

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY
Faculty Senate
Meeting No. 158
January 23, 1985

AMENDED MINUTES

1. Chairman Price called the meeting to order at 2:20 p.m.
2. Announcements:
 - a. Chairman Price introduced Tammy Simmons who will replace Linda Waddell as the Senate's secretary; he thanked Linda for her good work for the Senate during the past year.
 - b. The Chairman reminded the Senators that applications for faculty summer internships are still being accepted by the Coordinating Board.
 - c. The spring 1985 meeting of the Texas Council of Faculty Governance Organizations will be held in Austin February 1 and 2. Senators Price and Mace will attend.
 - d. The dates for the final meetings of the Senate Executive Committee and the Faculty Senate will be changed to May 1 and May 15, respectively. Since May 15 falls during final exam week, Chairman Price asked the senators to let him know if any schedule conflicts result.
3. The Minutes of Meeting #157 were approved as distributed.

4. Officer Reports

a. Treasurer

O&M and Travel balance	\$2,719.51
Payroll	808.69

b. Chairman

At the last Deans Council meeting, Council committees made these recommendations: that no changes be made in the current method of calculating GPA's; that a student must have taken a minimum of 60 hours at SFA to be eligible for graduation honors; that the university not institute competency exams in math and English as a requirement for graduation; that the notation "Reinstated on Probation"

be made on the transcripts of students on suspension who have been permitted to register for the next semester; and that new policies be adopted which will shorten summer orientation programs.

During his regularly scheduled meeting with the President, Chairman Price asked how faculty might support administrative lobbying efforts in the current Legislature; Dr. Johnson suggested that individual faculty could write letters to their legislative representatives. After some discussion by the Senate, it was agreed that Senator Mace should include a list of names and addresses of area and other key legislators in the next Faculty Report.

In their January meeting, the Board of Regents approved the Deans Council recommendation for changing the method of calculating the workload for those faculty directing master's theses. The Regents also approved funding for a faculty exchange program with Chungnam National University in Taegeon, Korea; those interested should contact Dr. Brophy. The Regents approved adding \$175,000 to the instructional and capital equipment budget for this fiscal year and raising student room and board fees by 2%, beginning in the fall 1985 semester. Bids for increasing the size of the stadium parking lot will be accepted at the next meeting; any further consideration of purchasing artificial turf for the football field will be delayed. The Regents also plan to consider the feasibility of placing Food Service operations under contract to private business.

5. Old Business

- a. Senator Reeves, chairman of Professional Welfare Committee II, moved that the Senate approve his committee's recommendation that the University hire a statistics consultant. Senator Clipson seconded; the motion passed without dissent.
- b. Senator Shows, chairman of the Faculty Governance and Involvement Committee, moved that the Senate accept his committee's recommendation to revise Article I, Section 9 of the Faculty Senate Constitution as follows: the phrase at the end of sentence 2, "and from the group of professional librarians," shall be deleted; the phrase "the seven" shall be deleted and replaced by "all"; the phrase "the Secretary of the Faculty Senate" shall be deleted and replaced by the words "the Committee for Elections."

Senator Shows then moved that the Senate approve the following additions to Article I, Section 5:

If, at the time apportionment is adjusted, it is determined that an imbalance in the number of first, second, and third-year senators has occurred, the following procedure shall be employed: (1) The term-year (first, second, third) of each existing Senator will be determined. (2) Projections of the term-year constitution for the succeeding two years will be computed. These projections will first be made given the condition of no change in the elected terms (i.e. as if all elections in the next year would be for three-year terms). (3) Adjustments to the number of elections for three-year terms will be made to approach parity in the first succeeding year. These adjustments will be made by designating an appropriate number of elections for two-year terms. Attention will be given to the faculty groups for the Schools which have the largest apportionment of senators, so that a balance of first, second, and third-year senators in these faculty groups is approached. (4) Should there continue to be an over-representation of any one-term year in any of the faculty groups noted, a second adjustment, through the designation of two-year term elections in the second succeeding year, will be made. (5) Should it be necessary to employ elections for two-year terms, eligible faculty will be surveyed to identify those who prefer to serve for either. The ballots for such elections will then designate those candidates running for either two-year or three-year terms. (6) For purposes of clarity in determining term-years in the succeeding years, the first year of an elected two-year senator will be designated as the second term-year; the second year of an elected two-year senator will be designated as the third term-year.

After general discussion, the Senate approved the addition to Article I, Section 5 by 22 yes votes, subject to clarification of re-election eligibility prior to submitting the proposal to the faculty for ratification.

6. New Business

- a. Senator Arscott, chair of the Academic Affairs Committee reported the results of his committee's questionnaire on the length of summer terms; respondents were asked to

indicate preference for two 5-week summer terms, two 6-week terms with classes beginning at 7:00 a.m., or one 10-week session. Results split according to how well the preferred time period fit the curriculum requirements for the various schools: Applied Arts & Sciences, Business, and Education professors chose the two 5-week sessions; all other schools preferred two 6-week sessions, although few individuals were enthusiastic about 7:00 a.m. classes. Senator Arscott noted that it might be feasible to have split schedules in the summer, with each school opting for the term length best suited to its needs.

In the discussion that followed, the senators again questioned whether the administration's figure of \$84,000 in energy savings last summer was accurate. They also asked what effect 5-week terms might have on summer salaries. The chairman asked Senator Speer, chair of the Administration and Finance Committee, to investigate the salary question and to incorporate his findings in the Academic Affairs Committee's final recommendation to be presented at the next Senate meeting.

- b. Senator Smith, chairman of Professional Welfare Committee I, reported that his committee had consulted Vice-President for Fiscal Affairs Henry about the possibility of waiving some registration fees for faculty who wished to enroll in courses. Mr. Henry said that he understood that state fees cannot be waived; he suggested the committee ask the Office of Development if money for such purposes could be raised through donations. Senator Speer commented that a procedure already exists for waiving fees of graduate students enrolled in 590 courses. Chairman Price asked which of the registration fees should be waived; Senator Arscott asked if the committee could find out what legislation existed on such fees. Since Texas A&M reportedly waives fees for registering faculty, Senator Arscott also suggested that the committee find out what monies A&M uses for that purpose. The committee will report on these matters at the next Senate meeting.

c. Unscheduled Items

- (1) Senator Dahmus asked the Senate to determine what effect contracting food service to private business would have on health insurance costs for faculty and on pension benefits for Food Service employees, and whether such a change might serve to establish a precedent for removing other staff employees from the University's payroll. He also asked whether the change would benefit the students. Chairman Price assigned the matter to the Administration and Finance Committee.

- (2) Senator Shows presented a petition from eight faculty members which proposes changes in the Senate's Constitution in order to eliminate the requirement for a two-year interim between Senate terms as well as the rule that Senate officers cannot run for reelection. The matter was assigned to the Faculty Governance and Involvement Committee.

7. The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Excused Absences:

Mr. Darrell Holt

Hebe R. Mace

Hebe R. Mace
SECRETARY, 1984-85, SENATE