

JOURNAL OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE  
May 25, 1953, 4:10 P. M.  
Student Union Building, Room 161

The Senate, meeting in regular session, was called to order by the Chairman, Dr. Olin L. Browder, Jr.

| <u>Present</u>   | <u>Present</u>    | <u>Present</u>   | <u>Absent</u>    |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Bell, R. E.      | James, R. V.      | Ragan, W. B.     | Bavinger, E. A.  |
| Browder, O. L.   | Kelly, Ellen D.   | Raines, J. M.    | Goodman, G. J.   |
| Brown, H. B.     | Kelly, Florene C. | Reese, J. E.     | Hall, R. G.      |
| Bruce, J. B.     | Leek, J. H.       | Scatori, Stephen | Livezey, W. E.   |
| Crook, K. E.     | Marrs, Wyatt      | Self, J. T.      | Matlock, J. R.   |
| Cross, G. L.     | Mertes, J. E.     | Springer, C. E.  | Monnett, V. E.   |
| Edmondson, V. G. | Moorhead, M. L.   | Warren, Mary A.  | Pritchard, J. P. |
| Fite, G. C.      | Morris, F. C.     | Wilcox, S. C.    | Pugmire, D. R.   |
| Harlow, J. G.    | Peach, W. N.      |                  | Sears, A. B.     |
| Herbert, H. H.   | Poston, Lawrence  |                  | Stanley, A. J.   |
| Hollon, W. E.    | Pray, J. C.       |                  | Wardell, M. L.   |
| Hughes, F. C.    | Rackley, J. R.    |                  | Wiley, J. B.     |

CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

With the following correction, the Journal of the Senate for the April 27 meeting was approved:

On page 8 of the April 27, 1953 Journal, second paragraph of the Senate Action relative to Uniform Final Examinations, the year 1954 should be 1953.

ABSENCE DUE TO EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Explanatory Comment:

In a letter to the Secretary of the University Senate on April 8, 1953, Dr. Leslie F. Smith drew the attention of the Senate to the matter of absence of students from class due to extra-curricular activities. His letter was included in the Agenda of the April 27 meeting for study by members of the Senate. The matter was referred to the Committee on Student and Public Relations for a report at the meeting of the Senate on May 25, 1953.

Report of the Committee on Student and Public Relations:

A. Conflict Between Campus Student Activities and Academic Classroom Sessions.

The Committee met to consider the reported conflict between campus student activities and academic classroom sessions. Although this problem has many ramifications which would merit attention, the Committee confined its discussion primarily to the two specific areas of (1) dismissal of classes in favor of campus activities, and (2) alternate plans which would accommodate both the academic schedule and extra-curricular activities.

## Absence Due to Extra-Curricular Activities -- Continued

Concern was expressed by the Committee over the increasing number of occasions when classes are being dismissed, such as Religious Emphasis Week, Career Conference and Senior Day. The Committee is aware of the value of these experiences in the educational program. It recognizes the fact that each activity considered on its own merits could have a plausible case presented for special consideration. It is however when the cumulative dismissals are taken into account that the effect on the classroom sessions became more apparent. Of greater importance than disruption of the teaching schedule perhaps is the effect of these dismissals in developing unfavorable attitudes among students toward the place of classroom instruction, and the student-teacher relationship in the educational program. The Committee also observed that only a small percent of the students took advantage of the disruption of the teaching program to attend the activities for which classes had been dismissed. The Committee takes the position that both course continuity and special campus events are important. In line with this position, the Committee offers the following for senate consideration and action:

RECOMMENDATION: That campus-wide activities (Religious Emphasis Week, Career Conference, etc.) be scheduled at times when there is the least conflict with classes, such as late afternoons, evenings and Saturdays.

B. Establishment of Co-operative Working Relations Between Faculty and Students.

The Committee on Public Relations recognizes the fact that matters referred to it for study inevitably involve student-faculty relations. It recognizes that constructive relations are best furthered when students and faculty can freely exchange ideas and points of view. With the specific objective of improving student-faculty relations on this campus, as well as providing students with an opportunity for democratic leadership experiences, the Committee offers the following for senate consideration and action:

RECOMMENDATION: That the University Senate Committee on Public Relations request the Student Senate to elect 1, 2, 3 (?) student representative to participate in its committee deliberations.

Ellen Kelly  
 Ross Pugmire  
 Wyatt Marrs  
 Stephen Scatori  
 A. J. Stanley  
 Frank C. Hughes, Chairman

Senate Action:

Dr. Browder, Chairman of the University Senate, reported that Mr. Albert J. Alschuler, a student in the University, desired to speak on behalf of the Student Senate concerning the recommendations of the Committee on Student and Public Relations. Dr. Hollon made a motion to allow Mr. Alschuler to present his views on the matter. The motion was seconded and passed by the Senate.

Absence Due to Extra-Curricular Activities -- Continued

Mr. Alschuler spoke at length concerning the manner in which the activities of Career Conference are scheduled. He presented a number of arguments as to why Career Conference should not be included in the recommendation in Part A of the report of the Committee on Student and Public Relations.

