

Stephen F. Austin State University
Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
October 11, 2000 Meeting #296
(Subject to Approval at November Meeting)

I. CALLED TO ORDER by Chair Kandy Stahl at 2:34 PM

Absent: S. Spall, M. Sullivan

II. General Announcements

Al Cage was not able to attend this meeting; he expects to attend the November meeting. A preliminary report by Chair Stahl indicated that, while library books (being state property) cannot be transferred to an individual, they can be transferred to the appropriate department.

There will be a Faculty Forum on Friday, October 13 from 2:30 to 3:30 to get faculty perspectives on the presidential candidates; the results are to be forwarded to the board of regents. Chair Stahl asked senators to distribute flyers throughout their colleges.

Senator King announced the candidate forums on Thursday, October 12 from 3:30 to 4:30 (for David Fisher) and Thursday, October 19 from 3:30 to 4:30 (for Todd Staples). Both forums are to be held in the Victory room of the UC.

E-mail from legal council on the revised sick/emergency leave policy stated that "the only thing we've determined is that it's important. We don't have discretion to add new categories."

Senator King will remain Parliamentarian for this year.

New Senators: Charlie Jones, Alleen Smith, and Sharon Spall.

Motion to move to executive session to discuss the presidential search. Motion passed. (No minutes of executive session.)

III. Approval/Correction of minutes of Meetings #293 & #294 (May 2000)

The treasurers report should be amended to read "We have a budget (the same as last year's)

The forums announcement had Jim McReynolds' name misspelled as Jim Reynolds.

IV. Officers' Reports

A. Chair: There was no Academic Affairs meeting. Chair Stahl met with Drs. Smith and Ashley regarding regents' e-mail addresses. She also investigated the stipends awarded for distance education; the response was that any faculty teaching an overload do so at the rate of an adjunct. Chair Stahl will investigate this further.

We may not charge higher tuition of students with multiple repetitions of developmental courses; there is still the possibility of such students going on probation.

Dr. Ashley is checking on Senator Sullivan's request that we do not use social security numbers for identification numbers.

B. Chair-Elect: No report.

The graduate council discussed the decline in graduate enrollment, particularly in secondary education and educational leadership. Senator Alford indicated that enrollments in graduate education courses had been limited to improve quality and that the program had also raised admission standards (in terms of GRE scores), and that these could account for some of the decrease.

The graduate council is unhappy with the current low stipends for graduate students and the fact that the administration is not willing to raise these stipends.

C. Treasurer: No report.

D. Secretary: No report.

V. Committee Reports

A. Academic Affairs: There was a handout on resolutions regarding developmental courses. Discussion of handout: "coordinator" should be changed to "coordinator(s)" since there might be more than one (friendly amendment). The list of qualifications should include a statement that the coordinator(s) be "qualified to train faculty" and have appropriate academic credentials (friendly amendment). Motion carried with one abstention and one "no" vote.

The request for an increase in graduate stipends will be a copy of last year's request.

B. Administration and Finance: No report.

C. Elections: No report.

D. Faculty Government and Involvement: presented a draft of a resolution on identity theft. There was a friendly amendment offered to remove the last sentence and to put the resolution into the form of a resolution. (Chair Stahl requested that she be given all handouts in advance in the future to expedite their distribution.)

There was a handout on proposed amendments to our constitution. Specifically discussed: Deletion of Article IV, Section 4 ("Amendments become official when approved by the President"). Also discussed: rights and privileges of ex officio members of the senate, Article I, Section 7. The section contains many undefined terms.

Voting on these revisions is to be done by the full faculty; they must receive copies 7 days prior to balloting.

Motion to table failed; the issues were tabled anyway since the building was being locked.

VI. Meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM.