

MEETING # 257

8 May 1996

Faculty Senate

The meeting was called to order at 2:33 p.m. by Chair Berry.

Chair Berry asked for any additions or corrections to the minutes for meeting #256.

Senator S. McCune suggested that the minutes express that low faculty morale may show a correlation with low salaries.

Senator DuFrene suggested that the second paragraph under committee reports be worded differently to clear up possible confusion of terms.

Senator Daley moved to accept the minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Senator Carbajal. The motion carried unanimously.

REMARKS BY DR. ANGEL

Dr. Angel commented on several important items including the budget, legislative appropriation requests, and the midway report for SFA '98 (for which he is requesting the help of the Senate). Dr. Angel expressed his pleasure to the Senate for working with the administration this year. He especially thanked Chair Berry and Chair-elect Dahmus. Dr. Angel informed the Senate that George W. Bush would be speaking at SFA's Spring commencement. Governor Bush will make only two (2) such speeches this year: one at SFASU and the other at UT Austin.

Dr. Angel opened the floor to questions and comments. Senator S. McCune inquired about the 4% merit raises. Dr. Angel wanted to stress that 4% merit raises are a **goal**. The raise will not be 4% across the board.

Senator McDonald asked Dr. Angel about the Corridor 20 project, which includes I-69 to be built near Nacogdoches, if the project is funded. Dr. Angel stated that the university was aware of the feasibility study which has been released. The university supports the project.

Chair Berry thanked Dr. Angel and Dr. Ashley for their hard work with the Senate this year.

OFFICERS' REPORT

Chair Berry commented on the most recent meeting he and Chair-elect Dahmus had with Dr. Angel and Dr. Ashley. The meeting was brief with discussion touching on the budget, faculty salaries, commencement, and the Governor's visit.

Chair Berry needed one more marshal to lead in the faculty at commencement. Senator S. McCune volunteered.

Chair Berry stated that September 1997 is the probable date for on-line access to the budget.

Chair Berry also requested further input on the interest in organizing a Faculty Fair.

Chair Berry further asked Senate members to let him know about any problems with using LPA's with local businesses.

Chair-elect Dahmus reported that the Spring meeting of the Board of Regents included the business of granting tenure and promotions to faculty. Another item discussed was Top 10 Scholarships.

Chair Berry extended sincere thanks to the Senate members for their dedicated work during the year. He further thanked the chairs and members of committees who worked on issues this year.

Chair-elect Dahmus reported that the Graduate Council discussed routine issues at the last meeting.

Secretary McDonald pointed out, to those who had not seen it, the new laptop computer and expressed his gratitude to the individuals who worked on the acquisition of the computer.

Treasurer DuFrene reported an April balance of \$3,020.12. Additional travel expenses amounted to \$118.15; student wages paid were \$126.25; copies made cost \$101.45 leaving a balance of \$2,674.27. Treasurer DuFrene informed the Senate that some costs were outstanding or to be incurred in the future such as copying and student wage expenses.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Senator Kenner stated that the election process for the Senate was complete. The new senators are: Sherry Williford of the College of Applied Arts and Sciences, Florence Elliott-Howard and Mark Simmons of the College of Business, Pat Human and David Shows of the College of Education, Frank Codispoti of the College of Liberal Arts, and Jill Dumesnil and John Moore of the College of Science and Mathematics.

Chair Berry welcomed the new senators.

Senator Carbajal read a summary of activities carried out by the Academic Affairs Committee. One topic discussed involved faculty concern that telephone registration enrollments were being used as a measure to award merit. The committee, after consideration of the issue, recommended that the faculty member use existing grievance procedures to address this potential problem.

Another issue concerns a faculty request for a position statement on the core curriculum proposals. The committee has not developed a position statement to bring before the Senate at this date.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Dahmus introduced a resolution commending Chair Richard Berry for his leadership of the Faculty Senate. The following resolution was presented by Chair-Elect Dahmus.

Whereas Richard A. Berry has consistently provided expert leadership during his tenure as Faculty Senate Chair, and

Whereas Richard A. Berry has faithfully and skillfully communicated faculty concerns to the Administration and Board of Regents, and

Whereas Richard A. Berry has diligently and conscientiously labored to promote the welfare of the university community, and

Whereas Richard A. Berry leaves behind a record of unassuming excellence and sincere concern as a challenge to future Faculty Senate leaders,

LET IT, THEREFORE, BE RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate of Stephen F. Austin State University gratefully acknowledges the services of Richard A. Berry as Chair of the Faculty Senate, 1995-1996.

Chair-elect Dahmus moved to accept the resolution as read; Senator Sullivan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

On behalf of the entire Senate, Chair-elect Dahmus presented Chair Berry with a plaque which expressed gratitude to him for being such an able and competent Chair of the Senate.

Chair Berry made a motion to adjourn meeting #257. Senator Daley seconded the motion. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 3:12 p.m.