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Meeting Minutes

WKU Council of Academic Deans

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MINUTES

Council of Academic Deans
July 12, 1988

Dr. Robert Haynes called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Members present included Drs. Michael Brown, Elmer Gray, Michael Binder, Charles Kupchella, and Ronnie Sutton. Dr. Carl Martray represented Dr. J. T. Sandefur and Dr. David Lee represented Dr. Ward Hellstrom.

The minutes of the June 21, 1988, meeting were reviewed and approved.

Dr. Haynes reported on the Council on Higher Education meeting in Lexington which he attended on July 11, 1988. A major item of concern at the meeting was the Masters degree program in Health Administration (submitted by the Department of Health and Safety). Action on the program was deferred until the Universities of Kentucky and Louisville will have had the opportunity to submit similar programs in Health Administration. The programs from all of these institutions will then be reviewed simultaneously. Dr. Haynes indicated that the other institutions may have an advantage over Western in the review process because the Health Care Administration program was included in their master academic plans which have been submitted to the CHE.

Dr. Haynes reported that several new degree programs were approved by the CHE at the July 11 meeting. A summary listing of approved programs will be provided to members of the Council of Deans. The CHE also discussed plans to review the formula for funding higher education institutions in Kentucky and to hold hearings on the various campuses. The date for a hearing on the Western campus will be September 20, 1988, at 9:00 a.m.. All administrative and faculty personnel are invited and encouraged to attend the meeting and provide input.

Dr. Ronnie Sutton initiated discussion of the major agenda item (Fall Registration) by referring to a memo dated July 6, 1988, which he sent to Dr. Haynes and the college deans. According to Dr. Sutton, the traditional general education classes, e.g., Math, English, Chemistry, Biology, and Psychology are either filled or nearly filled. He suggested that advisors advise students into other general education courses with space availability. These courses are Geography, Geology, Philosophy, Religious Studies, Anthropology, and some of the foreign languages.

In discussions of registration-related problems in the colleges, Drs. Kupchella, Martray, and Lee reported that several departments have needs for qualified full-time temporary instructors. Dr. Gray also indicated that many scheduled extended campus classes have not yet been staffed.

To address the need for temporary, part-time instructors, Dr. Haynes indicated that an employment notice will be circulated again in the newspapers. The employment notice will seek applicants for part-time positions in Math, English, History, Government, Speech Communication, Sociology, and other areas.

In concluding the discussion of Fall Registration, Drs. Haynes and Sutton asked the deans to meet with the department heads in their areas as soon as possible to ascertain space availability and staffing needs.

The discussion shifted to the proposed policy on faculty governance and Dr. Haynes' memo critiquing changes suggested by the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate. Dr. Haynes emphasized the need to provide formal input to the President reflecting the position of the deans on the proposed policy and suggested changes. Dr. Kupchella referred to a memorandum he had sent to Dr. Haynes detailing several objections to the proposed governance policy. The memo included his own suggested changes. Chief among Dr. Kupchella's objections was the provision for recall of the chair. Dr. Gray agreed with the objection and indicated that a new chair must be free from the threat of a recall in order to implement change.

Dr. Haynes indicated that he will draft a report reflecting the perspectives of the deans on the proposed policy on faculty governance.

Dr. Haynes indicated that the summer school format will be a major agenda item in a later meeting. He asked the deans to obtain opinions of the department heads on problems associated with building schedules, enrolling students, and maintaining quality during the summer school period.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.


Livingston Alexander