Professor Hughes made a motion that the recommendation in Part A of the report be adopted. The motion was seconded.

Dean Harlow moved that action on Part A of the report be postponed until Part B of the report had been considered. His motion was seconded and passed.

Dean Harlow then moved the adoption of Part B. His motion was seconded. Professor Hughes made a motion to amend the motion by Dean Harlow to the effect that two student representatives be elected by the Student Senate to participate in the deliberations of the Committee on Student and Public Relations. The amendment was seconded and passed.

Professor Marrs made a motion to amend Dean Harlow's motion so that the words "on invitation" would be added to Recommendation B of the report of the Committee on Student and Public Relations. His motion was seconded and passed.

The motion by Dean Harlow for the adoption of Part B was passed.

The motion by Professor Hughes for the adoption of Part A of the report was passed.

The recommendations of the Committee on Student and Public Relations, as adopted by the University Senate, read as follows:

- A. That campus-wide activities (Religious Emphasis Week, Career Conference, etc.) be scheduled at times when there is the least conflict with classes, such as late afternoons, evenings and Saturdays.
- B. That the University Senate Committee on Student and Public Relations request the Student Senate to elect two student representatives to participate in its committee deliberations on invitation.

HOMEcoming COMMITTEE

Dr. Browder reported to the Senate that he had been called upon to appoint a member of the Senate to serve on the 1953 Homecoming Committee. This Committee has the immediate function of selecting a general chairman and other chairmen to handle the arrangements for the 1953 homecoming activities. The appointment was requested at a time when it was impossible to go through the usual Senate procedure for such appointments.

Dr. Browder stated that he had appointed Professor Frank C. Hughes to serve on the committee and asked for Senate approval of his action. It was moved that Senate approval be given; the motion passed.

## CLASS SCHEDULING

### Explanatory Comment:

In accordance with action taken by the Senate at its meeting on January 26, 1953, the Committee on Courses and Curricula was charged with the responsibility of considering the possibilities involved in returning to a five and one-half day program of classes and to prepare a report on the matter for consideration by the Senate.

### Report of the Committee on Courses and Curricula:

The Committee on Courses and Curricula, to which was referred the matter of the possibility of returning to a five and one-half day program, submits the following report:

Beginning with the second semester of 1951-52, the instructional departments of the University were authorized to schedule classes from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, with Saturday classes optional. Most departments adopted the five day program and eliminated Saturday classes. Although a five day week does not provide for maximum utilization of the physical plant, the 1951 enrollment was not large enough to make necessary full plant utilization. Some of the reasons for the adoption of the five day program were:

- (1) About 30% of the University student body commuted from Oklahoma City and other nearby cities. This group preferred not to take Saturday classes.
- (2) A large number of students worked on Saturday and had to plan their schedule on a five day basis.
- (3) Because of the University practice of scheduling student social events on Friday evenings, most students were reluctant to enter Saturday classes.
- (4) Not only was attendance in Saturday classes low, but the students who attended were not prepared.

The above situation has not changed. The University facilities are adequate to take care of the present enrollment on a five day basis. When University enrollment increases sufficiently to require the full utilization of the physical plant, a return to a five and one-half day program will be necessary. Until such an increase occurs, this committee recommends a continuation of the present scheduling arrangements.

Respectfully submitted,

R. V. James  
Florene C. Kelly  
J. H. Leek  
J. E. Mertes  
J. R. Rackley  
J. E. Reese  
R. G. Hall, Chairman

Class Scheduling -- Continued

Senate Action:

Dr. Self moved that the Report of the Committee on Courses and Curricula be accepted. His motion was seconded and approved by the Senate.

UNIFORM FINAL EXAMINATIONS

Report of the Committee on Academic Standards:

At the April 27, 1953 meeting of the Senate, Dr. Pray moved that the matter of uniform final examinations be referred to the appropriate Senate committee. This motion was duly seconded and passed, and Dr. Browder kindly turned the matter over to this committee. The committee submits the following recommendation:

In view of the sharp differences of opinion as to the advisability and desirability of uniform final examinations, the committee does not wish to recommend a mandatory policy in this respect. It feels that each department must be autonomous in a matter so closely related to individual instruction.

For those departments that do wish to adopt a uniform final examination, the committee recommends that, in the future, arrangements be made in the final examination schedule.

Respectfully submitted,

Olin L. Browder, Jr.  
John B. Bruce  
George J. Goodman  
V. E. Monnett  
J. Teague Self  
Morris L. Wardell  
Lawrence Poston, Jr., Chairman

Because Dr. Browder, Chairman of the Senate, is a member of the Committee on Academic Standards, he requested that Dr. Pray, Vice Chairman of the Senate, preside over the discussion of the report. Dr. Pray complied with the request.

Dr. Poston commented briefly on the report of his committee and moved that it be adopted by the Senate. His motion was seconded.

