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MINUTES OF THE FACULTY COUNCIL

November 18, 1947

The Faculty Council met in the Board of Trustees Room at 3:30 on Tuesday, November 18, 1947, with Dean Briscoe presiding. Those absent were Deans Van Nuy, Bain, Sikes, and Shoemaker. The following alternates were present: Professor R. T. Hill for Dean Hine, Dean W. S. Bittner for Dean Hall, Mr. C. E. Harrell for Mr. Cookson, and Professor T. A. Miller for Professor Christenson. The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

The secretary read the correspondence that had been received since the last meeting:

Professor Christenson wrote (November 7, 1947) to name Professor T. A. Miller to serve in his place on the Faculty Council during the current academic year.

Professor A. C. Judson wrote (November 6, 1947) to suggest that another necrologist be elected or appointed in his place, since he has now served for two years.

A motion was made by Professor Weatherwax that a necrologist be appointed by the President, with indefinite tenure. Seconded by Professor Benms. Passed unanimously.

Professor R. L. Collins, president of the Indiana University chapter of A.A.U.P. transmitted (November 13, 1947) the following motion made and approved at the November 10 meeting of the chapter:

The A.A.U.P. requests the Faculty Council to give consideration to the report of the A.A.U.P. Salary Committee at the earliest possible moment--and, in addition, requests that the Committee be given an opportunity to present to the Council arguments in favor of the A.A.U.P. report.

Dean Briscoe expressed the view that this report should be brought before the Faculty Council very soon.

Before the Council turned to a consideration of the problems before it, Dean Briscoe asked whether a regular adjournment time ought not to be set for its meetings.

A motion was made by Professor Franzen that the meetings of the Faculty Council adjourn regularly at five o'clock. Seconded by Dean Ashton. Passed unanimously.

The Council then considered the question of policy on absences before and after vacations. Dean Briscoe presented a letter from the Student Council (November 15, 1947) setting forth the following recommendations:

A majority of the council agreed that the present system of penalties could be workable if it received the full cooperation of the faculty so that all students would receive equal treatment under the ruling. If

the ruling receives the full backing of the faculty and the situation of numerous absences before and after vacations persists, the student council would suggest that a more severe penalty be imposed.

Dean Briscoe indicated that the Council had to dispose of the motion made by Professor Lundin at the meeting of November 4 and postponed to the present meeting on the motion of Dean Gavit. Professor Lundin's motion was that students with an average of B or better during the preceding semester be exempted from the rules on absence. Discussion of the motion followed. Professor Lundin expressed the belief that superior students ought to be encouraged and recognized by being freed as far as possible from regimentation. Professor Benns questioned whether a B average indicated a superior student and expressed himself in opposition to changing the present rules on absence. Professor Harmon felt that allowing exceptions in the rules on absence would result in an excess of paper work.

Professor Lundin's motion was defeated.

The Council then agreed that the present system of penalties for absence before and after vacations be continued, with the following modification in practice:

A motion was made by Professor Benns that the Dean of Students be instructed to send a second letter to faculty members who have not turned in their report on absence reminding them that they have not done so. Seconded by Professor Weatherwax. Passed unanimously.

The Council next turned to a consideration of the possibility of shortening the academic day. Mr. C. E. Harrell reported on the possibility of discontinuing the 4:30 hour as a regular class hour during the next semester. He recommended that the 4:30 hour be continued on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. He pointed out that if it were discontinued there would be an average of only 4 class rooms vacant per hour as against an average of 27 per hour before the War. This small number of vacancies, he said, would not permit enough flexibility. He said that it would be possible to discontinue the 4:30 hour on Tuesday and Thursday, since there would be an average of 13 vacancies per hour on those days, offering enough leeway. Dean Weimer pointed out that if someone wished to do so, he still might hold 4:30 classes on Tuesday and Thursday; and that laboratory sections might also be held at that hour. Mr. Harrell agreed, indicating that to discontinue the 4:30 hour would simply abolish the existing requirement that classes be held then.

