

University of Arizona

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FACULTY SENATE

Meeting of Monday

April 2, 1962

PRESENT: Bateman, Blitzer, Brewer, Conley, Delaplane, Ewing, Forrester, Gegenheimer, Gillmor, Gustavson, Harvill, Hillman, Hudson, Hunt, Irwin, Kassander, Kemmerer, Kurtz, Little, Livermore, Lynn, McMillan, Martin, Moore, Muir, Murphy, H. Myers, L. Myers, Nugent, Patrick, Paylore, Powell, Quinn, H. Rhodes, Rosaldo, Roy, Vavich, Wallraff, Windsor, Zapotocky.

ABSENT: Carlson, Gaines, Haury, Hausenbauer, Hurlbutt, Lyons, McDonald, J.M. Rhodes, Slonaker.

HONORARY DEGREES, APPROVAL OF: The Senate received three recommendations for the awarding of honorary degrees at Commencement on June 6, 1962. The Senate voted to recommend to the General Faculty and the Board of Regents the awarding of three honorary degrees, a Doctor of Laws, a Doctor of Letters, and a Doctor of Science.

CHANGE IN STATUS OF CERTAIN OFF-CAMPUS COURSES: The Senate continued its discussion of a proposal that certain off-campus courses numbered below 200 be granted regular residence credit when this has been approved by the Dean of the Division of Continuing Education and the Dean of the College concerned. Mr. Windsor read to the Senate the following statement from Dean Gaines concerning this matter:

"In accordance with the request of the Faculty Senate in session on March 5, I am happy to furnish a statement concerning certain off-campus continuing education classes. I endorse in principle Dean Livermore's suggestion that certain specific off-campus classes numbered below 200 be considered as residence credit.

"My endorsement of this proposal is subject to three provisos. First, the same ruling must apply to Davis-Monthan Air Force Base as applies to classes at Fort Huachuca. Secondly, the entire matter should be considered, though not necessarily delayed, in the light of the proposed junior college in Cochise county. And thirdly, each course carrying residence credit must be considered individually by the dean of the college concerned and the dean of continuing education.

"My endorsement of the proposal is based on lengthy discussions and evaluations with our own teachers who have conducted these classes; conversations with the educational officers at Fort Huachuca and Davis-Monthan; inspection of classroom and library facilities of these bases; direct administration of these programs for three years; and a knowledge of what other universities generally are doing in this area.

"A few statistics, however dull, are called for here. During the academic year 1960-61, the University offered 38 credit courses at Fort Huachuca with a total registration of 796 students. During the same time, the University offered 15 classes at Davis-Monthan, with a registration of 222 students. Of this total of 53 courses, 39 were classes below the 200 designation: 26 at Fort Huachuca and 13 at Davis-Monthan. These are the courses with which we are presently concerned. Incidentally, a majority of the University's 124 off-campus courses last year were of 200 designation and above; this contrasts with the classes at Huachuca and Davis-Monthan which were largely below 200 in designation.

"For Davis-Monthan personnel we encourage attendance at regular night sessions on the campus. Many do so attend. Even special buses are arranged to bring personnel here. However, because of work loads and transportation difficulties, certain classes must be conducted at Davis-Monthan itself. This program dates from about the same time as the Huachuca classes, the situation is roughly the same, and identical regulations should obviously apply.

"The University plans to relate its work very closely with that of the expanding junior college system throughout the state, particularly with respect to its continuing education classes. For years we have used the facilities of Phoenix College. The University of Missouri, incidentally, has been quite effective in its use of junior college facilities in the offering of upper division and graduate work by its professors. In no sense should we compete at Fort Huachuca if the proposed junior college is located near the post or at Sierra Vista.

"The survey commission and board have actually recommended the establishment of a junior college at Paul Spur, some forty miles from Fort Huachuca; yet the matter of location has not yet been resolved. I suspect that if the junior college is located some distance away from the Fort, the military authorities there may still want lower division as well as upper division University courses. In any event, our entire continuing education program must and will be coordinated with the junior college system. In fact, Dr. John Prince, Executive Secretary of the Arizona State Board of Junior Colleges, is teaching in our summer session this year.

"My third proviso is that each course under 200 at Huachuca and Davis-Monthan which offers residence credit must be treated individually. The dean of the appropriate college (after consultation with his faculty I assume) and the dean of continuing education both must approve the residence granting aspect of the course. Obviously courses will not be offered when classroom and library (to say nothing of laboratory) facilities are inadequate. There is nothing sacred or sacrosanct about the traditional fifty-minute period. In fact for the typical student, studies sponsored by certain foundations and universities have proved that one two-and-a-half hour session (with a break of a few minutes) is academically superior to three fifty-minute periods. This of course depends on the nature of the class, and could indeed be argued ad infinitum.

"The registrar has given assurance that adequate records can be maintained on these courses which will offer residence credit. Furthermore, this proposal will not affect courses numbered 200 and above; and it will not affect the present requirement concerning the final thirty units of work for the baccalaureate degree being taken on the campus."

Dr. Nugent asked what advantage there would be in having off-campus courses carry residence credit. Mr. Windsor explained that the grades in such courses could then be included in the computation of the student's graduation grade average if he later enrolled as a degree candidate on the campus. Further, students later enrolling for work in residence at the University of Arizona or other institutions could have such work counted toward the minimum number of residence credit hours required by the institution concerned.

Dr. Harvill pointed out that anything the University did in developing its educational program at Fort Huachuca must be considered as Dean Gaines had pointed out, in relation to plans to establish a junior college in Cochise County.

Dr. Delaplane stated that normally regional accrediting associations limit the amount of extension credit an accredited institution may accept as applying toward graduation. For this reason, having off-campus work designated as residence credit rather than extension credit might have particular significance for some students.

Mr. Windsor reminded the Senate that the deans of colleges which offer off-campus courses had been asked to obtain the thinking of their faculties about this matter and be prepared to report to the Senate commenting on the proposal. Dean Forrester presented the following statement:

"As long as the application of the policy is limited to courses numbered 200, the College of Mines considers off-campus course work, as sponsored through the Division of Continuing Education, when taught by regular departmental faculty members, to be of such caliber as to warrant the award of automatic residence credit."

Dr. Muir asked if Dean Forrester's statement was intended to apply to work other than at Fort Huachuca or at Davis-Monthan. Dean Forrester said that so long as the course work concerned met all the requirements of regular work in residence, he saw no reason why it should not carry residence credit, whether it was taught at Fort Huachuca or in the various Arizona communities where the University now offers off-campus classes.

Dr. Harvill asked the secretary to explain the present policy of the University concerning off-campus course work. Mr. Windsor explained that all such work at present is considered not work in residence. In a sense, it is treated much like work transferred from another institution. Such work must be counted as part of the maximum sixty semester hours of work earned through off-campus Continuing Education classes, Correspondence course work, credit-by-examination, or any combination of these, which may be applied toward graduation.

In answer to a question, Mr. Windsor explained that the only proposal made so far, that is, the one submitted by Dean Livermore, was that consideration be given to designating certain courses at Fort Huachuca as residence courses. Dean Livermore's proposal did not concern any other off-campus Continuing Education course. However, Dean Gaines' statement had pointed out that any policy established for our program at Fort Huachuca should also be extended to that at Davis-Monthan.

At this point Dr. Quinn stated that he had taught off-campus courses in recent years at several locations. With the exception of our summer program at Guadalajara, which in every way should be recognized as a real campus situation, he felt that off-campus courses cannot be considered to be the equal of residence work on the campus. He said he had discussed this matter with fifteen or twenty of his colleagues at Arizona, as well as with faculty members from other institutions, and they concurred with him. He pointed out that faculty members are "not the same physically and probably not the same mentally" in off-campus classes. Moreover, the students are not the same. For one thing, they have not met the same prerequisites oftentimes in a given course as are imposed in on-campus enrollment. It is almost impossible to maintain such prerequisites. Generally regulations governing off-campus courses are less rigid than those imposed on the campus. Dr. Quinn further pointed out that in his judgment on-campus classes at night are not of as high a level as regular classes because of the "mixed membership" of the classes.

Dr. Harvill commented that he had been told that students in off-campus classes often were a highly motivated group, possibly more highly motivated than students in on-campus classes.

Dean Martin stated that at one time the College of Engineering had an extensive off-campus program both in Phoenix and at Fort Huachuca. He said that in the Phoenix program, it had been discovered that a double grading system developed wherein students completing a given course in Phoenix were graded one grade higher than students of equal competence in the same courses on the Tucson campus. This problem was later solved by considering the total student group both on and off-campus in a particular subject at the time grades were awarded, and students were then more fairly graded. The fact remains, Dean Martin continued, that students in the off-campus situations did not seem to have learned as much and did not perform as well as the on-campus students, even though in some situations facilities (industrial libraries, for example) were better than those available on the campus.

Dean Martin referred also to a program begun in Tucson for personnel of a large industrial plant in the area. This program was abandoned after a year because the students performed so poorly it was not worthwhile to continue the program.

