

Stephen F. Austin State University
Minutes of the Faculty Senate
Meeting No. 206
October 10, 1990

1. Chairperson Ken Mace called the meeting to order at 2:40 p.m. in Regents Suite B of the University Center.
2. **Approval of Minutes**
 - * The minutes of Meeting No. 205 were approved with the following changes: "J." Howard instead of "K." Howard on pages 4 and 6
 - * The minutes of Meeting No. 203 were approved with the following change: "advisory" hearing instead of "grievance" hearing (Page 4, Item 7)
3. **Chairperson's Report**
 - * President Bowen asked the Senate to appoint three faculty members to serve on the Parking Committee. Chairperson Mace suggested that consideration be given to faculty who use parking lots with access problems. Dr. Ted Russell (lot 3) and Senator Bobby Johnson (lot 5) were appointed. Chairperson Mace was authorized to appoint the third member.
 - * Chairperson Mace requested that the Regents Rules be published in the Faculty Handbook or some other source where they would be readily accessible to faculty. This procedure has been suggested by CoFGO. A faculty member at the University of Texas (~~Asst. Prof.~~ ^{Asst. Prof.}) was fired, citing the Regents Rules, on grounds not listed in the Faculty Handbook. President Bowen's response was favorable. Vice President Reese was instructed to look into the possibility.
 - * Vice President Reese asked the Faculty Senate Chairperson to comment on a draft response to the Southern Association Visiting Committee's recommendations. Chairperson Mace obtained informal suggestions from former Chairpersons and the Chair-Elect. The memos from Vice President Reese and Chairperson Mace's responses were distributed.
 - * Chairperson Mace has been invited to speak at the SGA luncheon next week. He will address concerns of the faculty, and requested input from the Senate. Tentative areas to cover are: (1) faculty salaries are much smaller at SFA than at comparable institutions; (2) university entrance requirements; (3) concerns about the action in some universities toward elimination of tenure.
4. **Treasurer's Report**
 - * Treasurer C. Crocker submitted an itemized statement of Faculty Senate receipts and disbursements for April through August. The Senate returned \$376.02 at the end of the last fiscal year. Budget allocation for the current year is \$4,359.00, the same as last year. [See Attachment]
5. **Secretary's Report**
 - * Secretary M. Carns reported that the Executive Committee had authorized her to transfer ownership of the Senate's Texas Instruments Professional computer to the Math Department. A new computer was purchased by the Senate last year. There were no objections from the Senate to the transfer.

2.

(Page Missing)

- Dr. Speer attached a copy of his memo to the Liberal Arts Council (Spring, 1990) outlining his impressions of the merit system.
- * Chairperson Mace suggested that the Senate enact another resolution to request the University to adhere to policy. The resolution had been signed by President Johnson but the committee was never formed.
 - Senator W. Arscott indicated that he would first like to know more about the resolution.
 - Chairperson Mace suggested that Dr. Speer be invited to address the next meeting to explain the resolution.
 - Dr. H. Mace (visitor) had been a member of the committee that drafted the resolution. She explained that the intention was to get a group of people who are experts in statistical studies to run validity studies and "watchdog" how the administration uses evaluation results.
 - Senator J. Frye noted that he appreciates the need for statistical analyses, but questions who can conduct evaluation studies on the form we are currently using.
 - Chairperson Mace indicated that most faculty can use evaluations for their own purposes to improve teaching, but that faculty do not want the evaluations used for tenure and promotion. At the time the form was adopted, the University administration had told the Senate to come up with a form or the administration would do it themselves.
 - Dr. W. Arscott indicated that any vote we take may be seen as a "pocket acceptance." He would like a Senate vote to say we do not want the evaluations used by the administration .
- * Senator B. Johnson moved that the Faculty Senate tell the administration we do not want faculty evaluations used for merit, promotion, and tenure.

