

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY
Faculty Senate
Meeting #159
February 20, 1985

1. Chairman Price called the meeting to order at 2:20 p.m.
2. Announcements
 - a. The spring meeting of the Texas Council of Faculty Governance Organizations has been re-scheduled for February 22 and 23; Senators Price and Mace will attend.
 - b. The Senate Constitutional revisions establishing a Committee for Elections and procedures for redressing apportionment imbalances were submitted to faculty for ratification; both revisions passed by a majority of votes cast.
3. Senator Mace noted the omission of several phrases from page 2, section 5(b) of the Minutes for Meeting #158; Senator Dahmus asked that section c(1), on page 4, be reworded to indicate that the Senate is requested to determine what effect contracting food service to private business would have on faculty group insurance premiums. The Minutes of Meeting #158 were approved as corrected. A copy of the revised Minutes of Meeting #158 is attached.

4. Officer Reports

a. Treasurer

O&M and Travel Balance	\$2,568.66
Payroll	808.69

b. Chairman

The Academic Deans Council discussed the Coordinating Board's current actions to eliminate all "inactive courses" (those which have not been offered within the past three years) from university and college curriculum offerings. Dr. Brophy commented that 323 courses were on the "sunset list" for SFASU; of these 132 were deleted, and justifications have been written for retaining the remainder.

The Deans Council approved a drop policy, similar to that recommended by the Faculty Senate, with these procedural changes:

- (1) drops occurring before the 12th class day will not be noted on student transcripts;
- (2) drops occurring between the 12th class day and mid-term will be marked "W" on student transcripts;
- (3) drops occurring between mid-term and semester end will require special permission from the student's Dean; if permission is granted, the faculty member will then assign a "WP" or "WF."

The Deans noted that circumstances must warrant permission to drop after mid-term, and that a "negative statement" to this effect should be added to the General Bulletin.

The Deans Council is investigating the feasibility of awarding advanced placement credit on the basis of College Entrance Examination Board scores. They will recommend that SFASU accept a CEEB score of 3 or better (on a scale of 1 to 5) and that advanced credit be limited to 32 hours. This procedure will not affect departmental advanced placement regulations already in place. Advanced credit hours will be noted on the transcript by "CR".

5. Old Business

- a. Senator Smith, chair of Professional Welfare Committee I, reported that SFASU does waive registration fees for graduate students enrolled in 590 courses, and that out-of-state graduate assistants may register as in-state students. He also said that Texas A&M and North Texas State University routinely waive registration fees for faculty. Senator Smith then moved that SFASU waive registration fees for all faculty and professional librarians who were employed at least half time. Senator Arscott seconded the motion.

After some discussion about whether or not graduate assistants would be included as half-time faculty, Chairman Price moved that the motion be tabled for consideration at the next Senate meeting. Senator Clipson seconded; the motion passed by voice vote.

- b. Senator Speer, chair of Administration and Finance, reported that the \$80,000 savings calculated for the 1984 summer term did take into account the number of square feet cooled and temperature variations, according to VPFA Don Henry.

6. New Business

- a. Senator Shows, chairman of Faculty Governance & Involvement, reported that his committee recommended that further study be given to the faculty petition submitted at the last Senate meeting, since the petition called for fundamental changes in Senate policies on election to the Senate and for offices held within the Senate.
- b. Senator Speer, chair of Administration and Finance, said that bid documents submitted to the Board of Regents for contracting University Food Services to private business firms will stipulate that the contractor employ present Food Service workers. However, the University cannot guarantee the conditions of employment beyond the initial hiring, because a third-party contract is not governed by State regulations on employee benefits. The bid documents will also stipulate that food service quality and profitability will be maintained or improved. Such a contract should have no significant effect on faculty health insurance costs, according to VPFA Don Henry. In response to a question from Senator Arscott, Senator Speer said that Food Service employees who had been employed by SFASU for less than 10 years would lose that part of their retirement funds contributed by the State.
- c. Chairman Price announced that a National Faculty Exchange has been organized to co-ordinate faculty exchanges in the United States. The Chairman asked Professional Welfare II to investigate whether or not membership would be appropriate.

7. Unscheduled Items

Senator Arscott, chairman of Academic Affairs, said that his committee will delay recommendations on summer terms because all state universities are considering changes in summer schedules.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Excused absence:


Dr. Donnya E. Stephens

Ex-Officio Members Present:

Dr. Edwin V. Gaston

Visitor:

Dr. William J. Brophy



Hebe R. Mace
SECRETARY, 1984-85, SENATE