

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY  
Faculty Senate  
Meeting No. 120  
May 6, 1981

1. Chairman Mathis called the meeting to order at 3:45 p.m.
2. Secretary Stanberry called the roll and introduced the seven newly elected Faculty Senators. Their names are:

Carey Crocker - Math and Science  
Samir Maamary - Liberal Arts  
John T. Moore - Math and Science  
Tom Hall - Liberal Arts

David Whillock - Fine Arts  
Bill Syers - Applied Arts and Sciences  
Marlin Young - Business

3. Election of New Senate Officers:

Chairman Mathis introduced the candidates for the offices and asked for nominations from the floor. A vote was taken and the ballots were counted. The results were as follows:

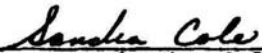
Treasurer - Max Morley  
Secretary - Sandra Cole  
Vice Chairman - Wayne Proctor  
Chairman - Wendall Spreadbury

Chairman Spreadbury took over at this point. He complimented Dr. Mathis for his outstanding efforts during the past year.

4. Faculty Senate Committee Sign-Up:

Chairman Spreadbury announced that those senators wanting to serve on a Faculty Senate committee should contact him.

5. A motion was made and seconded for adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

  
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Sandra Cole  
Secretary, 1981-82, Senate

## FACULTY SENATE

### CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT, 1980-1981

The 1980-1981 Faculty Senate has been fortunate to have able, hardworking chairs of both its standing and ad hoc committees. Through their efforts, the diligence of other Senators, and the responsiveness of the faculty and administration, we have concluded an eventful year.

The Faculty Government and Involvement Committee, chaired by Connie Spreadbury, successfully conducted a self-study of the Senate, which included extensive interviews with all past chairpersons. It also successfully revised the Constitution and Standing Rules to allow for representation by the School of Applied Arts and Sciences. In addition, the committee reviewed two draft policies which had been submitted to the Senate by the President: Policy on Class Attendance and Excused Absences and Policy of Appeal Procedures for Resolving Student-Initiated Academic Complaints. Both of these reviews were thoroughly and responsibly conducted, and after consideration by the Senate the committee's recommendations were forwarded to the President. The Faculty Government Committee also provided the Senate with the information necessary to complete the constitutional obligation to re-apportion representation.

The Academic Affairs Committee, chaired by James Nicholson, monitored the new pre-registration procedures. It transmitted its findings to the Vice-President for Academic Affairs and the Registrar. The committee was also instrumental in having sessions scheduled to inform all advisors of changes in pre-registration procedures. In addition, the committee reviewed the current practice on scheduling final exams during summer terms and advised against any changes. It also examined the new admission requirements and concluded that there was no decline in the University's admission's standards.

The Professional Welfare Committee, chaired by Wendall Spreadbury, reviewed the Faculty Handbook statement on office hours. This review was made at the request of the Academic Deans Council. The committee recommended that the current policy be enforced, but not altered. The committee conducted a thorough review, which included an open faculty hearing, on the Draft Policies on Consulting and Outside Employment. These policies were transmitted to the Senate by the President. With some modifications, the Senate approved the committee's recommendations and submitted them to the President. The major task of the Professional Welfare Committee was to review the present procedures for evaluating the faculty for the purposes of determining tenure, promotion, and merit pay increments. It distributed a questionnaire on merit to the faculty. After an extensive examination of various evaluation methods, the committee presented to the Senate a specific proposal for faculty evaluation. Since insufficient time remained for a thorough discussion and a faculty hearing, the Senate delayed further consideration of the proposal until 1981-1982. The Professional Welfare Committee also presented to the Senate

a recommendation on Grievance Hearing Procedures. This recommendation, after a lengthy faculty hearing and Senate debate, was approved with only minor modifications and presented to the President.

The Administration and Finance Committee, chaired by Wayne Murdock, completed a study of major budget decisions for FY '81. It also made suggestions to the Senate and administration concerning ways to keep the faculty informed of the budget development and to provide more representation for faculty viewpoints in critical budgetary decisions. The report was approved by the Senate.

Several ad hoc committees made major contributions. The Committee on the Faculty/Staff Traffic Appeals Policy (Wayne Proctor, Chair) completed a review of a draft policy submitted by the President. The Senate adopted the committee's recommendation. A Committee to Review the Southern Association Re-Affirmation Report (Ben Walker, Chair) investigated the Southern Association Committee's assertion that it detected a faculty morale problem which was not solely related to the financial crisis. The committee, after a conscientious investigation, concluded that this assertion apparently had some validity. The Senate decided to submit the committee's findings, along with questionnaires which the faculty had completed, for review to the Vice President for Academic Affairs. The Vice President presented his assessment in the May meeting. The Committee on Elections (Kurt Stanberry, Chair) conducted elections for the Grievance Panel and for the new Senate membership. It also obtained for the Executive Committee a list of faculty members who were willing to serve on University committees. The Committee to Review Participation in the Social Security System (Denis Hyams, Chair) responded to a faculty petition by investigating the possibility of withdrawing from Social Security coverage. The Committee on the Encouragement of Faculty Research and Development (Joseph Devine, Chair) compiled a report, based largely on the results of a questionnaire completed by the faculty, for the final Senate meeting. The report was received, but further action was postponed until September. Finally, the Committee to Consult with Student Government presented a resolution, approved by the Senate, to endorse the SGA's implementation of an awards program for the faculty. It also solicited the opinions of Senators on an SGA proposal pertaining to "dead week."

Several other actions by the Senate deserve mention. Connie Spreadbury up-dated, for distribution to the faculty, the Senate's information on grade distributions. To facilitate its communication with the University Community, the Senate established the Faculty Senate Report. Four editions of the Report were issued in 1980-1981. The Senate also cooperated with the faculty in other Texas colleges and universities in the initial efforts to create a Council of Faculty Governance Organizations. The Chairman attended a meeting of faculty governance leaders in Austin, in October of 1980. A subsequent meeting in February of 1981 was attended by Wendall Spreadbury. As a consequence of these meetings the Council of Faculty Governance Organizations is now a reality.

Throughout the academic year both the President and the Vice President for Academic Affairs were extremely helpful in providing information to the Senate. Dr. Franklin conducted a valuable session with the Executive Committee on the budget projections for FY '82. Both Dr. Johnson and Dr. Franklin fully informed the Senate on the progress of measures relating to higher education in the Legislature.

Thus, the Senate has completed a full year of work. Yet, in some areas its work has not concluded. Most notably, the Senate must continue its efforts to devise faculty evaluation procedures which will contribute to an improved process for identifying candidates for tenure, promotion, and merit. The development of an improved evaluation procedure, which will be acceptable to the administration and to a majority of the faculty, will be one of the main challenges of the 1981-1982 Senate.



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Robert N. Mathis  
Chairman of the Faculty Senate,  
1980-1981