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Soochow
Administrative
Soochow University Committee
of the UBCC 1950-1951

MINUTES OF MEETING

SOOCHOW UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE
UNITED BOARD FOR CHRISTIAN COLLEGES IN CHINA

3:00 P. M., Tuesday, May 9, 1950
Room 515, 5th Floor, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Members of the Committee

*Chairman - Rev. Loyd Worley

*Mr. Dugald J. Cameron
Mrs. Stewart Colley
Bishop Fred P. Corson
Dr. C. L. Hsia
Bishop Paul B. Kern

Mr. Charles M. Skade
Bishop Arthur J. Moore
Mrs. William F. Quillian
Mr. Littell Rust
*Dr. M. O. Williams

* - Present at Meeting.

Staff Present: Dr. Gerald F. Winfield

OPENING PRAYER

The meeting was opened with a prayer by Reverend Loyd Worley.

MINUTES

There were no minutes of any previous meeting for circulation to members of the committee.

REPORTS FROM THE CAMPUS

The report from the Soochow campus, previously distributed to members, was reviewed, and several additional points were brought out. Dr. Winfield presented some new statistics on enrollment. He mentioned that the Arts and Science School had an enrollment of 672 in the fall, and 565 in the spring. The College of Law's enrollment was 556 in the fall and 605 in the spring. He also mentioned the fact that before the war Soochow had the best biological supply department in China, and that they are, once again, raising its standards to that of pre-war days. After Christmas the school had a three-day exhibit of its supplies, which made a big impression on many people including Communist soldiers who came to see the exhibit.

FORMULATION OF FINDINGS

After consideration of available reports from Soochow University which have come largely from the Arts and Science Colleges located on the campus at Soochow, and leave the situation on the Law Campus in Shanghai largely obscure, the Committee recorded the following findings:-

1) The type of legal training previously offered does not appear to be acceptable to the new regime and therefore radical

SOOCHOW UNIVERSITY MINUTES

changes are taking place in the direction of becoming a School of Commerce. Nevertheless, it is the opinion of the Committee that the academic changes which have been brought about in Soochow thus far, as we are able to visualize them, have not fundamentally impaired the capacity of Soochow to fulfill its educational purposes. It is even further suggested that increased freedom for curricular experimentation and the pressure of the new situation in the direction of emphasizing more practical types of training (it is important that such courses be maintained on a level of college study and not be reduced to a level of high school training) perhaps is resulting in a training of more value to the average student in China as it is today. We therefore, feel that continued support of Soochow is fully justified on educational grounds.

2) We note with gratification the fact that religious activities are unimpaired. There is even an increased enrollment in elective courses in religion. Participation in church and in Christian music activities are good.

From our knowledge of the Christian character of the members of the faculty still functioning we are strongly confident of the quality of the Christian witness they maintain.

3) We are very much aware of the great complexity and difficulty of the administrative problem and we should like to express our appreciation and admiration of what the administration has achieved in the face of these difficulties.

We are not unsympathetic with efforts to extend a larger participation in the administrative responsibilities to students and other members of the university community, but caution against such rapid changes as will impair efficiency of administration. Here again we express our confidence in the Christian faculty with whom we have had dealings in their ability to council less experienced individuals in their exercise of these responsibilities.

In the final analysis we look to these faculty members to exert full endeavor to uphold the Christian purposes for which the university was founded.

4) We should recognize the seriousness of the problem of Communist indoctrination. On the Soochow campus all students are receiving this teaching. However, all people in China are subject to this indoctrination so that our schools are not special instruments of Communist teaching.

These Christian Colleges provide the places in which students can receive Christian instruction and instruction in other subjects taught from a Christian point of view, with the greatest degree of intensity in China.

SOOCHOW UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE MINUTES.

Therefore we feel we should look upon our schools as affording a unique opportunity for the exaltation of Christian principles in a Communist-dominated area. Since we cannot be sure how long this opportunity will last we should make the most of it while we can.

5) While we recognize that the real situation in China is such that it is probably not possible to rapidly carry out the recommendations of the Planning Committee for Soochow University, we are deeply grateful to note that the Provisional Board of Huatung University is still in existence and its last report indicated its desire to take advantage of every opportunity to continue to work for the union of the three East China colleges, including Soochow.

BUDGET

After some consideration and discussion it was

S-1 VOTED To approve the Budget for Soochow University for the first half of the fiscal year 1950-51 as submitted and to recommend it to the UBCCC.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE SOOCHOW COMMITTEE

It was noted that the Soochow Committee is much smaller than most of the colleges' committees with a consequent result that there is difficulty in having a good representation at Committee meetings. In view of the fact that there are still a number of member-at-large vacancies on the United Board it was voted:

S-2 VOTED That all members of the Soochow Committee be urged to give serious consideration to nominating interested and able individuals for election to the United Board with a view to enlarging the membership of the Soochow Committee. Such nominations should be sent to the Executive Secretary of the United Board.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Gerald F. Winfield
Secretary

SOOCHOW UNIVERSITY

BUDGET

6 months July 1, 1950 - December 31, 1950

ANTICIPATED INCOME

Methodist Division of Foreign Missions	\$ 500.00
United Board for Christian Colleges in China	10,000.00
	<u>\$ 10,500.00</u>
AVAILABLE FOR FIELD.	<u>\$ 10,500.00</u>

RECORD OF CIRCULATION VOTE

SOOCHOW UNIVERSITY

UNITED BOARD FOR CHRISTIAN COLLEGES IN CHINA

January 2, 1951

Members of the Committee:

*Mr. Dugald J. Cameron
*Mrs. Stewart Colley
Dr. C. L. Hsia
*Bishop Paul B. Kern
*Bishop Arthur J. Moore

*Mrs. William F. Quillian
*Mr. Littell Rust
*Mr. Charles M. Skade
*Dr. M. O. Williams
*Rev. Loyd Worley

Under date of December 19, 1950 the members of the Committee were sent copies of the following document:

Proposed Budget for the period January 1, 1951 to June 30, 1951.

The Committee members were asked to signify their approval or disapproval of the above documents. All those whose names are starred approved of the proposed recommendations as follows; other members have not been heard from:

S-3 VOTED to recommend to the United Board approval of the proposed Budget for the six months' period January 1, 1951 to June 30, 1951.

Very truly yours,

Henry B. Seaman

HENRY B. SEAMAN
Associate Treasurer

SOOCHOW UNIVERSITY

BUDGET

6 months January 1, 1951 - June 30, 1951

ANTICIPATED INCOME

Methodist Division of Foreign Missions	\$ 500.00
United Board for Christian Colleges in China	<u>15,000.00</u>
	<u>\$ 15,500.00</u>

AVAILABLE FOR FIELD \$ 15,500.00
