

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY  
Faculty Senate  
Meeting No. 108  
April 9, 1980

1. Chairman Rodewald called the meeting to order at 2:15 p.m.
2. Chairman Rodewald announced that the Minutes of Meeting No. 107 would be up for approval at the next Senate meeting.

3. Reports of Officers:

A. Chairman's Report:

- a. Chairman Rodewald first reported that the resolution passed by the Senate on Dr. Ralph W. Steen has been sent to the Board of Regents, Dr. Steen's relatives, and to President Johnson.
- b. The Student Government Association is again proposing student evaluations of faculty. At this time, however, it is just a resolution. They have proposed that this be done on a voluntary basis.
- c. A report from Dr. Clyde Iglinsky, Director of Admissions, states that enrollment looks good for next year. At this time, he has about 300 more applications than he had at this time last year.
- d. The self-study team from the Southern Association will be on campus April 21, 22 and 23.
- e. The proposed faculty for fiscal year 80-81 includes a reduction of 3 full-time faculty and 3 full-time equivalents and teaching assistants. The reduction in teaching assistants is based on a salary figure of \$3,600 per teaching assistant. Next year, Chairman Rodewald reported, a teaching assistant can earn up to \$4,400 which could further decrease the number of teaching assistants.

In response to a question from Senator Constance Spreadbury concerning the reduction in faculty positions, Chairman Rodewald responded that this does not mean that 3 faculty members would be dismissed. Five faculty members are retiring at the end of this semester.

- f. Chairman Rodewald stated he had been informed by Dr. Franklin that the Senate would be sent a faculty salary budget analysis as soon as the Board of Regents has approved the budget for next year. This breakdown will include how many faculty members, and in what ranks, and sex received merit raises, salary adjustments, and promotions.
- g. The Deans Council is examining the Faculty Handbook with the possibility of reviewing policy on office hours, faculty absences, student absences, guest lecturers, class record keeping, etc.

- h. The Deans Council has asked the Faculty Development Committee to study the question of whether or not to recommend reestablishment of the old administrative internship program.

B. Secretary's Report:

Secretary Bowman reminded the Senate that the election of new Senators was underway and asked the Senators to remind their constituents to get their ballots in by April 15.

C. Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Constance Spreadbury reported a balance in the treasury of \$4,136.

4. Old Business:

- A. Senator Mathis, Chairman of the Faculty Government and Involvement Committee, reported that the committee's recommendation on recommendation 4 will be delayed until the May Senate meeting. (see Minutes of Senate meeting No. 107, Attachment #2, p. 4, recommendation 4.)
- B. Chairman Rodewald reported that the Senate Nominating Committee met after the last Senate meeting and submits the following names as nominees for Senate Officers for 1980-81:

Chairman: Robert Mathis; Constance Spreadbury  
Vice Chairman: Wayne Murdock; Bennie Walker  
Secretary: James Corbin; Kurt Stanberry  
Treasurer: Sandra Cole; Wendall Spreadbury

Senator Blocker moved and Senator Schoenewolf seconded the motion to accept this report. Motion Passed.

Chairman Rodewald stated that this did not terminate nominations. Nominations can be made at any time during the process either at this meeting or in the May meeting.

- C. Referring to the report submitted by the Academic Affairs Committee, (see Minutes of Senate meeting No. 108, Attachment #2), Chairman Rodewald stated that the basic recommendation of this report as stated on page 2 under item no. 8 was as follows: "Our committee agrees with the following suggestions and recommends that the details involved be the first priority of the 1980-81 Academic Affairs Sub-Committee."

Senator Bos moved and Senator Mathis seconded the motion for this report to be received and referred to the 1980-81 Academic Affairs Sub-Committee. Motion Passed.

- D. Chairman Rodewald distributed (see Attachment #1) and briefly explained the results of the Faculty Senate's ranking of the University Self-Study Recommendations. Senator Pollock tabulated the results and Chairman Rodewald stated that these rankings have been sent to President Johnson.

5. New Business:

- A. Senator Proctor, Chairman of the Professional Welfare Committee, presented his committee's report concerning reconsideration of seven previously passed resolutions. (See Attachment #2.) Senator Proctor suggested that the word "rescind" be changed to "discard" in the first recommendation on p. 1 under "Faculty Salary."

Senator Blocker moved and Senator Spreadbury seconded the motion to accept this report. Motion Passed.

Chairman Rodewald announced that there would be successive Senate meetings in May. The purpose of meeting No. 109 will be to take care of old business. Meeting No. 110 will be for the election of the new Senate officers and seating of the new Senators.

- B. In a departure from the agenda, Senator Corbin distributed a rationale for a Master of Interdisciplinary Studies degree. (See Attachment #3) Dr. Corbin stated that this rationale was the result of being asked by Dean Reese to chair a committee to study the possibilities of ~~affiring~~ <sup>offering</sup> a Master of Interdisciplinary Studies degree.

In a response to a question from Senator Jones concerning how this would differ from traditional major and minor programs, Dr. Corbin stated that there would not be a major or minor in this program and a student would have to take courses in at least three areas--perhaps four or five in light of his/her needs and objectives.

Dr. Corbin then stated that the basic description of the proposed program would include the following descriptive statement that would appear in the University catalog: "An interdisciplinary degree program that allows students to specialize in areas of study which are not intergrated into traditional programs that involve study in more than two disciplines, particularly where these areas overlap. The programs outlined below will provide students <sup>with</sup> both specialized study in ~~the earth~~ <sup>several</sup> disciplines and the interrelationships of those disciplines. The student may pursue programs for the cultural enrichment or direction related to his/her career goals and objectives."

The program as outlined now, Senator Corbin reported, would include the following general requirements:

- 1) A 36 hour program with no more than 12 hours in any one discipline and having no major or minor.
- 2) The student will select one of two academic options--a diverse background of courses or specialization in areas which are often not intergrated into traditional programs.
- 3) Students may transfer no more than six hours from another institution without the approval of his/her graduate advisor or graduate dean.

- 4) No more than six hours of 400 level courses can be applied toward the degree.
- 5) In some cases, students may be required to do background courses work in order to meet advanced level course requirements.

Dean Reese stated that such a program would attract students that do not fit into traditional degree programs. In addition, Dean Reese pointed out that the main concern is the question of quality--the student must pursue a conscious plan in light of his/her career goals and objectives.

Next, Dr. Corbin stated that he would welcome comments and suggestions from the faculty concerning the proposed program.

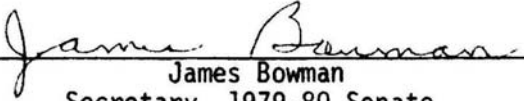
6. The next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be May 7, 1980, at 2:15 p.m. in Rusk 301.
7. Senator Spreadbury moved and Senator Reese seconded the motion for adjournment. Motion Passed and Chairman Rodewald adjourned the meeting at 3:25 p.m.

Absentees:

Duke Brannen (Excused--Prof. Conflict)  
Bobby Johnson (Excused--Prof. Conflict)  
Larry Pollock (Unexcused)  
Thurman Thomas (Unexcused)

Ex Officio Members Present:

James Reese

  
James Bowman  
Secretary, 1979-80 Senate