A motion was made by Dean Gavit that the use of the 4:30 class hour on Tuesday and Thursday be optional during the second semester of the 1947-48 academic year. Seconded by Dean Ashton. Passed unanimously.

Dean Briscoe asked the Council to guide him in determining the order in which topics are to be considered by it. He pointed out that many topics have been presented for such consideration. He reminded the Council of the list of problems suggested by President Wells at the October 14 meeting of the Council and of the further proposal made by President Wells at the November 4 meeting. There was also the question of salary policy, including the reports of the A.A.U.P. and the Post-War Planning Committee on that problem. In addition, he suggested that the Council might wish to give

consideration to a movement sponsored by Purdue University to establish subsistence scholarships through state funds for high school graduates of high scientific ability or talent and perhaps to extend such scholarships later to other fields. Professor Franzen proposed that the Council at some time consider the problem of recreational facilities and opportunities for students and the problem of chaperoning student affairs.

A motion was made by Dean Gavit that Dean Briscoe be asked to prepare the agenda for the Faculty Council. Seconded by Professor Lusk. Passed unanimously.

Dean Briscoe agreed to do so, with the understanding that the Council would feel free to suggest changes in the agenda at any time.

Dean Ashton, as chairman of the committee appointed by President Wells on October 21, 1947, presented the report on housing for married faculty and administrative staff. Dean Ashton stressed the fact that the report is based on the realization that the University has not set up a permanent housing program for the faculty and that housing is provided only as temporary assistance to the faculty.

Discussion of the report followed. Dr. R. A. Miller pointed out that junior staff members of the Library and other administrative personnel are on permanent appointment after a probationary period of three months, and asked whether they would be denied housing for the maximum period of three years allowed to faculty and staff on temporary appointment. Dean Ashton replied that his committee had not been aware of that situation. Professor Collins asked if there was any suggestion of priority in the recommendations of the report. Dean Ashton replied that the committee intended continuing the present system of priorities, under which houses are made available to those with the larger number of dependents, and single-room apartments to married couples without dependents. Professor Yellen asked whether persons now on temporary appointment and occupying University housing would have to find other housing if they are given permanent appointment. Dean Weimer suggested that such persons be permitted to remain in University housing for one additional year, provided that the total occupancy does not extend beyond the maximum of three years. Dean Gavit asked how far back the term "new appointments" would apply. Dean Ashton replied that is applied to the beginning of the faculty housing program in the fall of 1946, and that a total of three years from that time was intended by the maximum period for temporary appointments. Dean Gavit asked if someone who has been on temporary appointment but has not been in University housing would now be eligible for a maximum of three years. Dean Ashton replied that such was not the intention of the committee. Professor R. T. Hill asked if contracts had to run the full year as indicated in the second recommendation of the report. Professor Breneman pointed out that a hardship was worked on graduate assistants and junior faculty members if they were not permitted to terminate contracts before the full year was finished. Mr. Franklin said that the University must be able to figure on a 12-month income in order to operate its housing. Dean Ashton pointed out that the University has a tremendous financial responsibility in its housing and has taken the greater risk, and that the faculty members must be expected to take a reasonable amount of risk; he added that the 12-month contract is necessary if the University is to make its payments on the housing. Professor R. T. Hill suggested that there

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might be more leniency in permitting faculty members to sub-let their University housing. Professor Horack asked if there was any provision for changing the priority rating of a faculty member when there is a change in his dependency status. Dean Ashton replied that his committee had not considered that possibility.

It was agreed to postpone further consideration of the report until the next meeting.

Adjournment at 5.

S. Yellen, secretary

The next regular meeting of the Faculty Council will be held in the Board of Trustees Room on Tuesday, December 2, at 3:30. I enclose a copy of the minutes of the November 18 meeting.

S. Yellen, secretary