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Meeting Minutes

WKU Council of Academic Deans

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MINUTES
Council of Academic Deans
November 28, 1978

Dr. Davis called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. In attendance were Deans Mounce, Russell, Gray, Sutton, Chelf, Stroube, Nelson, Hourigan, Robinson, Cravens and Hardin. Visitors in attendance were President Downing, Mr. Lazarus, Mr. Jack Neel, Dr. Charles Clark. Dr. Brenner attended for Dean Sandefur.

President Downing spoke to the group about the necessity for tightening building security. He emphasized the importance of developing a plan for controlling "after hours" access to campus buildings and the fact that supervision of facilities cannot, due to recent unpleasant incidents, remain as lax as in the past. Mr. Lazarus will be working with the deans to develop a plan which will be agreeable to all but will serve to control the situation.

President Downing also mentioned that on March 5, 1979, the Atlanta Regional Office of H.E.W. will make an on-site visit to Western. The areas to be reviewed are recruitment, administrative policies and procedures, student financial aid, athletics, student counseling and faculty and staff employment. Information indicating our compliance in these areas may be requested.

The minutes of the November 16, 1978, Council of Academic Deans' meeting were approved as distributed.

Mr. Neel explained to the deans the operation of the Professional Development Center Network (a consortium between 21 school districts, the laboratory school, and College of Education) which is involved in development of personnel within the public school districts. A needs assessment was made and 38 workshops were held during the first year. Mr. Neel also described activities underway and planning for this (the second) year.

Dr. Davis introduced a discussion of the American Council on Education Fellowships and the opportunity for Western to nominate a faculty member for one of the Fellowships. The Hourigan-Mounce motion that the deans and department heads submit by December 8 to Dr. Davis their nominations of individuals to be recommended for a fellowship in academic administration, with the deans forming a screening committee, received unanimous approval.

Dr. Cravens explained the proposal for the selection of the recipient of the "Distinguished Contribution to the University Award for Contribution in Public Service". He clarified the criterion concerning full-time faculty, indicating that administrators with faculty rank will be eligible. That criterion was reworded by Dr. Cravens to read "nominees for awards shall hold full-time appointments at the University at the rank of instructor or higher." Dr. Hourigan moved and Dr. Mounce seconded that the deans approve the proposal. The motion was passed unanimously.

Dr. Russell gave a report from the committee concerning input of the Deans with the presidential selection process:

1. No interaction with the Search Committee is recommended at this time.

2. Recommended communication with the Board of Regents:
 - A. Deans be involved in the interview of finalists.
 - B. If Deans feel the need, suggest that Deans be involved in the refinements to selection criteria.

Dr. Nelson moved and Dr. Stroube seconded that the Deans accept the Committee's recommendation with the provision that the Vice President notify in writing the Board of Regents of the recommendation that the Council of Deans be involved in the interview of the finalists. The motion was withdrawn with the suggestion that the matter be returned to the Committee for further consideration.

Dr. Davis mentioned the deadline of December 8 for submission to the Office of Academic Affairs of recommendations for administrative sabbaticals.

Further discussion of the presidential selection process culminated in a motion made by Dr. Mounce and seconded by Dr. Cravens that a recommendation be made to the Board of Regents that the academic deans interview as a separate group any finalist for the position of president who is brought on campus. Dr. Cravens moved that the motion be tabled pending a report by Dr. Brenner concerning the need for such communication. The motion to table was seconded by Dr. Sutton and was passed without dissent.

Dr. Davis reminded the deans of the need for them to submit by Wednesday, November 29, the proposals for next year's program development funds administered by the Council on Higher Education.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Faye Robinson

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