

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY
Faculty Senate
Meeting No. 97
March 21, 1979

1. Chairman Jeffrey called the meeting to order at 2:15 p.m.
2. After the roll call, the Senate approved the Minutes of Meeting No. 96.
3. At this time, Chairman Jeffrey departed from the agenda so that Senator Blocker, who had another engagement, could present his committee's report. Senator Blocker duly presented the report of his committee, the Ad Hoc Committee on the Role and Function of School Academic Councils, to the Senate. He said that the central point of the report was the recommendation that each school council update its constitution to bring it into line with the changes in University policy made since 1973. He moved and Senator Snyder seconded the motion to accept the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Role and Function of School Academic Councils. MOTION PASSED.

Chairman Jeffrey designated the report as Senate Bill #97-1 (see ATTACHMENT #1 sent under separate cover) and announced that an open hearing will be held on the bill on Monday, April 2, 1979, at 4 p.m. in the Music Recital Hall.

After Chairman Jeffrey thanked Senator Blocker and his committee for their efforts, the regular order of business was resumed.

4. Reports of Officers:

A. Chairman's Report:

- a. In his report on the meetings of the Academic Affairs Council and the Deans' Council since the last meeting of the Senate, Chairman Jeffrey announced that at the March 13th meeting, the Deans' Council approved proposals by the Department of School Services for a Bachelor of Science in Rehabilitation and a minor in Rehabilitation.
- b. Mr. Jeffrey announced that copies of the new Standing Rules for the Faculty Senate were distributed at the beginning of the meeting.
- c. Chairman Jeffrey also reported that Mr. Jesse Richardson has given him some material comparing the Employees Retirement System with the Teachers Retirement System in the State of Texas. Also, Mr. Richardson has made available The Rules and Regulations of the Administrative Council for the Texas State Colleges and Universities Employees Uniform Insurance Benefit Act. If anyone is interested in seeing copies, he/she may contact Mr. Jeffrey or Ms. Roach.

B. Secretary's Report:

- a. Secretary Snyder reported that the faculty approved the new Constitution by a 140-13 vote.
- b. Also, he announced that based upon the returns from the faculty, lists of committee preferences have been prepared and the Executive

Committee of the Senate will use this list in nominating people to serve on the various University committees. The President will select committee members from these nominations.

C. Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Bowman reported \$3,345.39 in the account.

5. Committee Reports:

Senator Spreadbury, Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee for the Revision of the Faculty Handbook, thanked her committee, consisting of Senators Bos, Logan, and McCune, and presented their report to the Senate. Included with the Faculty Handbook is a report listing the overall changes and the page-by-page changes made. She briefly went over the changes and then moved that the Senate accept the report of the Ad Hoc Committee for the Revision of the Faculty Handbook. Mr. Snyder seconded the motion and the MOTION PASSED.

Senator Spreadbury especially thanked Senator Rodewald for editing the report, and she also thanked Mr. Jeffrey, Ms. Ashley, Vice President Franklin, and the Deans' Council for their contributions.

Chairman Jeffrey thanked Senator Spreadbury, Chairman of this year's committee, and Senator Rodewald, Chairman of last year's committee, and all the members of their respective committees for the long hours of hard work which they put into the report.

Mr. Jeffrey announced that due to the length of the report and the cost of reproducing copies for each individual faculty member, a new procedure will be followed in making it available to the faculty. Each Senator and each Dean will have a copy as will the Vice President and the Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs. Chairman Jeffrey asked the cooperation of the Senators in making their reports available to their constituents. Any faculty member who wishes to review the Handbook may contact one of these people. Also, a copy has been placed on reserve in the Library Reserve Room with the Faculty Senate Minutes.

Rather than having an open hearing on the report, the Senate will simply consider suggestions and amendments at the next meeting and act on them at that time so the Handbook may be sent promptly to the Administration.

6. Old Business:

A. Senator Snyder presented his committee's report, Senate Bill #96-1 on the Graduate Program, to the Senate with the changes made since the last meeting. He announced that except for two editorial changes, no other changes were made in the first four pages and that the changes in the last two pages are not really new but have been rearranged in order to make the recommendations clearer and easier to read.

Mr. Snyder moved and Mr. L. Thompson seconded the motion to approve Senate Bill #96-1, Report on the Graduate Program.

