

Meeting No. 46

June 19, 1974

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY

FACULTY SENATE

Absent:

Ralph White (Excused)
Bennat Mullen (Excused)
Daniel Beaty (Excused)
Patricia Russell (Excused)
Charles T. Nall (Excused)
Jack McCullough (Excused)
Fred Rainwater (Excused)

Ex officio members present:

President Ralph Steen
Vice President John T. Lewis
Dean L. C. Walker

Guests present:

Dr. S. I. Somberg
Dr. A. W. Benoy

1. Chairman Arscott called this special called meeting to order at 3:15 p.m.
2. Minutes of meeting #45 were approved.
3. The Faculty Senate Secretary briefed the members on correspondence received by President Arscott since the last meeting.
4. President Arscott informed the Senate concerning two meetings of the Deans' Council at which he had represented the Faculty Senate. On May 16, 1974 the Council reviewed proposals pertaining to the procedure for granting degrees at S.F.A. On this date, the Council also considered the proposal to devise a uniform evaluation sheet for the administrative evaluation of department chairmen by the Deans.

On June 12, 1974, the Council approved the 1974 spring graduates, considered the changes in the continuing education program, and discussed the likelihood that Governor Briscoe may call a special session of the Texas Legislature which might deal with some "problems" of higher education.

5. Ralph Eddins, Chairman of the Faculty Senate Committee on Faculty Professional Welfare, reported to the Faculty Senate on the deliberations of his Committee on the issue presented by Professor S. I. Somberg concerning his status as a continuing employee of S.F.A.S.U.

The Committee attempted to decide whether or not Dr. Somberg had a case which would justify review by the Faculty Senate. Briefs prepared by the S.F.A. administration and by Dr. Somberg were presented to the Faculty Senate members. Dr. Steen and Dr. Lewis made comments upon the brief of the administration, and Dr. Somberg entered some responses to these assertions. Certain members of the Faculty Senate made inquiries concerning technical points which should be clarified before the Senate made its decision whether or not to grant Dr. Somberg a hearing. Dr. Arthur Benoy informed the Faculty Senate about the position of the A.A.U.P. on such issues.

The Professional Welfare Committee advised the Senate that Dr. Somberg had a prima facie case which would legitimately be considered by the Faculty Senate.

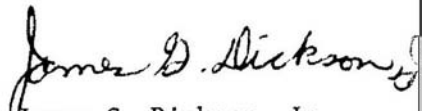
A motion was made and seconded that the Faculty Senate set aside a date for hearing the presentation of evidence and information by Dr. Somberg and the S.F.A. administration concerning the principal issue of whether Dr. S.I. Somberg, Professor of Forestry, did or did not have tenure status at S.F.A. under existing university policy.

Upon discussion of the motion, it was pointed out by President Arcscott that the hearing, if approved, would be based upon the Faculty Senate Constitution, Article II, and that the hearing would be exclusively devoted to the single issue of the existence or absence of tenure.

The motion was carried.

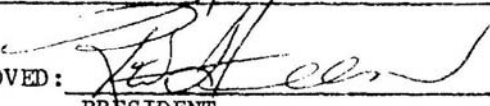
6. Vice President Lewis stated the intention of the S.F.A. administration to consider the decision of the Faculty Senate as binding arbitration with which the administration would abide.
7. President Arcscott informed the Senate that the Executive Committee would meet shortly to consider the ground rules of the Somberg hearing and inform the Faculty Senate of the date and time for the hearing.
8. The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


James G. Dickson, Jr.
Secretary of the Faculty Se

REVIEWED: 
VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Date 7-9-74

APPROVED: 
PRESIDENT

Date 7-9-74