Seconded by Senator J. Frye

Discussion:

- Senator J. Adams: The concern was to have an expert committee to determine if the evaluation has any validity. He suggested that we propose to President Bowen that the original recommendation be followed.
- Senator W. Arscott: We were given no option. The evaluation had been adopted only because the Senate was told to provide one or the administration would do it. The Senate was also told that if we accepted faculty evaluation, we could have evaluation of administrators. The following year the administration rejected administrative evaluation unequivocally. He believes the majority of faculty disapprove the use of the evaluation form for merit; they believe the evaluations are only used against us.
- Senator J. Adams: The current evaluation instrument is flawed. A category should be provided for "no response." However, any faculty committee would detect these defects in the evaluation form.
- Senator W. Arscott: The Senate spent two years working on the questions, and the form adopted was the best compromise they could come up with that the administration would accept.

Senator J. Adams moved that we table the motion and take a vote at the next meeting.

Seconded by Senator D. Stephens

Discussion:

- Senator B. Carr: Do we have documentation that there was an agreement for written remarks to be included? Some questions are not answerable, yet the student has to include a response.
- Dr. H. Mace: Evaluation was required by the administration. A review of the literature revealed that there is no way to standardize evaluations across all departments, but the Senate was told to "do it." The Senate concluded that only questions on logistics could be used across-the board.

4.

(Page Missing)

Procedure Manual. Dean Standley said he was told by Vice President Reese not to release details on dates or charges. The meeting was non-substantive.

- President Bowen has assured Dr. Frye that this action is outrageous and that he will see to it that reasons are given for the dismissal. No further information has been received, to date. Dr. Frye requested that facts be submitted in writing, but has not received a response.

- * Senator T. McGrath believes the Senate should be spending its time on important topics such as elimination of fees for faculty to enroll in classes, and not on insignificant matters such as how many times "chairman" occurs in the Standing Rules. We should consider that many universities even give free tuition to children of faculty.

Senator W. Arscott pointed out that this is a state university and questioned whether state funds can be used for this purpose.

Senator B. Johnson advised that local money can be used for any purpose.

- * Senator W. Arscott would like to have Chairperson Mace invite President Bowen and Vice President Reese to attend Senate meetings. This is the second meeting with no one in attendance. President Steen never missed a meeting.

Chairperson Mace informed the Senate that President Bowen and Vice President Reese have already been invited.

Senator J. Howard moved that the Faculty Senate Chairperson communicate to the University President that the SFASU Faculty Senate laments the absence of representatives from administration at Faculty Senate meetings.

Seconded by Senator W. Arscott
Motion passed

- * Chairperson Mace announced that Senator Ruthstrom has left the faculty. A replacement needs to be elected to the Faculty Senate.

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

ABSENCES:

John W. Goodall
Ernest B. Ledger

VISITORS:

Jim DiNucci
Hebe R. Mace
E. D. Malpass
Doug McMillan



Mary L. Carns, Secretary 1990-91

ATTACHMENT I

FACULTY SENATE
BUDGET REPORT
10/3/90

PREVIOUS BALANCE 2,619.19

EXPENSES

APRIL

BOOKSTORE	86.70
TELEPHONE	5.00
STENO	40.13
DIAMOND TROPHY (NAMEPLATES)	288.75
PAYROLL	55.10
KENNETH D. MACE	293.09
FORREST W. PRICE	171.30

MAY

POSTAGE	2.88
BOOKSTORE	1.83
TELEPHONE	5.00
STENO	95.79
CAROLYN MITCHELL (NAMETAGS)	25.00
PAYROLL	142.50
AUDIO SYSTEM	300.40

JUNE

POSTAGE	3.16
STENO	13.88
TELEPHONE	5.00
RADIO SHACK (CASSETTE RECORDER)	99.90
LANIER WORLDWIDE (TRANSCRIBER)	159.00
DR. CAROLYN MITCHELL (NAMEPLATES)	42.50
PAYROLL	68.40

JULY

SPEED ORDERS	112.20
TELEPHONE	5.00
POSTAGE	5.70

AUGUST

CENTRAL STORES	7.22
TELEPHONE	5.00
PHOTOCOPIES	7.55

UNENCUMBERED BALANCE RETURNED: 376.02

BUDGET ALLOCATION 1990-91 TOTAL: 4,359.00

SUBTOTALS

SALARIES	1,300.00
TRAVEL	690.00
O&M	2,369.00

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

CHARLENE CROCKER, TREASURER
SFASU FACULTY SENATE