

Meeting No. 50

October 16, 1974

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE

Absent:

Dudley Stewart (Excused)
Calvin Barton (Excused)

Visitors:

Mr. Al Cage
Ms. Gail Schroeder

1. Chairman Arscott called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m.
2. The minutes of Meeting #49 were approved.
3. Ms. Gail Schroeder, representative of the Stewart Blood Bank, spoke to the Faculty Senate. Her subject was the Blood Donors Assurance Plan, which would enable families to be assured of adequate supplies of blood, in case of need. The supply of blood could be assured through periodic contributions of whole blood by certain members of the participating families. A motion of the Faculty Senate approved the Stewart Blood Bank mobile units coming on the S.F.A. campus at some future date.
4. Chairman Arscott gave a report of three meetings of the Deans Council, which had occurred since the previous Faculty Senate meeting. On September 25th, the Deans Council meeting dealt with the advent of a new program of night classes for S.F.A., over the next seven semesters. A baccalaureate program would be started in the Evening Division, with lecture courses meeting once a week and lab courses twice a week. The new emphasis was felt important for increasing community involvement in the programs at S.F.A. Chairman Arscott urged that the night courses be presented on a quality basis.

On October 4th, the Deans Council meeting pertained to changes in the degree programs of the Home Economics Department, specifically dealing with degree requirements for a new interior design curriculum.

With regard to the new interior design course, Chairman Arscott called for a report of the Faculty Senate Academic Affairs Committee, Dr. Watterston, reporting. Dr. Watterston discussed the proposed degree changes and recommended that the Faculty Senate endorse the decisions of the Deans Council. This was done by introduction of a motion to accept the Deans Council action, which passed.

On October 14th, the Deans Council proposed to allow students to take more than four hours of activity courses for graduation. Students would be allowed to take as many of these courses as desired. A motion to accept the Council's action was made and passed.

Also in the October 14th meeting, the Deans Council voted to abolish the requirement that students must do thirty of the last thirty-six hours of course work at S.F.A. in residence. The Faculty Senate voted to accept this Deans Council decision.

Chairman Arscott observed that the Deans Council had also suggested that the General Bulletin of S.F.A. be streamlined, reducing its current size and cost.

5. Chairman Arscott advised the Senate members that henceforth, any Faculty Senate members attending a meeting of a Faculty Senate committee would be authorized to pursue the business of the day and reach authoritative decisions for that committee, without regard for the presence of any prescribed quorum.
6. The Faculty Senate was informed by Chairman Arscott that his previous assignment to the Faculty Senate Secretary of the task of ascertaining which previous Senate resolutions had been published in the Faculty Bulletin had been withdrawn, pending further resolutions and amendments by the Faculty Senate at some future date.
7. Dr. Diane Ford, reporting for the Faculty Government and Involvement Committee, informed the Senate of a change in the allocation of representatives in the Faculty Senate, to wit, Dr. Bill Brophy would represent the History Department, and Dr. James Dickson would represent the Sociology Department on the Faculty Senate.
8. Speaking for the Academic Affairs Committee, Dr. Kenneth Watterston reported a request from the Director of Libraries for a clarification of policies concerning the periodic inventory of library materials checked out by faculty members. Dr. Jack McCullough presented a resolution from the Academic Council of the School of Sciences and Mathematics requesting that a policy be established which would enable faculty members to notify the library of the materials checked out by simply noting their holdings on paper and certifying what books were still checked out, rather than physically returning the books to the library for reprocessing.

Mr. Alvin Cage, Director of Libraries, spoke to the Faculty Senate with regard to this subject, stating the problems and policies with which the Library had struggled in this aspect of Library Services. Mr. Cage asserted that the proposal of the Academic Council of the School of Sciences and Mathematics would present formidable logistic difficulties for the Library.

Dr. Ralph White, on behalf of departments in the School of Business presented a resolution suggesting their views on the subject.

After full discussion, the Faculty Senate introduced a motion in favor of accepting the resolution of the School of Sciences and Mathematics. The motion failed, thus endorsing a continuation of the present policies of the Library.

9. Dr. James Garrett presented a report of the Administration and Finance Committee concerning the establishment of a separate budget for the Faculty Senate, along with a proposed election of a Treasurer for the Faculty Senate. A motion to adopt the Committee's report was made and passed.

Dr. Patricia Russell was nominated and elected as the first Faculty Senate Treasurer, with the instructions from the Senate to prepare a proposed budget for the Faculty Senate by the January meeting. Dr. Russell will be a member of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.

10. Dr. Sue Jones, speaking for the Student Affairs Committee, reported the Committee's action with regard to a new policy about the assignment of medical excuses for class absences by the Medical Center staff. A simple form would be devised to be filled out by the student, signed by a doctor or nurse, and sent to those professors requiring doctors' certification of student absences. The Faculty Senate accepted the Committee's report.
11. Chairman Arscott reported to the Faculty Senate that the Student Congress had expressed its appreciation of the interest in its activities which had been manifest by the Faculty Senate.
12. Chairman Arscott assigned the Professional Welfare Committee the task of proposing for the Senate's consideration policies concerning faculty retirement, professor emeritus standing, duties and benefits of such standing, tenure status, etc. The Committee was to submit its findings by the February, 1975 meeting.
13. The Faculty Senate discussed the current problem of maximum salaries for professors caught in the developing promotion-salary squeeze, with the reduction in incidence of promotions, etc. Chairman Arscott asked the Administration and Finance Committee to make an inquiry into this subject and report to the Senate by its next meeting. The Committee was also asked to inquire about the possibilities of having insurance deductions made from faculty salaries completely in the long term, rather than the summer.
14. Dr. Watterston asked Senators to tell those interested in working in various kinds of interdisciplinary work with other departments to make these views known.
15. The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
James G. Dickson, Jr.
James G. Dickson, Jr.
Secretary of the Faculty Senate

REVIEWED: *John T. Lewis, III*
VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Date: 11-18-74

APPROVED: *[Signature]*
PRESIDENT

Date: 11-19-74