In the discussion, Senator Rodewald said it was his opinion when he left the open hearing that Recommendation 4 was going to be amended and he asked why it had not been. Mr. Snyder responded that his committee considered the comments made at the open hearing and decided not to change their original recommendation. Following a discussion involving Senators Rodewald, Snyder, Adams, L. Thompson and others, Senator Adams moved that Recommendation 4 be reworded so the word "normally" is incorporated into the sentence. Senator Adams felt that this amendment would reflect what the present policy is more adequately than the statement in the report.

The Senators then PASSED the MOTION to amend Recommendation 4.

Chairman Jeffrey said that after the bill is approved by the Senate, Senator Snyder will send each department a summary of the results of the surveys from that department.

The Senators then PASSED the MOTION to approve the report as amended. [Due to the fact that the first four pages remained virtually the same, only the last two pages of the report are included with these Minutes (see ATTACHMENT #2).]

- B. Chairman Jeffrey presented a report on the student attrition-retention survey made by the 1977-78 Faculty Senate Administration and Finance Committee. Mr. Jerry Lackey, Chairman, and his committee conducted a survey of off-campus and on-campus students, and the cover letter and questionnaire used are included with the report. Also included are 26 pages of tables based upon the results of the surveys.

Senator Bowman moved and Senator Johnson seconded the motion to accept the report. MOTION PASSED.

Due to the length of this report, the same procedure used with the Handbook will be followed in making it available to the general faculty. In addition, the Vice President of Student Affairs, the Director of Admissions, and the Registrar will receive copies. Senator Jeffrey asked that the Senators cooperate in making their copies available to their constituents. As with the Handbook, a copy will be available in the Library Reserve Room.

If anyone has recommendations or suggestions to make, he/she is urged to get in touch with Senator Bowman who is the Chairman of the current Administration and Finance Committee which is studying the attrition problem and who is also the Senate's nominee to serve on the committee that President Johnson is constituting to study the problem.

Chairman Jeffrey thanked Mr. Lackey and his committee for their work.

7. The next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be on April 11, 1979, at 2:15 p.m. in Rusk 301.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Absentees:

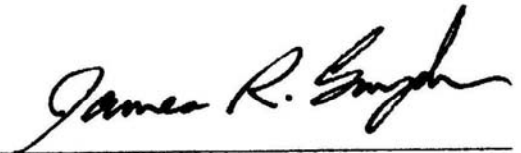
Austin Sartin (Excused--Prof. Conflict)
Patsy Spurrier (Excused--Prof. Conflict)
G. Thompson (Excused--Prof. Conflict)

Ex Officio Members Present:

Edwin E. Gaston

Visitors:

Sandy Cole
Susan Harwood
R. G. Dean
Janelle Ashley



James R. Snyder
Secretary, 1978-79 Senate

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A research methods course for graduates is considered to be essential by 94 respondents, 63 for both graduates and undergraduates. Research methods for just undergraduates was indicated by 15 and for neither group by 42.

Comments on the Library went from "excellent service," "needs larger budget to acquire a more professional collection in art," "more than adequate," to "not always satisfactory."

Recommendations of the Academic Affairs Committee:

1. That the Graduate Council study:
 - a. general admission standards
 - b. foreign student admissions in relation to English competency
 - c. English competency tests for all graduate students*
 - d. quality of theses
 - e. thesis vs. non-thesis program*
 - f. alternatives to theses in specialized areas such as music and art*
 - g. comprehensive exams
 - h. all graduate degree plans
 - i. departmental research methods courses*
2. That the Graduate Council:
 - a. review admission standards every five years
 - b. require departments to review their graduate program periodically
 - c. take an active role in working with departments in improving their programs
 - d. require departments to demonstrate adequate library resources prior to acceptance of a course into the graduate curriculum
3. That each department:
 - a. use its graduate faculty as a committee of the whole or by elected committee in selection of departmental candidates for graduate assistantships

*Notes:

1c--The committee feels that this recommendation may be facilitated by requiring applicants to pass the English portion of the GRE with a specific score.

1e--It is felt that all departments should establish specific written guidelines for both thesis and non-thesis programs.

1f--The Council should recommend specific guidelines for these alternative programs.

1i--The committee recommends that these courses be required during the first year of graduate study.

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- b. update its comprehensive exams at least every five years
- c. demonstrate to the Graduate Council that adequate library resources are available for proposed courses
4. That normally graduate assistantships will be awarded for no more than two years or four semesters per graduate degree
5. That summaries of the survey results for each department be sent to the Graduate Dean, the Graduate Council, and the appropriate departments.

JRS:ghr