

Minutes of Meeting of Academic Council and Academic Affairs Committee

May 10, 1968

Executive Conference Room

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Dean Coffield.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the proposal on warnings, probation, and withdrawals which was brought before the Senate and tabled. Also, to discuss other areas of concern not only to administration and deans but to the faculty of the University as well, for example:

1. Differences in handling of transfer students and non-transfer students.
2. Repeated courses and how they are figure into the student accumulative average.
3. Conditions for honor recognition for transfer students.

Dr. Behen was first to speak as Chairman of the Academic Affairs Committee:

Dr. Behen explained that he did not make a defense of the proposal as the Committee took it as primarily an administrative matter and they appreciated the fact that it was sent to them for consideration. He stated that his Committee considered the proposal as an Academic Council proposal and sent it to the Senate as their (Academic Council) proposal.

Dean Coffield stated that the reason it was not brought up at the last Senate was that he felt it was too important not to be considered in full. Dr. Behen concurred and asked that it be removed from the Senate.

Dean Dykema had been asked to prepare a support of the proposal and copies of his document were distributed. It was stressed, in regard to the support of the proposal, that we must remember the fact that college now is not the same as college when most of the faculty attended. We have a different kind of student and a student who needs to be given a second chance.

The group also discussed some of the mathematical inconsistencies in our grading system. For instance, a student may make an average consistently which will not suspend him but he will never qualify for graduation. On the other hand, it is also possible for a student to make the best average of his college career and be suspended that term.

It was suggested that we may be cutting a student off from a college education before he has had the time needed by so many students today to grow and mature. The student needs to be given this time to grow and mature and then to try again. We must also recognize that as a State Institution we must accept the Ohio student and that we should gear our policies and procedures to the type of student who attends Youngstown State University.

Dean Coffield stressed his concern over the number of suspensions at Youngstown State University and his surprise that even with all these suspensions, people still had trouble getting classes. We at Youngstown are committed to giving a student a second chance, but we must also have a point when it is necessary to refuse another chance.

Dr. Behen expressed the view that 11/12th of our students succeeded which is a good percentage and really doesn't make our 900 suspensions such a high number. It was also suggested that perhaps we are just more accurate in recognizing our suspension students because of the computer system of grading which has recently been introduced.

Dean Coffield closed the meeting reminding the group to think about some of the things brought up today.

The next meeting of the Academic Council and the Academic Affairs Committee will be Tuesday, May 21; 12:30 to 2:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.