

9-7-1976

Meeting Minutes

WKU Council of Academic Deans

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MINUTES

COUNCIL OF ACADEMIC DEANS

September 7, 1976

The Council of Academic Deans meeting was held in the Academic Affairs Conference Room on September 7, 1976 at 10:20 a.m. Members present were Deans Gray, Russell, Mounce, Jenkins, Sutton, Hourigan, Chelf, Hardin, Brenner, Davis and Corts. Dr. Keith Taylor was a guest at the meeting.

Dr. Davis asked Dr. Sutton to comment briefly on registration and enrollment data prior to the beginning of consideration of agenda matters. Dr. Sutton commented on the current situation and related it to earlier reports which he had given the Deans indicating a slight enrollment increase for the year.

The minutes of the August 31, 1976 meeting were reviewed and accepted by the Deans without comment.

Dr. Davis introduced the first item of business under discussion of policy matters - the subject of the summer school calendar, problems of class scheduling, and the relationship of these to the Owensboro Higher Education Consortium. Dr. Davis asked Dr. Keith Taylor to comment on these matters as he desired. Dr. Taylor reviewed the major points in correspondence which he had sent to Dr. Davis and which had been distributed to the Deans and indicated that Owensboro was set to continue with the same calendar for the summer of 1977. Dr. Davis indicated that Dr. Chelf also supplied material for the Deans consideration on this matter and Dr. Chelf presented several additional points to clarify his written proposal. Dr. Chelf indicated that the three-hour blocks were basically intended for undergraduate courses while the six-hour block was basically intended for graduate-level courses. After considerable discussion on this matter by the Deans, Dr. Davis requested that Dr. Chelf, Dr. Gray, and Dr. Brenner or Dr. Sandefur serve on a subcommittee to review this matter and bring a recommendation to the Council of Academic Deans as soon as possible. Dr. Taylor is to serve as a resource person with the subcommittee.

In further discussion on this issue, Dr. Gray suggested that consideration should be given to the development of housing facilities for married students and the possibility for providing child care during the summer term. Dr. Gray indicated that

various other institutions in the area were providing such facilities and services and Dr. Gray expressed his feeling that this would be a positive factor to help in the recruitment and retention of graduate students to study at Western during the summer session. Dr. Taylor also asked for consideration of the possibility of making a three-year projection of courses to be offered so that potential enrollees in specific programs could know more precisely what they might expect in terms of course availability. Dr. Davis indicated that he felt the Council of Academic Deans supported this position and requested that Dr. Taylor work directly with each Dean to effect this. Dr. Taylor also asked for specific degree program outlines in the form of one-page handouts which could be given to inquiring students. Again Dr. Davis asked Dr. Taylor to work directly with each Dean to accomplish this. Dr. Davis indicated that there was an effort currently being made to more clearly establish the role and relationship of OHEC to Western and the direct relationship of Dr. Taylor as the administrator of OHEC with WKU.

Dr. Davis requested the Deans' comments on the campus environment standards material which had been distributed. Dr. Davis asked Dr. Hardin if he would review his reactions for the Deans since he had worked so closely with the various self-studies. Dr. Hardin indicated that although there were some good questions and some good aspects of the questionnaire, he felt that there were numerous problems associated with our participation in the use of this instrument and specifically with numerous questions within the instrument. Various other Deans commented along similar lines and it was agreed that the instrument needs additional refinement before Western should consider use of the instrument.

Dr. Davis opened discussion on item nine of the operating procedures for meetings of the Council of Academic Deans which relates to the participation of department heads on an occasional basis in the Council of Academic Deans meetings. Various Deans presented their ideas and reactions based on consultations with department heads in their colleges. The consensus was that department heads would like involvement as related to information on the agenda and the minutes but that they do not desire any structured meetings. On a motion by Dr. Russell seconded by Dr. Jenkins, the Deans approved the following statement to serve as item nine of the operating procedures for meetings of the Council of Academic Deans: "Department heads are invited to attend the Council of Academic Deans meetings when items on the agenda are of special interest to them."

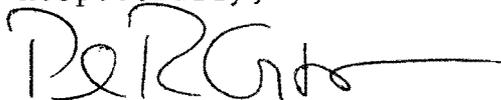
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Dr. Chelf discussed his proposal for a change in fee for auditing of courses. Dr. Jenkins indicated that the department heads in his college were opposed to this. Dr. Mounce indicated support for the idea of a reduced audit fee but felt that there should not be a distinction made between audit and "listener." Dr. Gray raised several questions about this as it might relate to graduate students and graduate student load. Dr. Sutton raised the question as to whether or not the Council on Public Higher Education Fee Schedules would prohibit Western from unilaterally setting a special fee for the auditing of courses. Dr. Davis indicated that he would check on this and determine if this should be placed on the agenda at a later time. Dr. Jenkins moved and Dr. Mounce seconded the motion to postpone the matter until the next week by which time Dr. Davis would have determined if the matter was within the Deans purview to recommend or whether the fee was regulated by the Council on Public Higher Education.

Dr. Sutton reported that the Council on Public Higher Education has approved a policy which clarifies the matter of transfer of credits from community colleges (House Bill 76). The new policy was discussed by the Deans as related to questions which had been raised earlier over the interpretation of this new policy.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully,



Paul R. Corts

PRC:lh