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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE - APRIL 6, 1942

The second meeting of the University Senate was called to order by President Brandt at 4:15 p.m., in room 205 of the Law Building. Mr. Cross was asked to serve as Secretary until the Senate completes its organization. The Secretary was asked to have the minutes of the first and second meetings mimeographed and distributed to the members in time for discussion at the third meeting, which will be held April 13, at 4:15 p.m. The minutes of the first meeting were not read.

Mr. Brandt announced that some members had raised the question as to whether the meetings of the Senate should be open to the Press. He pointed out that many of the actions taken by the Senate would be subject to the approval of the University Board of Regents and the State Board of Regents of Higher Education. He asked that the question be discussed and action taken.

Mr. Adams said he thought it inadvisable to discuss problems and policies before the Press. He thought the meetings should be closed to the Press, but that the Executive Committee (if one is organized later) or the Secretary might release certain material for the use of the Press. Mr. Herbert expressed a contrary view. He said that the Press should be admitted--that otherwise a distorted version of senatorial action could be expected to appear in the papers. Messrs. Reaves, Hervey, Jacobson, and Ewing, spoke in support of closed meetings. They were of the opinion that free discussion might be inhibited by the presence of reporters, that final action taken on a question is often quite different from that proposed at the beginning of the discussion, and that premature press releases might be detrimental to the effectiveness of the Senate. Mr. Adams moved:

[That the Senate not permit representatives of the Press to be present during its deliberations, but that final action may be made available to the Press.]

Mr. Hervey suggested that information be made available to the Press through the University Director of Public Relations. Mr. Adams accepted this as a part of his motion. The motion was seconded and passed with one dissenting vote.

Mr. Brandt announced that Mr. Wardell had been appointed chairman of the Committee on Credits for Students Entering the Armed Service, and Mr. Wardell was asked to make a report of the action of his committee. Mr. Wardell distributed mimeographed copies of his committee's report, and spoke as follows: The additional members of the committee are Messrs. Tappan, Bienfang, Hervey, Newton, and Carpenter. The committee wrote to various universities and colleges asking for information concerning their policies with respect to students entering Armed Service before graduation. Replies were received from the Universities of Iowa, Texas, Illinois, Nebraska, Kansas, and Missouri, and these were read to the Senate. A letter was sent also to the Secretary of the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, from whom information was obtained. Mr. Wardell said that the procedure recommended in the report of his committee agrees in most features with those in effect in many of the schools to which he wrote. His report appears on the following page.

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REPORT OF SENATE COMMITTEE ON
CREDITS FOR STUDENTS ENTERING THE ARMED SERVICE

The present war emergency demands the cooperation of all agencies. It is the desire of the University of Oklahoma to lend every assistance possible to the government of the United States to win the war.

In accordance with the resolutions adopted at the National Conference of College and University Presidents held in Baltimore, January 3 and 4, 1942, the controlling consideration in granting credit should be the maintenance of established academic standards.

In considering the problems of credit, the University of Oklahoma has sought to maintain academic standards in comparison with other colleges and universities. Without departing from the resolutions of the Baltimore conference and the general policies of other colleges and universities, the policy of the University of Oklahoma shall be that of enabling the student to establish academic credit for courses pursued up to the time of his call to military service.

In our judgment, credit in every instance cannot be granted and academic standards maintained. It is therefore impossible to grant credit for work pursued unless a sufficient amount has been completed to satisfy established academic standards.

Be it, therefore, resolved, that upon satisfactory completion of not less than one-half of the classroom instruction in a given course, a student called to the armed service of the United States shall, upon written request duly made to the Registry Office, have the following options:

- (1) He may take free elective credit for one-half of the scheduled credit granted for satisfactory completion of said course; or
- (2) He may take an examination covering not less than three-fourths of the subject material of said course to establish full subjective credit in that course.

The University recognizes frankly that the problem confronting law students is unique. The Association of American Law Schools, the standardizing agency, prescribes a minimum of ten hundred and eighty hours of classroom instruction for the LL. B. degree. Some of the law students have, conformably to the rules of the Faculty of the Law School, completed more than the minimum required by the Association of American Law Schools.

