

7-16-1985

Meeting Minutes

WKU Council of Academic Deans

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MINUTES

Council of Academic Deans

July 16, 1985

Dr. Haynes called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Members present included Drs. Hershbarger, Brenner, Lloyd, Kupchella, Gray and Carol Brown.

Dr. Haynes announced that the Board of Regents meeting scheduled for July 27, 1985 had been cancelled and will be reset for late August. Mr. Largen plans to move one of two portable chillers from Cherry Hall to the north wing of Thompson Complex within a day or so in order to provide relief to faculty and students there. American Airlines plans to make Nashville a major hub of its traffic, and General Motors is considering a site in Kentucky for its Saturn plant. These signs portend well for Kentucky's academic development. He also welcomed Dean Charles Kupchella to the group.

The fall workshop will be held at the Executive Inn in Owensboro on August 15 and 16. The meeting will begin at 1 p.m. on August 15 and adjourn by 4 p.m. on the 16th. Anyone wishing to stay over for the weekend, was asked to let Mrs. Spear know in advance. An agenda will be provided deans ahead of time, and they were invited to submit items for the agenda.

Dr. Haynes mentioned the new faculty luncheon scheduled for Wednesday, August 21 in the Downing Center. After much discussion, the Council agreed to change the format slightly and to introduce a separate new faculty orientation on August 22, 1985. On the 21st, faculty will assemble at 11 a.m. in the second floor auditorium for a short introduction and an opportunity to visit booths or tables set up by offices and groups offering services to faculty including athletics, parking, credit union, personnel, dental hygiene, and organizations for spouses. The luncheon will be held at noon in the Auxiliary Dining Room.

On the afternoon of August 22 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. a new faculty orientation program will be held to cover more academic topics. Dr. Haynes will prepare an outline for the deans' review. Topics to be covered include a profile of the university and its administrative structure, expectations of faculty, especially with respect to tenure and promotion, governance, advising, curricular matters, including university requirements and changes in the offering, grievance procedures, library and media services, and cooperative education.

Dr. Haynes also asked the deans to review the tentative calendar for 1985-86 and to suggest any changes to him or Dr. Petersen as soon as possible. The office of the Vice President will approve it and distribute it to faculty and administrators within the next few weeks.

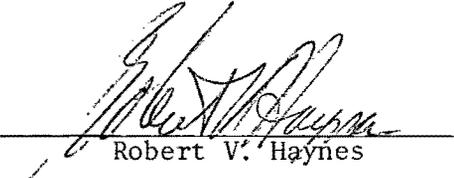
A lengthy discussion ensued with respect to summer school. Dr. Haynes expressed his concern about declining enrollments and indicated to the deans that as far as he could ascertain, Western was the only Kentucky state university to suffer decline of any magnitude. He asked if the schedule might be a problem since Western was the only university in Kentucky to have a single eight-week session. In the course of the discussion, the deans reached a tentative consensus to consider establishing two six-week sessions. The first would begin on the Monday after spring commencement (this year it would have begun May 13 and ended on June 21). The second would follow immediately and

end in early August. (This year it would have been August 2). Deans were asked to discuss the proposal with department heads. Also, the deans inquired if the spring semester could not begin a week earlier. They were asked to discuss this idea with department heads. Some discussion was held on courses to be offered and the need to reduce the number of cancelled classes at the last minute and to promote enrollments. No consensus emerged on these points, but will be discussed further at a future date.

Dr. Haynes distributed information about Murray State's faculty exchange program and about the National Faculty Exchange. Some interests in the concept continue, but there was general agreement that we should not join NFE or establish a program without some indication of the extent of interest. Most deans agreed that a state-wide program was more appropriate than a national exchange.

Dr. Brenner announced that the PDCN had received a Showcase for Excellence Award from AASCU. Dean Gray reported on the new graduate catalogue, the negotiations with Logan Aluminum Company near Russellville, and the new graduate faculty standards. Dean Hershbarger asked the deans to endorse the proposed American Express plan, and after some discussion, they did so.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.


Robert V. Haynes