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Senate Meeting December 3, 1946

Academic Senate
Illinois State University

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Dr. Ransom

SENATE MEETING
December 3, 1946

The meeting was called to order with all members present except three, one of whom was ill and one excused.

The President explained that it is more difficult for foreign students to attend teachers colleges since, as a state supported school, scholarships are not as readily available as is true in liberal arts colleges or private and endowed schools.

The President announced that salary checks will probably be available before Christmas, and possibly before the Christmas vacation begins.

With reference to copies of the salary schedule the President indicated that copies of the general schedule will be available and that the local application of the salary provisions will follow the general schedule, with provisions to prevent overlapping of salaries in ranks.

Regulations will be available within a few days concerning the conservation of fuel, but there is sufficient fuel on hand for at least five weeks.

President Fairchild asked Mr. Lathrop, Chairman of the Scholarship Committee, to make a report of that committee. Mr. Lathrop explained that after two meetings of the committee following the October faculty meeting, it had been voted by the committee that a slight change should be made in the recommendation with reference to the grade point average to be adopted. He asked Mr. Mills to make an explanation of the different possible systems. Mr. Mills explained that after giving further consideration to different systems the committee had agreed that a 3, 2, 1, 0, -1 system would be as satisfactory as the 4, 3, 2, 1, 0 system voted by the faculty in October, and that it would be better in some ways. The 3, 2, 1, 0, -1 system would involve less change from our present system, a "C" average would continue to be a 1. average, and those using the permanent records could readily tell at a glance whether or not a student was above or below a given point such as a "C" average. Mr. Lathrop moved that the Senate recommend to the faculty the adoption of the 3, 2, 1, 0, -1 system instead of the 4, 3, 2, 1, 0 as adopted. Mr. Mills seconded the motion. Mr. Browne made an amendment to the motion to the effect that when failures are repeated the last grade only be counted in computing the grade point average. Mr. Goodier seconded the amendment, and it was carried. Questions were raised concerning the point at which students should go on probation, as to when the new system should go into effect, and to which students it should be applied. It was suggested that these matters might be referred to the Administrative group to work out. When put to a vote the motion made by Mr. Lathrop and seconded by Mr. Mills as amended carried. Mr. Lathrop asked heads of departments to explain through their staff meetings the reason for the change so that faculty members would be well informed before coming to the next faculty meeting at which time the matter would be presented for a faculty vote, pending the rescinding of the action taken at the faculty meeting on October 8, 1946.

President Fairchild announced that there will be no more special tuition students admitted to the University. Former and present special tuition students will be permitted to continue their work as long as they and the University feel that the work they are taking is profitable to them. This action was taken largely because of the need of emphasizing teacher education, the influence of special tuition students in the University and the possible limitation of housing facilities, both classroom and living quarters.

The President also announced that there will be no departmental quotas from this time on. There will be certain natural limitations on certain departments such as laboratory space, etc.

Students will be permitted to transfer from one curriculum to another if such transfers are approved except that freshman men will not be permitted to transfer into Health and Physical Education for Men before next summer. This is done in conformity with information that was given freshman men when applications during the summer and fall were being turned down for that department.

Heads of departments were asked to check the faculty rotation plans for summer session for their respective departments to see that they were up to date. The President will be glad to talk with heads of departments concerning this matter if that is necessary. The number of faculty for the summer of 1947 should be about the same as for last summer. In the intersession this is especially important since it is in the current biennium. President Fairchild warned against the over use and misuse of workshops, especially with reference to cost and faculty time, and danger of overlapping in content with other courses.

With reference to the improvement of instruction President Fairchild indicated that he is considering the plans and suggestions turned in to him, and that he will call a meeting of heads of departments shortly after the holidays at which a summary of current practices and proposed future plans will be presented.

Concerning the University calendar, President Fairchild distributed copies of the proposed calendar for the summer of 1947 and possibilities for the regular school year. Copies are on file with the minutes in the secretary's office. He indicated that it will be necessary to secure certain information as to policies from the Teachers College Board before a final calendar for the school year can be adopted. The President reported that the faculty had voted in favor of an intersession and regular summer session for 1946, that the faculty had been slightly in favor of the three weeks post session in 1947, and that students attending the intersession of 1946 had been very much in favor of continuing the intersession. The President indicated that it might be necessary to discontinue any three weeks session after the summer of 1947, especially if it is necessary to extend the school year to get in the required number of teaching days. Heads of departments may receive extra copies of the proposed calendar possibilities from Mrs. King for use in departmental meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 5:35. The next regular meeting of the Senate will be held Tuesday, January 7.

Elsie Brenneman
Secretary