

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY
Minutes of the Faculty Senate
Meeting No. 194
10 Apr 89

1. The meeting was called to order at 2:30 in Rm. 421 of Liberal Arts North.

2. Dr. Nancy Speck, Vice President for University Advancement, addressed the Senate concerning the activities of her office in recent years. She addressed the following concerns:

A. The major rationale for the existence of the office lies in past and anticipated shortfalls in state monies and appropriations, and a need for additional support to pursue academic excellence.

B. Dr. Speck is completing her fifth year in the office, and she reviewed fund raising activities for that period. The fund raising activities fall into four major categories. The amounts raised in each of these categories in recent years are as follows:

1. SFA Foundation: 1984 - \$21,000; '85 - \$370,000; '86 - \$151,000; '87 - \$196,000; '88 - \$150,000.

2. Academic Projects: 1984 - \$312,000; '85 - \$566,000; '86 - \$269,000; '87 - \$291,000; '88 - \$283,000.

3. Athletics: 1986 - \$115,000; '87 - \$151,000; '88 - \$111,000.

4. Alumni Contributions and Matching Grants: 1986 - \$70,000; '87 - \$72,000; '88 - \$67,000

5. Total monies raised through the office since 1984 amount to approximately \$3,200,000.

C. Some of the University programs benefitting from these funds are: The sesquicentennial project, the Wedgeworth Lecture Series, liability insurance for faculty and staff, the Performing Arts Series, Regents Professors awards, scholarships, as well as a number of other activities.

D. The Temple Foundation has just this year established a \$1,500,000 permanent fund to support an endowed chair in the School of Forestry.

3. The minutes of Faculty Senate meeting 193 were approved.

Officer Reports

4. Chairman Markworth submitted a document containing comparative salary information from Texas colleges and universities similar to

SFA in size and scope. These figures are available to interested faculty and staff in the Senate office.

5. Vice-chairman White reported the following items from the Academic Affairs Council:

A. It appears at the present time that the legislature will provide some monies to support TASP requirements.

B. The SFA Board of Regents will meet on Apr. 25th. and 26th. Promotion and tenure decisions will be announced at that meeting.

C. SFA has two items currently being considered by the Coordinating Board: (1) the renovation of Wisely Hall, and (2) the renovation of the Boynton Building.

D. The SFA core curriculum seems to be congruent with recent curriculum recommendations submitted by a state-wide committee to the Coordinating Board.

E. Applications for summer school admissions show an increase over last year. Applications for the fall semester are running about the same as last year, while transfer applications show an increase over last year.

F. There has been a proposed change in procedures for selecting Regent's Professors. The recommendations are: (1) supporting materials for nomination will be limited to a resume and 10 pages of documentation, and (2) previous recipients of the Regent's Professor award will serve as the review panel.

6. Treasurer Murdock reported an unencumbered balance of 2,450.78.

Committee Reports

7. Senator Thornton, chairman of the Academic Affairs Committee, submitted a written report to the Senate containing the results of the committee's survey of faculty concerning the inclusion of the teaching of ethics in the curriculum (see enclosure). Senator Bailey moved and Senator Mitchell seconded the motion that the Senate endorse the committee's recommendations. The motion carried.

8. Senator Price, chairman of the Administration and Finance Committee submitted the committee's proposal concerning the role and scope of a "Faculty Senate Committee on Finance and Administration". Senator Price moved and Senator Lisieski seconded the motion that the Senate accept the committee's recommendations. Following discussion, Senator Roberson moved and Senator Devine seconded the motion to table Senator Price's motion in order to allow for revisions in the current committee recommendations. The motion to table carried.

9. Senator Lisieski reported on the progress of current faculty elections for the Senate and for the Faculty Grievance Committee.

10. Chairman Markworth reported the results of the faculty vote concerning the proposed constitutional amendment. One hundred twenty seven faculty members voted, with 105 in favor of the amendment and 22 against. The chairman also noted that the wording in the copy distributed to the faculty was not precisely that recommended by the Senate. The title "chairperson" appeared in the proposed amendment rather than "chairman" as approved by the Senate. However, the chairman noted that the faculty response seemed overwhelmingly in favor of the amendment, and reflected general faculty support for the idea. Consequently, the amendment will be submitted to the president for his approval.

Senator Roberson raised a question about the election concerning the secrecy of faculty ballots since faculty voters were required to sign attached comment sheets. Chairman Markworth responded that signatures were necessary in order to determine the eligibility of voting faculty. He noted the signature sheets were removed from ballots by the Senate's secretarial assistant prior to counting so that the ballots were indeed secret. Senator Holliday commented that secrecy in this case was maintained only at the discretion of the chairman. Senator Bailey moved and Senator Holliday seconded the motion that the election committee be charged with producing an election procedure for faculty elections which provides eligible faculty with ballots which assure secrecy. The motion carried.