Dr. Harvill asked if better standards might be obtained in off-campus programs if in a given location, for instance, at Fort Huachuca, a full-time administrator were engaged, to be located at the Fort, to take full charge of the University's teaching program there. Dean Martin replied that this might be helpful indeed if the individual could properly handle the enrollment of students in the program, enforcing admission requirements, checking course prerequisites, etc.

Dr. Murphy described a program administered by the University of New Mexico at Los Alamos. The University maintains a permanent administrator at Los Alamos for this teaching program, he said.

Dr. Delaplane asked whether, if the dean of one college and the Dean of Continuing Education agreed that the off-campus courses of that college were in every way the equivalent of on-campus courses, and the dean of another college did not certify that off-campus courses taught by his faculty were the equivalent of the Tucson courses, an embarrassing situation might arise. Dr. Harvill said the same policy would have to be applied in all instances, applying the same standards.

Dr. Muir pointed out that if the University should begin designating certain off-campus courses as carrying residence credit, a flexible policy must prevail. Each course should be considered as an individual case in the individual location in which it is to be taught, he emphasized.

Dr. Gegenheimer said he felt that an effective control could be that residence credit could be allowed only in instances where a University administrator was "in residence."

Dr. Kassander said that in his judgment if any courses were established as carrying residence credit, immediately great pressure would be placed on the University to create additional residence courses in the same location. Dr. Harvill pointed out that some leading universities have developed strong residence centers. He said that surely no one in the University would want anything less than a high quality program in the event off-campus residence offerings were established. He pointed out that the military authorities at Fort Huachuca had indicated they would be generous in providing financial support for special facilities if the University should see fit to offer residence work (adequate library, for example.)

Dr. Kassander stated that we must be careful not to establish "residence branches" which amount to little more than branch junior colleges. President Harvill agreed that we must have in mind the plans for developing a junior college system in the state if we consider creating anything resembling an off-campus residence center.

Dean Forrester said he did not feel that the University should discriminate among communities, for example, Morenci versus Fort Huachuca. Dr. Gegenheimer said the ability of the community to provide proper facilities would be a deciding factor and where the authorities at Fort Huachuca had indicated support would be available for special facilities, it was not likely that a small Arizona town could provide these.

Mr. Myers asked who is eligible to take courses at Fort Huachuca. Mr. Windsor explained that in the past Fort Huachuca courses have been open not only to military personnel but also to their dependents and to civilians in the area with no direct affiliation with the military. Mr. Myers asked if individuals enrolling in Fort Huachuca courses are necessarily regarded admissible to the University. They need not be, Mr. Windsor explained, since a regular admission procedure is not required in the enrolling of students for off-campus undergraduate courses. Of course, he said, administrative procedure could be set up whereby students enrolling in off-campus courses could be required to submit credentials and be held to minimum entrance requirements similar to those imposed on applicants for admission to the regular session on the campus.

Dr. Kassander said it seemed to him that little more was involved here than a matter of bookkeeping since credit completed at off-campus centers was recognized by the University now as satisfying subject-matter requirements. The only disadvantage to the student was that his off-campus grades could not apply toward his graduation grade average. He did not see where a real need for designating off-campus courses to carry residence credit had been demonstrated.

Dr. Harvill asked if the Senate wished to discuss the matter further. Mr. Windsor said he did not believe there was urgent demand from Fort Huachuca for a change in policy at this time. Dr. Gegenheimer suggested that no action be taken at the present and that the Senate turn its attention to the next item on the agenda.

POLICY RE SATISFACTION OF SUBJECT-MATTER REQUIREMENTS BY TRANSFER UNITS REJECTED BECAUSE OF "D" GRADES, DISCUSSION RE: The Senate voted that a special committee should be created to formulate a specific recommendation as to what University policy should be governing the satisfaction of subject-matter requirements by transfer units not accepted because they were completed with grades of "D".

LIMITED PERIOD FOR WITHDRAWING FROM COURSES, ESTABLISHMENT OF: The Senate received a recommendation from the Advisory Council that effective with the fall semester of 1962-63 the last day on which a student (other than students in the Graduate College and the College of Law) shall be permitted to drop a course with the passing withdrawal grade of "8" shall be the last class day of the tenth calendar week during which classes are held, except for extraordinary reason approved by the student's academic dean. (At present students in the Graduate College and the College of Law may not withdraw from courses after the sixth week except with the special consent of their respective dean.)

This matter will be considered further at the next meeting of the Senate.

David L. Windsor, Secretary