

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
FACULTY AND STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES AND EXPECTATIONS
AN ACTION-ORIENTED APPROACH

March 17, 1988

Sponsor: Committee on Instruction and Professional Development
Dr. Allen Pomerantz, Chair

Panel: Moderators: Professor Walter Merrigan, Student Development
Dean Alice Fuller, Acting Dean of Academic Affairs
Professor Frank Terrell, Chairman, Business
Professor Ronald Thomas - Biology

The meeting began at 12:15 p.m. Dr. Pomerantz welcomed the panelists and the audience. Forms were distributed to the audience and they were asked to list responsibilities, expectations, and concerns of instructors and of students.

The panelists introduced themselves.

Professor Merrigan said he would like to have an open forum. He asked the audience to note that there were faculty members on the panel but no students. Two students said they would come but changed their minds. Professor Merrigan emphasized that if students say they will do something, they should do it.

FACULTY RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE CLASSROOM

Dr. Pomerantz handed out copies of a report that Professor Terrell had written. (attached).

Professor Terrell spoke first. He said he taught law and that when teaching he presents a structured lesson plan and indicates, with reference to the syllabus, exactly what the course will cover. He tells the students to look forward in the text to see what is coming. He also urges students to take notes. Key points are placed on the chalk board. Professor Terrell said he believes in emphasizing writing skills and communication skills. He said he also believes students should be treated like adults; they should show respect for instructors, and professors should give college-level examinations.

Professor Thomas stated that students have to receive orientation. They must be given information about the requirements and responsibilities for being in a particular course. He emphasized that they must learn note taking.

Professor Merrigan made the point that there is a real shift in responsibility from high school to college and that for some students this is a difficult transition to make.

A student mentioned a class where a professor was impolite and told a student to "shut up."

Points made included the following: instructors should help students with problems; they should give clear instructions; they should not be "arrogant."

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Professor Merrigan read from notes students completed. A discussion followed. A student made the point that perhaps a student did not do the work because he did not understand the material. Another student stated that it was the student's responsibility to budget his own time.

After further discussion, Dr. Pomerantz thanked the panel and the audience. He stated that there are dozens of faculty members on campus ready to help students with problems.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marian Wise

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Secretary Pro Tem

Enclosure