Senator Adams moved and Senator Roberson seconded the motion that due to the wording discrepancies and questions concerning secrecy of the ballots that the faculty election for the constitutional amendment be declared null and void. The motion failed.

11. Vice Chairman White reported the following nominations submitted by the nominating committee for officers of the 1989-90 Faculty Senate:

For Chairman: Dr. Jerry N. Lackey
Dr. Pamela Roberson

For Secretary: Dr. Jasper E. Adams
Dr. Carolyn B. Mitchell

For Treasurer: Dr. Thopmas O. Callaway
Dr. Kenneth Mace

Old Business

2. Senators Adams and Mitchell submitted a written report to the Senate recommending that the University adopt registration by computer for all students, (see enclosure). Senator Adams moved, and Senator Mitchell seconded the motion that the senate endorse the recommendations. The motion carried.

13. Senator Devine submitted a revised recommendation from a recent report of the Professional Ethics Committee concerning University policies on research ethics, (see enclosure). Senator Devine moved that the proposal be endorsed by the Senate. The motion was seconded by Senator Stephens. The motion passed

14. Senator Hackard, Chairman of the Professional Welfare Committee submitted a recommendation from the committee to establish a wellness program for University faculty and staff, (see enclosure). Senator Hackard moved that the Senate endorse the proposal and forward the recommendations to the president for his consideration. The motion was seconded by Senator Stephens. The motion passed.

New Business

15. Senator Murdock noted some aging equipment in the Senate office needs replacement, he moved that funds be allocated to replace a calculator, a recorder, and to acquire additional software for the office computer. The motion was seconded by Senator Devine. The motion passed.

16. Senator Devine moved that the Senate recommend to the Honors Program Committee that honors program faculty be selected within each department rather than by the Honors Advisory Committee made up of Regents Professors. The motion was seconded by Senator Mitchell. The motion passed.

17. Senator Mitchell reported on Graduate Council Activities concerning graduate faculty membership.

18. Chairman Markworth announced that CoFGO membership dues have increased from \$100 to \$200. The Chair requested approval from the Senate that the increased CoFGO dues be paid. Approval was granted by voice vote.

19. The meeting was adjourned at 4:53.

Absences:


Dr. Rosemary Huff
Dr. Patrick Mueller
Dr. Dick Voigtel (excused)

Visitors:

Dr. Nancy Speck
Ms. Marilyn Abeg
Dr. Jerry Vincent

Ex Officio Members:

Dr. Doyle Alexander



Jerry Lackey, Secretary 1988-89

COMMITTEE REPORT

FROM; Academic Affairs Committee
DATE; April 12, 1989
SUBJECT; Teaching of Ethics

Attached is a copy of the summary of the ethics questionnaire sent to 416 faculty members. The following recommendations were based on the results of the questionnaire completed by 163 faculty members.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1). Each department examine its course offerings to determine if an ethics course would be appropriate.
- 2). Faculty members consider integrating the topic of ethics into existing courses if appropriate.
- 3). Faculty encourage the taking of ethics courses under general requirements when appropriate.

SUMMARY OF ETHICS QUESTIONNAIRE

Qs distributed = 416 Qs returned = 163 % returned = 39.2

1. I attended the forum 49

Entire session 35 Part of the session 13

I did not attend the forum 113

Wanted to, but couldn't 82 Did not want to 20

2. What is your opinion of development of emphasis on ethics?

I support 132 I do not support 16

If you support, at what level?

University-wide (general educ. requirement) 56

University-wide (general educ. option) 27

By department 37 By school 20

Incorporate into existing courses 78

Other (see comments)

3. What should be included in the ethics curriculum?

Past/present ethical dilemmas 76

Current ethical dilemmas 111

Ethical principles applicable to one's discipline 98

Value systems 93

Clarification of individual's system of values 73

Philosophical aspects 65

Practical aspects 110

Other (see comments)

4. Other relevant comments (see attached)

April 12, 1989

TO: Faculty Senate

From: Jasper Adams and Carolyn Mitchell

Subject: Recommendation for computer registration

The Faculty Senate recommends that registration by computer be implemented as soon as possible at SFASU. Suggested features of the program are listed below.

1. Students may access on-line registration from any terminal.
2. Advising will be controlled by computer generation of random numeric keys for each student identified by their social security number. A student must enter their key before the computer will allow them to access the registration system. These keys will be given to advisors who will give the student his or her key when advising is completed.
3. Students on probation or suspension will be required to register in the office of their dean. No keys will be generated for these students.
4. Current constraints on registration such as unpaid library fines or parking fines will be monitored by the computer at logon time. Students will not be allowed on the system until all deficiencies are removed.
5. Recommended reports for each department are Course Section Report for courses in that department and Faculty Course Load Report for faculty in that department.
6. Recommended reports for each school dean are Course Section Report for that school or any department in that school, Faculty Course Load Report for that school or any department in that school, and Probation and Suspension Students Report for the school or any department in that school.
7. Other levels of administration may require similar or additional reports.
8. The current practice of modifying the previous like semester schedule to create the current semester schedule will be continued, but the changes will be made on-line in each department and checked by the Registrar.
9. Until on-line registration is accomplished, departments should use microcomputers for decentralized registration of students and should adapt the programs in use by the departments of mathematics and physics.
10. The administration should move ahead with a plan for replacing the CP6 Mainframe and should acquire a state of the art 21st century system.

