

Minutes of the University Senate - March 13, 1933

Professor Clark announced that a famous painting of Henry Clay by HOFFEY, which had been in the family of the artist since its painting in 1845, would be sold at auction by the Anderson Studios in New York City March 16. He proposed that a sum be subscribed to bid on the painting, each member of the faculty contributing \$1.00, collection to be made only in the event that the University succeeded in obtaining the portrait.

Esra F. Gilks
Secretary

MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE
April 17, 1933

The University Senate met in the Lecture Room of McVey Hall, Monday, April 17, with President McVey presiding.

The minutes of March 13 were read and approved.

The following report from the Athletic Committee, Professor Grehan as Chairman, was received and filed:

"To the Senate of the University of Kentucky:

I have been asked by the secretary to present a brief report on athletics at the University with special emphasis upon the entrance of this institution recently into the new Southeastern Conference.

I take it that it is well known that on the occasion of the December meeting of the Southern Conference in 1932, 13 colleges and universities withdrew from the old conference of 23 members, and formed an organization to which it gave the name of the Southeastern Conference.

It has been felt for some time that it would be desirable to reduce the number of members of the Southern Conference so as to minimize the topheaviness of that organization, and so also as to bring into closer relationship those institutions that were geographically best located to compete with one another. The divorce took place without any outward evidence of bad temper, without unkind criticism, but withal, with a

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feeling of some actual resentment upon the part of some members of the Southern Conference who felt that the organization should have continued intact. The schism took place actually at a banquet in the Andrew Johnson Hotel in Knoxville in which all members of both the old and the new conferences mingled in more or less happy accord and joined in mutual felicitations.

It is also known to you that your own President of the University of Kentucky was the unanimous choice of the members of the Southeastern Conference as the first president of that organization, with J. F. Broussard, of Louisiana State University, as vice president, and A. H. Armstrong, secretary of the old Southern Conference as secretary and treasurer of the new organization. The institutions that withdrew and so banded themselves together were: the University of Alabama, Alabama Polytechnic Institute, the University of Florida, the University of Georgia, Georgia School of Technology, University of Kentucky, Louisiana State University, University of Mississippi, Mississippi State College, University of the South (Sewanee), University of Tennessee, Tulane and Vanderbilt. By reason of the adroit methods adopted by the president of the new association it was able to procure from the old association \$2,077.78 as its part of monies remaining unexpended at the time of the schism - an effort which some of the new association's members feared might not succeed.

The purpose as given by the association itself for the forming of the new association appears in the following words:

"Purpose. The Southeastern Conference is organized to form a more compact group of institutions with similar educational ideals in order that they may by joint action increase their ability to render the services for which they were founded and for which they are maintained, by making athletics a part of the educational plan and by making them subservient to the great aims and objects of education and placing them under the same administrative control. The Conference proposes to accomplish this end by promoting mutual trust and friendly relations between members; by controlling athletic competition and keeping such competition within the bounds of an educational activity; by promoting clean sportsmanship; and by developing public appreciation of the educational, rather than the commercial values in intercollegiate sports."

It was decided on the occasion of the formation of the new conference that all rules that obtained in the Southern Conference should be kept in force until the new association adopted a constitution and by-laws, and this latter intent was modified later at the first meeting of the new conference, February 27, so as to make the new regulations effective as of June 1, the current session.

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The new Southeastern Conference met in Atlanta, February 27, and adopted its constitution and by-laws, with President McVey in the chair and Mr. Armstrong performing the office of secretary.

The first meeting of the new conference, which opened at 9:30 in the morning in the Vanderbilt Hotel and closed at 6:30 the same day, saw the entire detail of organization completed and the new institution launched.

The purpose that seemed to dominate the intent to form the new conference is perhaps best set out in the new constitution under the heading, "Control of Athletics" in which appears the following language:

"The President, or other executive head, of each member of the conference is hereby charged with full responsibility for enforcing all rules and regulations enacted for the control of intercollegiate athletics".

This presentation was amended, however, so as to read as follows:

"The President, or other executive head, and the faculty of each member of the conference are herewith charged with full responsibility for enforcing or having enforced all rules and regulations enacted for the control of intercollegiate athletics."

Thus it will be seen that the new conference expects to bring the faculty more prominently into the picture, and to make the University itself responsible for direction of all athletics, and therefore for correction of any shortcomings or violations of the spirit of this movement that may ensue.

Indeed, all talks delivered to the new conference on the occasion of its inception in Knoxville the December previous and at the Atlanta meeting were directed to the one end of bringing about the rescuing of the Universities in their athletic departments from outside influences, which had been disastrous in many cases. No less positive an advocate of this position was there than the President of the University of Tennessee who had stated both privately and publicly that athletics in the University of Tennessee had gotten out of control of the University, to the University's detriment, and that in his opinion similar conditions obtained in various other universities of the Southern Conference; that in his judgement drastic steps must be taken now to make athletics an institutional enterprise, rather than an outside adjunct dominated by what were pleased to call the "drug-store" element and the "curb-stone coaches". If this intent is carried out to its legitimate analysis, I think it follows, unquestionably, that athletics will have been rescued from many of the unfortunate conditions into which associated colleges has fallen.

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I am happy to report to you that up to this time I have not heard any criticism whatever against the University of Kentucky for violations of the rules and regulations governing the old Southern Conference, nor those which would run counter to the best sportsmanship in athletics. Nor do I mean to say that Kentucky is in any sense alone in enjoyment of this gratifying reputation; nevertheless, there has been from time to time vigorous criticism to the effect that member colleges of the Southern Conference were riding rough-shod over both the spirit and the letter of rules upon which they had agreed.

I take it that there is no element in this report that will be more interesting to you at this time than to point out some differences between eligibility rules that obtained in the old conference and those that have been adopted by the new conference.

Broadly speaking, the eligibility rule applied by each institution for graduation of its students was accepted in good faith by the Southern Association as the association's rule of eligibility. That is, when a registrar and a faculty chairman certified that a given student was a bona fide eligible student, it was accepted in good faith by the association, and the rules provided no machinery by which the registrar's certification might be checked or gainsaid. This, of course, left the whole matter of eligibility to the individual integrity of the institutions, and here was the rock upon which some of the Southern Conference members split. They did not feel that rules were being applied with entire integrity in all instances, and that certification by the registrar and the faculty chairman was "carelessly" done in some of them.

The crux of the new eligibility rules appears under Rule II and Rule V which are taken verbatim from the new association's rules:

RULE II

Residence

- Sec. 3 No student having been a member of any Varsity athletic team and having been in attendance for less than one semester or two terms during that college year shall be permitted to participate in any inter-collegiate contest until he shall have been in attendance for one semester or two quarters.
- Sec. 4 A student participating in intercollegiate athletics who drops out at the end of a semester or two quarters shall not be eligible the following year unless at the time he dropped out he had met the Conference scholastic requirements.

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RULE V

Scholarship

- Sec. 1 A freshman shall be eligible for competition during the first term or semester immediately upon matriculation. For further competition he must have gained credit during the preceding term or semester for three-fourths of the work of that period required for graduation.
- Sec. 2 A student to be eligible for competition during his first varsity year must have gained credit in the freshman year for three-fourths of the hours required in that year toward graduation.
- Sec. 3 A student to be eligible for competition during his second and third varsity years must have passed during the preceding year three-fourths and during the preceding semester or quarter three-fifths of the proportionate percentage of hours required for graduation in the course in which he is registered.

The difference between the old rules and the new rules is that the student, under the new rules, to be eligible for competition during his second and third Varsity years, must have passed during the preceding year $3/4$, and during the preceding semester or quarter, $3/5$ of the proportionate percentage of hours required for graduation in the course in which he is registered. Under the old rule he was required to do 12 hours work with passing grade and a standing of 1.0.

