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Faculty and Students Revise Curriculum

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Faculty and Students
Revise Curriculum

The plan for curriculum changes in the Division of Home Economics is a part of an all college curriculum program to investigate courses in each of the five major divisions. Senior home economics women last year were requested to give opinions about curriculum during their 4 years of training. These opinions were carefully analyzed and from them the need was recognized for organizing committees to study student problems.

All Home Economics faculty members serve on one or more of the eight committees that analyze and evaluate the courses as well as the student’s use of time and energy in all the college curricula. All student experiences provided and supervised by the college are considered as curriculum by the committees.

Junior and senior college women selected from each department form a student committee which assists the faculty committee in obtaining student opinion.

The faculty committee on extra curricular activities is studying participation in college activities to determine the part which they play in education.

The work of another committee includes freshman courses. One of their major revisions will be incorporated in the college schedule for fall. A previously non-credit course in orientation will now receive 2 hours of credit.

A third committee is faced with the problem of providing broad backgrounds for the home economics student dropping out of school after 1 or 2 years. At present, over 50 percent of the students entering Iowa State as freshmen have left school by the end of their second year. This faculty group is now studying to determine what the emphasis of study should be in the sophomore year, and to determine the extent and kind of education Iowa State can give to students attending only 1 or 2 years.

The committee for student use of time and energy is planning to work with the Student Curriculum Committee who will interview a representative group of home economics women to identify their problems in use of time.

A faculty committee for Student-Faculty Relationships is studying the results of interviews just completed by the Student Curriculum Committee. Informal teas given every 2 weeks in the Institution Tea Room are an outgrowth of the work of this committee. The ultimate goal of the faculty is to develop a change in attitude that will bring about friendlier relationships between students and faculty.

Another committee is studying science requirements for the home economics woman. A change in zoology required for freshman students to a course in human physiology is a result of their work.

A committee analyzing clothing and art courses was responsible for enlarging a freshman course in textiles and clothing to include more work in grooming and clothing selection.

Curricula requirements in hygiene and nutrition serve as a basis for study for another divisional committee. At present they are scrutinizing courses planned for sophomore women.

The last committee has undertaken the responsibility of discovering and disclosing how home economics women may develop a broader social point of view.—Jeanne O’Connor