

MEETING NO. 54

February 12, 1975

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE

Absent:

Jack McCulloch (Excused)
Dudley Stewart
Ralph Eddins

Ex Officio Members & Visitors:

Dr. Ralph Steen
Dr. John T. Lewis, III
Dr. Patsy Spurrier
Karen Bradshaw
Dan Miles
Jimmy Blaisdell

1. Chairman Arscott called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m.
2. Minutes of Meeting No. 53 were approved.
3. Chairman Arscott reported to the Senate on the January 29th meeting of the Dean's Council. The Council approved degree candidates and discussed possible calendar changes for the summer term. The proposed calendar changes were not enacted by the Council.
4. Vice Chairman Wayne Johnson reported on the efforts of the joint Faculty Senate/Dean's Council arbitration committee to devise an acceptable compromise resolution with regard to faculty evaluation of administration. The Committee was to meet the following week to continue deliberations.
5. Dr. Diane Ford reported for the Faculty Government and Involvement Committee on its project to revise portions of the Faculty Handbook. Dr. Ford noted that the Committee had been attempting to incorporate pertinent parts of University fiscal regulations. Other passages of the Handbook were being rewritten for clarification. The Committee will work on the project for the rest of the semester.
6. Dr. Diane Ford introduced into the discussion four amendments to the Faculty Senate Constitution, which had been submitted to the Senate at the January meeting. Each of the amendments was taken up, discussed, and voted upon by the Faculty Senate. A motion to override a previous ruling by Senate Chairman Arscott that it take a two-thirds vote of the Faculty Senate to propose any of these amendments by requiring only a simple majority did not pass. The proposed amendments receiving the requisite support in the Faculty Senate will be promulgated to the faculty for ratification before the March meeting.

Amendment One: Article I, Organization Section 3. Voting members of the faculty are defined as those holding faculty rank and employed full-time by the University, including professional librarians.

A motion to approve this amendment and submit to the faculty was approved.

Amendment Two: Article I, Organization, Section 6. Academic deans and department heads are excluded from eligibility; otherwise, to be eligible for election to the Faculty Senate one must be a voting member of the University Faculty.

A motion to strike the words academic deans from the amendment was passed.

A motion to submit this amendment to the faculty failed.

Amendment Three: Article II, Functions. The Faculty Senate shall decide and promulgate academic policy for the University, acting with due regard to the autonomy, requests, and the needs of the specific departments, divisions, schools, and colleges, to the advice of the President of the University, and to the regulations of the Board of Regents of Stephen F. Austin State University and the Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System. Such policies become official when signed by the President of the University.

A motion to approve this amendment and promulgate it to the faculty was passed.

Amendment Four: Article IV, Amendments, Section 3. Amendments shall be ratified by secret ballot by two-thirds of the votes cast on the amendment by the voting faculty.

A motion to submit this amendment to the faculty was passed.

7. Dr. Kenneth Watterston reported to the Senate for the Academic Affairs Committee with respect to the Committee's research on tenure policy. The present policy is a policy of the Coordinating Board and cannot be changed. The Committee is seeking ways to eliminate existing and future inequities in the system. The Committee solicited faculty input with regard to a possible adoption of a system whereby faculty tenure would be reevaluated at seven year intervals. A faculty member whose performance is insufficient could be placed on probation and could be reinstated. It might require a unanimous approval of department heads, deans, school councils, etc., to place one on probation. Any one of these sources could reinstate a faculty member.

Dr. Watterston asked the Senate its wishes concerning the continued study by the Committee of this and other possibilities.

A motion was made to instruct the Committee to drop further consideration of the periodic reevaluation scheme. The motion was tabled until next meeting.

8. Dr. Sue Jones, speaking for the Student Affairs Committee, reported on the Committee's reworking of the statement in the Faculty Handbook on rules pertaining to cheating, plagiarism, etc. Dr. Jones noted that the Student Senate had stated its approval of the revisions. See attached report from the Student Affairs Committee. A motion was made to change items c and d under Penalties to include the name of the Vice President for Student Affairs. The motion passed. A motion to accept the amended report was passed.

9. Dr. Bill Brophy, speaking for the Faculty Welfare Committee, reported that the Committee was continuing the study of the establishment of a professor emeritus status for S.F.A.
10. Mr. Jess Richardson spoke to the Senate concerning the proposed Senate Resolution No. 3, now pending before the Texas Legislature. The resolution proposes to make certain changes in the teacher retirement system in Texas, allowing recipients to receive benefits from two or three of the alternate retirement systems. Mr. Richardson urged the Faculty Senate to pass a resolution in support of this legislative proposal. A motion to so resolve was passed.
11. Dr. James Garrett, Administration and Finance Committee, inquired whether or not President Steen wished the Committee to consider Mr. Richardson's proposal that a rule requiring a \$1.00 for each subsequent traffic violation after the initial violation in its overall reconsideration of Item 8, Meeting 53. Dr. Steen replied in the affirmative, and Chairman Arscott instructed Dr. Garrett to take appropriate action in the Committee.
12. Mr. Dan Miles, Student Senate, asked for the establishment of a joint faculty-student committee to devise a uniform system for course evaluation. Chairman Arscott informed Mr. Miles that the Faculty Senate Student Affairs Committee had already done some work in this field and would be glad to work with the Student Senate.
13. President Ralph Steen addressed the Senate concerning the formula for computing faculty salary increments under the recently passed acts of the legislature. See attached sheet for a "breakdown" of this formula and its application to a hypothetical salary.
14. The meeting adjourned at 4:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

James G. Dickson, Jr.
James G. Dickson, Jr.
Faculty Senate Secretary

Reviewed:

John T. Lewis III
Vice President For Academic Affairs

Date: 3-18-75

Approved:

Ralph Steen
President

MAR 19 1975

Date: _____