

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY
Minutes of the Faculty Senate
Meeting No. 192
8 Feb 89

1. The Senate convened in Rm. 359 of the Math-Nursing Building. Chairman Markworth called the meeting to order at 2:30.
2. The minutes of meeting 191 were approved.
3. Mr. Billy Click, Director of Computing and Communication Services, addressed the Senate concerning the proposal of a campus-wide broad-band network for data transmission. The proposal includes installing fiber optic cables to augment existing lines in order to establish a comprehensive local area network. Mr. Click recommends accomplishing this goal in a series of incremental steps. The first phase involves installing a "ring" of cables and support equipment at a cost of approximately \$1,000,000.
4. Dr. Jasper Adams of the Department of Mathematics demonstrated a computer program he has written which is currently used by the department for student registration. The program runs on an Apple IIgs. It will print registration labels for adds and drops, maintain running counts, and generate reports on registration data by course, by section, and by instructor at any point in the registration process.
5. Chairman Markworth reported the following from the most recent Regents Meeting:
 - a. The Coordinating Board has approved plans for the Library expansion.
 - b. Legislative Budget Board recommendations for the current legislative session include an 8% cut in expenditures for higher education. The recommendations also include a 400% increase for organized research.
 - c. Room and board rates for students will increase by 4% beginning in September of '89.
 - d. The Board approved the renovation of Wisely Hall.
 - e. The Board approved the construction of the Carolyn Street parking lot.
 - f. The Regents voted to examine the possibility of placing an artificial surface on the football field. No action will be taken on this matter until the '89-'90 budget is final.
6. Senator Rosemary Huff the attended the recent joint meeting of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and the Texas Council of Faculty Governance Organizations as a delegate from the SFASU Senate. Senator submitted a written summary of activities to the

Senate.

7. Senator White reported the following items from the Academic Affairs Council meeting:

a. There will be no waiver of fees for thesis students who are working off campus. The University has no legal authority to waive fees.

b. Record keeping associated with TASP test results and subsequent student monitoring will be integrated into the existing program for advising undecided majors in the School Liberal Arts.

c. The Honors Program Committee has made the following recommendations:

1. To be eligible for the program, a student must have an SAT score of 1100 or higher or an ACT score of 27 or higher. In the entering freshman class this would comprise about 5% or 120 students.

2. Six core courses will be designated as honors sections.

3. Three upper level cross-disciplinary courses will be required; one from Fine Arts/Liberal Arts, one from the Social Sciences, and one from the Natural Sciences/Math.

4. The student will be required to complete a three hour senior thesis.

5. The director of the Honors Program should receive 50% release time to administer the program.

6. A start-up advisory committee will be comprised of Regents' professors.

7. The advisory committee will select honors faculty.

8. Chairman Markworth requested that Senators whose constituents are in departments which have received visits from the president, poll those constituents as to the effectiveness of the meeting format. Recommendations for change should be reported to the chairman.

9. Treasurer Murdock reported an unencumbered balance of \$2,708.19.

10. Senator Price requested further information from the Senate at large concerning the charge given the Administration and Finance Committee to make recommendations concerning the role and scope of a Faculty Oversight Committee for University Financial Affairs. A lengthy discussion ensued concerning the goals of such a committee.

Senator Devine moved the Senate oppose the acquisition of an artificial surface for the football field at this time in light of the current budget crisis. Senator Mace seconded the motion. Following discussion the motion was withdrawn. Senator Devine reworded the motion as follows: The Senate recommends that due to the financial crisis in higher education in Texas, we oppose any large capital expenditures at the present on non-academic matters. The motion was seconded by Senator Mace. The motion passed.

11. Senator Mitchell reported that the Graduate Council is reconsidering the process of renewing graduate faculty membership. Applications are "on hold" at the present.

12. Old Business.

1. Chairman Markworth noted that some two years ago the Senate passed a resolution recommending student evaluations of faculty, the administration endorsed the recommendation. The chair has requested positive action from the President and Vice President for Academic Affairs.

13. New Business.

1. Chairman Markworth relinquished the chair to Vice-Chairman White. Senator Markworth proposed an revision to the Faculty Senate Constitution. A copy of the proposed revision was distributed to the Senate for consideration at the next meeting.

14. The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 pm.

Absences:


Dr. John Thornton
Dr. Donya Stephens
Dr. Peter Lisieski
Dr. O.R. Evans
Dr. Bruce Bailey
Dr. Tom Callaway (Ex)
Dr. John Goodall (Ex)

Ex Officio Members Present:

Dr. James Reese
Dr. Jim Howard

Visitors:

Mr. Alvin Cage
Mr. Billy Click


Jerry N. Lackey, Secretary '88-'89

Proposed Amendment -Faculty Senate Constitution
Re: Chair-Elect

(Added words underlined)

SECTION 12.

(a) Officers of the Faculty Senate shall be Chair, Chair-Elect, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer, each chosen by and from the membership of the Senate.

(b) The Chair-Elect shall be chosen by the membership of the senate from among the second year membership of the senate. The Chair-Elect shall become acquainted with the duties and responsibilities of the Chair during the following academic year and assume the duties of Chair the next academic year after election.

(c) For the purposes of service in the academic year 1989-1990, in May of 1989, the Chair shall be chosen by and from the membership of the Senate. For subsequent academic years, the office of Chair will be filled as provided for above.

(d) [Former paragraph (b) unchanged]

(e) Whenever a vacancy occurs in the office of Chair, the Chair-Elect shall assume that position for the remainder of the term (one academic year). Whenever a vacancy occurs in the office of Vice Chairman, Secretary, or Treasurer, the Faculty Senate shall elect a successor to serve for the remainder of the term (one academic year).

(f) The Chair and Chair-Elect shall be elected as provided for above. All other Faculty Senate officers shall be elected in May of each academic year and shall serve until the seating of their successors. [Amending former paragraph (d)]

(g) [Former paragraph (e) unchanged]

Proposed Amendment -Faculty Senate Constitution
Re: Chair-Elect

(Added words underlined)

SECTION 5

(a) The term of membership of the Faculty Senate shall be three years, with the exception of an member of the Faculty Senate elected to the position of Chair-Elect. The term of membership of the Chair-Elect will end at the completion of his term as Chair of the Faculty Senate.

(b) [unchanged, but with a caveat - drafter of amendment is unsure of the impact of the effective four year term of the Chair-Elect on the apportionment of the Senate]