Be it, therefore, further resolved that law students may, upon the recommendation of the Faculty of the School of Law, be graduated upon the successful completion of twelve hundred or more classroom hours of instruction in law.

Committee: Frank G. Tappan, Ralph Bienfang, John G. Hervey, W.K. Newton, Paul S. Carpenter, M.L. Wardell, Chairman.

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Mr. Jacobson asked if the report is applicable to Graduate Students as well as Undergraduates, to which Mr. Wardell answered in the affirmative.

The Senate then began consideration of Option (1). Mr. Adams asked if an examination is to be given, to which Mr. Wardell replied that the student is to receive free elective credit without a test--the grade to be determined by the instructor on a basis of the student's standing in the class at the time that he leaves school. Mr. Adams suggested that the student should receive course credit instead of elective credit, as this might be of advantage to students who wished to fulfill requirements for graduation. After considerable discussion Mr. Adams moved:

That in Option (1) "free elective" be changed to "credit in the department or field in which each course lies."

The motion received a second. Mr. Herbert asked how such credits could be transferred to other institutions; and Mr. Morgan said that credit in a department or field would not be sufficient if a student needed credit in specific courses for graduation. Mr. Hervey suggested that individual cases might be handled by the faculties of the various colleges, and Mr. Brandt remarked that at least the various faculties might bring recommendations to the Senate. Mr. Adams pointed out that according to University Law the requirements for graduation are made by the individual faculties, and perhaps the Senate should concern itself only with general policies. After some additional discussion Mr. Adams' motion was passed unanimously. Mr. Reaves then suggested that the word "take" be changed to "receive" in Option (1), and this was approved by the senate.

Option (2) then was read and discussed. Mr. Dodge said that he regarded this option as somewhat too lenient for Graduate Students, who are pursuing a thirty hour program, and he moved that the following statement be attached to Option (2):

Because of the shortness of the program leading to the Master's Degree these shall be regarded as most generous arrangements. They shall not be applied except upon approval of the Graduate Council.

The motion passed.

It was decided that the final paragraph of the Committee's report, pertaining to Law Students, should be designated as Option (3). Mr. Bizzell asked if the committee had considered the problems of the Medical School. Mr. Wardell said that the Medical School has its own policy, already in effect, Option (3) was approved by the Senate.

The Options as revised and approved by the Senate are as follows:

- (1) He may receive credit in the department or field in which each course lies for one-half of the scheduled credit granted for satisfactory completion of said course; or

(2) He may take an examination covering not less than three-fourths of the subject material of said course to establish full subjective credit in that course. Because of the shortness of the program leading to the Master's Degree these shall be regarded as most generous arrangements. They shall not be applied in the Graduate College except upon approval of the Graduate Council.

(3) Be it, therefore, further resolved that law students may, upon the recommendation of the Faculty of the School of Law, be graduated upon the successful completion of twelve hundred or more classroom hours of instruction in Law.

The rights of the student under these options were discussed. No official action was taken, but the members of the Senate seemed to be of the opinion that a student might demand credit under any option applicable to his case.

The relations of the Senate to the University Regents and the Regents of Higher Education were discussed. It was decided that the report of the Committee on Credits for Students Entering the Armed Service should be presented to each of these for approval.

Mr. Brandt discussed the problem of keeping the University Buildings open at night. For the present, they will be closed at 10:30 p.m., but Mr. Brandt suggested that a committee be appointed to consider this question carefully in the light of the needs of the Faculty and Student Body and the welfare of the University. Mr. Ewing, Chairman of the Committee on Organization of the Senate, said that his group would recommend the creation of such a committee when it reports next week.

Mr. Brandt introduced Mr. Shelley Tracy of the Class of '11. Mr. Tracy spoke briefly to the members of the Senate.

The Senate adjourned at 5:45 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Monday, April 13, at 4:15 p.m.