Dean Harlow made a motion to amend the report by deleting the last paragraph. His motion was seconded but was not passed by the Senate.

Dr. Poston's motion was voted upon and the report adopted by the Senate.

## UNIFORM GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

### Report of the Committee on Academic Standards:

At the February 23, 1953 meeting of the Senate, this committee presented a progress report on its study of uniform graduation requirements, initiated some time before. The committee hereby submits its final report and recommendations:

EXPLANATION: In the preparation of this report, requested by the Senate, the members of the committee were constantly confronted with several major issues:

(1) How far should the Senate go in recommending uniform legislation to the various undergraduate degree-granting colleges, all of which have their special functions and peculiar problems?

(2) Do we seek uniformity for the purpose of raising standards, or merely for its own sake?

(3) If suggested standards should be based, as it were, upon a kind of highest common factor of present requirements of all the colleges, what would be the gain, except uniformity for its own sake, and perhaps editorial convenience?

(4) Do the different standards now required really indicate degrees of superiority or inferiority? In other words, for instance, does the College of Law requirement of a C- necessarily indicate that graduation standards in that college are inferior to those of the College of Arts and Sciences, where the requirement is C?

The Committee can hardly presume to answer all these questions. In fact, several members of the committee are in some doubt about the feasibility of some aspects of the proposed standards, and at least one member questions the wisdom of any effort to impose inflexible standards upon all colleges. Nevertheless, it hereby submits the following recommendations, in full knowledge of the fact that their adoption will cut squarely across present practices in some of the colleges, and that the deans of these colleges will necessarily concur in these recommendations with varying degrees of enthusiasm.

### Recommendations

The following recommendations for all bachelor's degrees are minimum standards only, and any college may set such higher standards as it chooses.

(1) A student must attain an average of C or above on all work undertaken here or elsewhere, whether passed or failed. A C- average in the College of Law is regarded as being in compliance with this requirement.

(2) To be eligible for graduation, a student must spend at least two semesters (or their equivalent) in residence, and shall complete at least the last twenty-eight credit hours in residence. (With the permission of the faculty of the college concerned, a maximum of eight hours of correspondence

Uniform Graduation Requirements --- Continued

work or extension work or courses taken at another college or university, or any combination thereof, may be counted on the last twenty-eight hours, but only if the candidate completes in residence forty-five of the last sixty hours required for the degree.)

(3) Work done in residence means courses taken on the Norman campus, and such courses as have been approved as residence work by the college concerned.

(4) The number of hours in correspondence or extension work (or a combination of the two) which may be counted toward the requirements of a degree shall not exceed one-fourth of the total number of hours required.

(5) Professional employment undertaken without the direct supervision of the faculty of the college concerned cannot be counted toward a degree.

Respectfully submitted,

Olin L. Browder, Jr.  
John B. Bruce  
George J. Goodman  
V. E. Monnett  
J. Teague Self  
Morris L. Wardell  
Lawrence Poston, Jr. Chairman

Senate Action:

Dr. Pray continued to preside because Dr. Browder had aided in the preparation of the above report.

Dr. Poston made a motion that the recommendations presented in the report of the Committee on Academic Standards be considered separately. The motion was seconded and passed.

Dr. Poston moved the adoption of Item (1) of the report. His motion was seconded.

Dean Brown made a motion to amend Item (1) by means of an insertion. The entire item with the insertion underscored is as follows:

- (1) A student must attain an average of C or above on all work undertaken here or elsewhere, whether passed or failed which is taken in pursuit of the requirements of the degree for which the student in a candidate. A C- average in the College of Law is regarded as being in compliance with this requirement.

The motion by Dean Brown was seconded and approved by the Senate.

Uniform Graduation Requirements -- Continued

Dean Harlow made a motion to table consideration of Item (1). His motion was seconded.

Dean Rackley made a substitute motion to the effect that the entire report be accepted and the responsibility of the Committee be discharged. The motion was not seconded.

The motion to table consideration of Item (1) was passed by the Senate.

Dr. Poston moved the adoption of Item (2) of the report. His motion was seconded and passed.

Dr. Poston moved the adoption of Item (3) of the report. His motion was seconded. Dean Harlow offered a motion to amend Item (3) so that work done in residence would mean "regularly listed courses offered in scheduled classes under the direction of regular member of the faculty." His motion was not seconded. Dr. Poston's motion was passed.

Dr. Poston moved the adoption of Item (4) of the report. His motion was seconded and passed.

Dr. Poston moved the adoption of Item (5) of the report. His motion was seconded and passed.

Dr. Browder made a motion that the recommendations approved by the Senate become effective in September 1954. His motion was seconded and approved.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:20 P.M., Dr. Hollon moved that the meeting be adjourned. His motion was seconded but failed to pass. At 6:25 P.M. Dr. Poston moved adjournment to a subsequent meeting to be held on Thursday, May 28, at 4:10 P. M. His motion was seconded and passed.

Gerald A. Porter, Secretary

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