TO: Faculty Senate

FROM: Professional Welfare Committee

DATE: April 12, 1989

SUBJECT: Establishment of Wellness Advisory Committee

The Professional Welfare Committee of the Faculty Senate believes that it would be a good idea for the University to have a wellness program for University employees, both faculty and staff. It is our understanding that such a program would reduce insurance costs and increase productivity.

Many of the elements for such a program are already available--1) resource persons in Home Economics, Kinesiology and Health Science, Nursing, Psychology, and the University Health Clinic and 2) facilities and equipment, such as lecture halls, viewing rooms, swimming pools, field and track facilities, gymnasium, exercise equipment, audiovisual equipment, blood pressure testing equipment, etc. In addition, various individuals and organizations, such as the American Heart Association, have well-organized plans freely available for information purposes.

Planning, coordination, some expenditures, and publicity are needed to form these existing elements into a wellness program. We believe that this would be best accomplished by the formation of a wellness advisory committee. Since such a committee would deal with the employing entities for both faculty and staff, it should be a presidential committee, a free-standing committee directly responsible to the University President. We hope that such a committee could be formed as soon as possible in order to survey employee needs and prepare budget estimates before the fall semester.

We therefore move that Chairman Markworth be requested to relay our request for the establishment of a presidential wellness advisory committee to President Johnson on the occasion of his next conference with the President.

April 12, 1989

NOTE: Changes made in the following policy since the March Senate meeting are indicated in CAPITALS.

The Professional Ethics committee submits the following policy to the Faculty Senate with the recommendation that the Senate approve it and send it to the President for adoption as University policy.

POLICY ON RESEARCH ETHICS

Recent experience at several universities and research foundations indicates that from time to time an allegation of fraudulent or unethical conduct in research or scholarly activity may be made against an individual. There have been allegations of falsification or fabrication of information, deliberate manipulation of data, plagiarism, and failure to credit other people, particularly students, who have made a contribution to research. Such conduct is totally antithetical to university traditions. Stephen F. Austin State University hopes the following policy will not be necessary, but in conformity with the example of other universities, the university establishes these procedures:

1. If an allegation of fraudulent conduct in research or other scholarly activity is made against a member of the Stephen F. Austin State University faculty, HIS OR HER CHAIRMAN (OR IF THE FACULTY MEMBER IS A CHAIRMAN OR ADMINISTRATOR, HIS OR HER IMMEDIATE SUPERIOR) WILL CONSULT WITH THE RESEARCHER AND THE SOURCE OF THE ALLEGATIONS. DURING THE CHAIRMAN'S CONSULTATIONS, AND AT ANY FURTHER STAGES OF INQUIRY, ALL PARTIES MUST PLACE UPON THE COMPLAINANT OR THE UNIVERSITY THE BURDEN OF PROVING WRONGDOING OR FRAUDULENT CONDUCT. IF THE CHAIRMAN, OR THE ACCUSED, OR THE COMPLAINANT IS NOT SATISFIED THAT THE PROBLEM HAS BEEN RESOLVED, THE CHAIRMAN OR EITHER ONE OF THE OTHER PARTIES SHALL INFORM THE GRADUATE DEAN, AND THE GRADUATE DEAN shall appoint an ad hoc committee to review and investigate the charges, to hear testimony from the parties concerned, and, after careful deliberation, to report to the GRADUATE DEAN the committee's findings as to whether the allegations have, in its opinion, sufficient basis for the University to consider disciplinary action against the individual.

2. The ad hoc committee shall consist of five ASSOCIATE OR FULL PROFESSORS, ALL OF THEM FULL OR ASSOCIATE MEMBERS OF THE GRADUATE FACULTY and having some acquaintance with scholarly procedures and research in the discipline in question. TWO OF THE FIVE SHALL BE CHOSEN BY THE GRADUATE DEAN, TWO BY THE ACCUSED, AND ONE BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FACULTY SENATE. THE GRADUATE DEAN WILL NOTIFY THE COMMITTEE OF ITS APPOINTMENT AND APPOINT ONE OF THE FIVE CHAIRMAN.

3. If the ad hoc committee finds there is sufficient evidence to indicate fraud or deceit, THE GRADUATE DEAN WILL INFORM THE VICE

PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS, AND the VPAA may initiate formal procedures for hearings for disciplinary action in accord with policies described in the Faculty Handbook.