

P L E A S E

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Department Heads Meeting  
School of Arts and Science  
May 14, 1970

Absent: Kreitz (Note: Mr. Gorski was inaccurately marked absent  
for the meeting of April 9.)

Guest: Louis Broussard

1. Colonel Sessler distributed some material about existing and proposed draft reforms and the effect that it might have on students. He also pointed out that recent statements indicate that individuals in ROTC may be required to put in as little as six months on active service in the future.
2. Proposal for Disadvantaged and Handicapped Students. Dr. Broussard of the Department of Education appeared before the group to explain a request for federal funding that had been presented to the Office of Education. It was proposed that Northern focus attention on those with limited skills who are permitted to enroll here. About 400 students would be involved. Six faculty would be hired each for the Humanities, Natural Sciences, and Social Sciences. For the time being they would report to Dr. Vinocur, although eventually they might be attached to a department. The earliest that we would know whether we had been awarded the grant would be May 29. However, if this information came too late in the year, we might be able to renegotiate the dates. Instead of starting this September, there could be a pilot program in the Fall, with the real start coming in the Spring Semester. These courses would not be sub-college courses, but would represent efforts through careful attention and careful counseling to assist students to rise to college level. There would be a good deal of use of audio-visual materials. The hardware would probably stay if the funds were withdrawn. The students would normally take 12 or 13 credit hours a semester at first until they demonstrated that they could do the work. Dr. Broussard did not feel that this program was tied too closely to any specific courses and that, even if Common Learning were significantly modified, this could be handled. He felt that the program might be funded up to three years. He pointed out, however, that the odds against Northern's getting such a proposal granted were rather great. Once funds no longer were available from the Federal Government, the program would either need University support to continue, or else outside sources, or a combination. In response to a question, Dr. Broussard estimated that it might cost up to half a million dollars a year to maintain the program, although he stressed that this was only an estimate. Some felt this figure was too high since we would have to teach these students anyway. Dr. Griffith concluded by emphasizing that at this stage this only represents information, but that if the

Federal Government does grant the proposal, we would want to come to a decision as quickly as possible.

3. Report from Senator Heikkinen. Dr. Heikkinen reported on the meeting on Tuesday, May 12, with the representatives from the Human Rights Commission and the Senate. He reported that Black students were quite concerned about guns on campus and that they had wanted school to be closed in memorial for the Blacks killed in Augusta, Georgia. It was agreed that guns should be removed from campus by Sunday, but all were agreed that it had been a mistake the previous Friday to close school, and there was no support for this. The Senate also came to a conclusion to have no more telephone polls on such issues. Dr. Heikkinen in addition reported on the session held that evening between the Academic Senate and the President about the Non-Tenure Advisory Council. He felt that mutual cooperation had been good and that a suitable document had been worked out for presentation to the Board of Control.
4. Summer Session Advising. There was a brief discussion of this issue. The question was raised whether or not a more limited time of advising might be suitable, such as four hours a week, rather than eight as presently proposed.

Respectfully submitted,

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Associate Dean  
School of Arts and Science

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