It will therefore be seen that the old question of what is meant by "passing" is thus raised again, and that the definition of "passing" uniformly in Southeastern Conference colleges is a grade even as low as D; hence it follows that a student might complete his four years in college, meet every requirement of eligibility imposed by the association, and still not have met the point requirements of some member colleges required for graduation. Of course, this is by no means an ideal situation and will certainly, from time to time, press for modification by the conference. Nevertheless, it does take a step in the direction of making all members more nearly equal in the matter of scholastic eligibility because, under the old conference rules, a student had to pass a certain amount of his work in accordance with the eligibility point rule required for graduation, which this rule does not stress. This means, to some extent, unquestionably, two separate recognitions of eligibility: one that satisfies the requirements of the conference, and the other which the institutions themselves impose for graduation. Personally, I do not think this is a satisfactory solution, but for the time being it will have to suffice.

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On a second reading of the registrar's notice, I took it that he also desired me to make some report upon conditions in local athletics. This report must of necessity be incomplete, because we are in the midst of the athletic year with track meetings and other athletic events yet to be decided, and with our financial status effected by that unfinished program. In a general way, however, I should like to say that this has been a somewhat stormy year in athletics upon this campus. Certain elements of students on the campus inspired by outsiders, having taken umbrage at certain methods employed by the head coach, took steps to bring about a severance of relations between the athletic association and the head coach. Discussion of these conditions brought on many unpleasant and unhappy passages of crimination and recrimination which, when thrashed out by bodies designated by the President to handle them, fortunately were shown to have had insufficient cause for action. An examination indeed of the athletic finances of this institution showed all funds properly accounted for, not only for the current year, but going back over a period of a number of years, as disclosed by reports of Chicago and other auditing associations. The athletic year of 1932 found the Athletic Association with a deficit of approximately \$8,500.00. It became necessary to borrow money in mid-summer to carry on throughout the fall season. This money was readily obtained from a local bank by your Athletic Council, and promptly paid upon the maturity of the 3 months' note upon which it was borrowed. On account of reduced gate receipts throughout the football season of 1932, which was far below what we had estimated they would be, we will likely find ourselves with another deficit the forthcoming summer, necessitating the borrowing again of what we estimate now will amount to approximately \$10,000.00. We have, however, an admirable schedule arranged for next fall and we are counting upon that again to pull us out of the hole, so to speak, financially. It is interesting to note in this connection that virtually every college athletic association in America, with the exception of those upon the western coast, suffered proportionately with us, and in many instances were harder hit than we were. With our schedule for the forthcoming fall we are hoping to open the gates to larger gatherings and thus take care of our deficit.

Finally, two other incidents occurred during the football season and basket ball season that were both annoying and alarming. For the first time during my connection of 14 years with the Athletic Council, not only were the fences smashed and gates broken by roystering crowds, who broke into football games, but similar conduct ensued on the occasion of the Ohio State basketball game, when, after the doors were closed and the customary announcement made that no more people could be seated, the doors were smashed and again the roystering crowd overran our barriers. I take it that the outstanding contributing cause to this unhappy condition was the serious depression which made it impossible for many to attend the games and pay their entrance fee. I leave this brief report with you.

Enoch Grehan
Chairman, Athletic Council

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Following Professor Grehan's report, President McVey stated that a faculty committee would be appointed to have charge of all scholarships and that financial assistance given to athletes in the future would be made a matter of record; that if a person is an athlete he should not be discriminated against, and the committee would have charge of all financial assistance given to students.

The following report from the Arts and Sciences College regarding comprehensive examinations was presented by Dean Boyd:

"The departments of Anatomy and Physiology, Ancient Languages, Geology, Mathematics and Astronomy, Philosophy, Physics, Zoology, believe that the introduction of compulsory comprehensive examinations for their senior majors to supplement the present requirements for graduation will result in better direction and stimulus to the student and make possible a more unified and more vital grasp of the field, and will tend to improve the methods of teaching for upper-division students. They believe that they can carry on, without increased cost, a sufficient amount of tutorial direction and seminar work in preparation for the examinations to insure success for the project.

It is requested therefore that these departments be allowed to require comprehensive examinations of all their major students as partial requirement for graduation. They desire to enter upon this project in the spirit of experimentation, assuring the faculty that if, after a reasonable trial, they find their hopes unfounded and their results unsatisfactory and their resources too limited for the task, they will not hesitate to ask its abandonment.

While they believe that considerable autonomy should be given to the various departments, they propose the following general provisions for all:

1. The examinations will first be required at the end of the second semester of 1933-34.
2. Each major student is to be assigned to an adviser at the beginning of his junior year. The adviser will, during his junior year, if the department elects, meet him in conference weekly, discuss his current work, assign outside work for study and report at the next conference, paying particular attention to matters of review and supplementary material designed to fill in gaps in the student's course-work, and to relate the major work to other subjects of the concentration field.
3. For the tutorial work done with his adviser in the junior year, the student will be eligible to one credit per semester. A student entering the college later in his course will be excused from the preceding tutorial requirements.

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4. During the senior year the advisory direction of the student will take the form of independent work courses, conferences or seminars carrying from one to three credits per semester. All of this work will be designed to encourage in the student an intensive pursuit of some chosen topic and a reasonable adequate coordination of the branches in his field of knowledge. A senior may, at the discretion of the instructor, be excused from the final examinations in his last semester courses in order to have more time to prepare for the comprehensive examination.
5. A committee will be appointed to make a continuous study of the types of examination used and to advise the various departments in the formulation of their examinations. It is realized that the examination must be something different from the ordinary course examinations.
6. The examinations will be written for the most part, although oral examinations may be added at the discretion of the department.
7. At the start, departmental examiners will be used. Later, however, examiners may be brought in from other institutions if the department so desires.
8. Passing in the comprehensive examination will be a prerequisite for graduation for majors in these departments. On the basis of the student's record and his performance in the comprehensive examination, he may be graduated with special departmental honors. If the student fails to graduate because of failure in the examination, he may be given another examination when the department is convinced that he has made sufficient additional preparation.
9. The total time given to the examination will be not less than four hours.
10. Special courses, Tutorial Work in the subject, open only to departmental undergraduate majors, will be asked for to take care of the credits allowed for the conference feature.

The Faculty also asks for approval of the following tutorial courses, called for by the above plan:

- Mathematics and Astronomy 16a, b, c, d. Tutorial Work in Mathematics. One credit per semester.
- Physics 15a, b, c, d. Tutorial Work in Physics. One credit per semester.
- Ancient Languages 16a, b. Tutorial Work in Ancient Languages. One credit per semester.

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Philosophy 35a, b. Tutorial Work in Philosophy. One credit per semester.

All of these courses are described as follows:

"Weekly conferences with major students, reports on assigned readings in preparation for the comprehensive examination. Only open to junior and senior major students. One credit per semester."

A general discussion followed. Some advocated the principle that all departments should be required to adopt the same policy. Some expressed the fear that it would militate against students from other colleges. Dean Boyd explained that some departments were favorable to it and some were not, and that they are introducing it as an experiment. He thought it more satisfactory to have the departments that are interested in it to make the first experiment. A motion was made to vote by closed ballot. The motion was lost. Another motion was made to refer it to the College of Arts and Sciences faculty for further consideration, was lost. The motion was approved as first presented by a majority vote.

The Acting Dean of the Graduate School presented for approval of the Senate, a recommendation that an honorary degree, Doctor of Laws, be conferred on the following:

H. L. Donovan, President Eastern State Teachers College	Richmond
J. H. Payne " Morehead State Teachers College	Morehead
James Richmond, Superintendent of Public Instruction	Frankfort

The motion was approved.

Announcements were made that the alumni reception at the K. E. A. would be at the Brown Hotel, also the local alumni would have a dinner at 8:30 at the Brown.

Announcement was made of the opening of the Women's Building, Wednesday afternoon. An invitation was extended to the faculty to visit the building at this time.

President McVey asked the faculty to cooperate with a study that is being made by the Brookings Institute of Economics by filling out the blanks submitted by the institution.

Ernest Gillis
Secretary

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