth or depth for the education of their majors; a department could require three courses in three different areas. The amendment to the amendment failed: 2 for, 26 against, 3 abstentions. The Faculty then voted on Dr. Parker's amendment; the motion passed by 17 for, 16 against, and 0 abstentions.

Dr. Votaw moved to strike "3 hours" after each of the areas listed under the distribution (II.B.) since a student may take 6 hours in one area now. Dr. Schmeller seconded. Dr. Sandstrom opposed this motion because the "3 hour" designation directs departments to develop 3 hour courses; if the designation were struck, a department could propose a 5 hour course. The motion failed: 3 for, 4 abstentions, and the rest against.

Dr. Rumpel moved to amend section II.B. to reflect the changes the Senate has made to the CRC program so that the phrase following II.B.1. Humanities and II.B.3. Social and Behavioral Sciences reads (9 hours - no more than six hours to be chosen in a single area below) and the phrase following II.B.2. Mathematics and the Natural and Physical Sciences reads (9 hours - no more than six hours to be chosen from a single area below, with an additional one hour lab). Dr. Durham seconded. Dr. Britten asked which course the one hour lab would accompany and recommended that the six hours be changed to seven hours to allow the additional one hour lab in one area. Dr. Durham rejected Dr. Britten's recommendation, stating that a student might take a two hour course with a lab in another area for the remaining three hours. Dr. Stephenson asked what would happen if the lab course were incorporated into a four hour course. Dr. Watt replied that this was not allowed according to the amendments. Dr. Heil suggested that the lab course and the lecture courses were different; the lab course is a hegis-1, and the lecture course a hegis-0. The amendment was defeated: 9 for, 18 against, 6 abstentions.
Dr. Rumpel made the motion to delete "and Physical" from the title of section II.B.2. He pointed out that the "physical" sciences were a part of the "natural" sciences. Dr. Hughen seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Koerner moved to table discussion of the CRC Report in order to finish senate business for the March 2 meeting and to schedule a special meeting to continue discussion of the CRC Report. Dr. Hassett seconded. Dr. Singleton stated that he would prefer to continue discussion until the report had been completely covered. The motion failed: 2 for, 0 abstentions, and the rest against.

President Watt asked if there were any further discussion of section II.B.3. Seeing none, he introduced section II.C., the upper division integrative course, for discussion. Dr. Durham made the motion to remove this course from the general education program. Dr. M. Shapiro seconded. Dr. Durham said that the program had too many hours already and that this course would not be easily implemented in any worthwhile fashion. Dr. Britten stated that the purpose of this course was to try to draw together all the areas of the program in a discussion of some common issues and to make some substantive changes in the general education program. He pointed out that the university could offer a number of courses which could serve the students and the departments in a number of ways; this course opened up the possibility of some imaginative and innovative ideas and methods of teaching. Dr. Hughen supported this course. Dr. Fleharty commented that with the amendments that have been passed the students have even less breadth than they did in the original proposals; this course would provide some of that breadth. Dr. Durham stated that he could not imagine such a course and could anyone provide him with an example. Several examples were provided. Dr. Durham responded to the examples given with the observation that these courses do not seem to be truly integrative across the curriculum. Dr. S. Shapiro responded that this course was not meant to fit into every course in every area of the general education program; it means two or three of the courses or areas. Dr. Heil indicated that there would be several courses for a student to choose to fulfill this requirement. Dr. Britten pointed out that this course would permit departments not included in the general education program to propose courses for this requirement. Dr. Schmeller referred the senators to the description of the course on page 20 of the CRC Report. The motion to delete the upper division integrative course was defeated: 4 for, 31 against, and 1 abstention.

Dr. Hughen made the motion that a student taking a course in International Studies (II.A.) may not take courses in the same area in the distribution (II.B.). Dr. Markley seconded. Dr. Rumpel pointed out that the term "core" implied the universal studies that everyone takes. Dr. Edwards suggested that Foundation Courses or Principles Courses be substituted for Basic Skills. Dr. M. Shapiro recommended Core Studies. Dr. Gould pointed out that no matter what FHSU called these courses, the Board of Regents will call them Basic Skills. Ms. Koerner amended her motion by suggesting the title Foundation Studies. Dr. Stephenson seconded. The motion passed with 0 abstentions, a minority against and a majority for.

Dr. Hughen moved that a student taking a course in International Studies (II.A.) not be allowed to take more than one additional course in the same area in the distribution (II.B.). Dr. Heil seconded. The motion passed: 6 for, 31 against, and 0 abstention.

Dr. Gatschet made the motion to change the title of section I from Basic Skills to General Education Core; to her Basic Skills implied remedial courses which did not correctly describe these courses. Dr. Britten seconded. Dr. Markley asked if the CRC definition of Basic Skills was irrelevant. Dr. M. Shapiro commented that the term "core" implied the universal studies that everyone takes. Dr. Edwards suggested that Foundation Courses or Principles Courses be substituted for Basic Skills. Dr. M. Shapiro recommended Core Studies. Dr. Gould pointed out that no matter what FHSU called these courses, the Board of Regents will call them Basic Skills. Ms. Koerner amended her motion by suggesting the title Foundation Studies. Dr. Stephenson seconded. The motion passed with 0 abstentions, a minority against and a majority for.

Dr. Kerns made the motion to change the title of section II.B.3 to the title of section II.B.2. He pointed out that the "physical" sciences were a part of the "natural" sciences. Dr. Hughen seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Koerner moved to table discussion of the CRC Report until the senators have a clean program to study. The motion was seconded. Dr. Watt said that he would call a special meeting of the Faculty Senate after Spring Break.
The motion passed: 0 abstentions, 5 against, and the rest for.

President Watt asked if there was any other old business; seeing none, he moved on to new business.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

LIAISON REPORTS

3. Instructional Media Committee. No report.

Governor Finney spoke to the Student Government Association and said that she would appoint a western Kansas Regent.

The meeting of the Faculty Senate was adjourned at 5:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Holmes, Secretary
Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate