

**Stephen F. Austin State University
Minutes of the Faculty Senate
Meeting #223
September 9, 1992**

- I. The Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Barbara Carr at 2:30 p.m. September 9, 1992 at the Wyatt Room, Steen Library.
- II. The minutes of the previous (May 1992) meeting(s) were not reported since they are still in preparation.
- III. **Report by Chairperson**
- A. The meeting began with remarks by SFA President Dan Angel. President Angel reiterated his request for input on several items which he had discussed previously in the general faculty meeting. Briefly to:
- i. attract and retain more students
 - ii. turn the impending performance based funding to our benefit; in particular, in ways that might lead to more faculty funding.
 - iii. raise more funds for SFA by various means.
 - iv. confront the proposed downward expansion of UT Tyler.
- B. **Announcements**
- Chairperson Carr stated that President Angel's suggestions would be referred to appropriate committees.
- Chair-Elect Susie Weems (Home Economics) will have an active role in coordinating committee work, and direct liaison with COFGO in Austin.
- Chairperson Carr reported on a luncheon meeting with President Angel and Senator Bill Haley. Their discussion covered efforts to improve Special Item Funding for SFA in the Texas Legislature. President Angel stated that other universities such as Lamar and Sam Houston receive much higher special item funding than does SFA. The luncheon discussion covered other topics such as raises, cuts in faculty merit pay, and the President's role at certain important academic events and conferences.
- Vice-President Baker Patillo was contacted by Chairperson Carr about the parking situation at SFA. Patillo called the current situation "impossible." Senator B. Johnson (History) mentioned a 1991-1992 committee study and report suggesting more lots, higher ticket charges, etc. He will bring this report to the next meeting of the Faculty Senate.

IV. **Treasure report** (No report given).

- V. Upon motion by Senator L. Clark, seconded by Senator Weems, the Senate elected Senator C. P. Barton (by acclamation) to serve as Senate Secretary for 1992-93.

VI. **Old Business**

- A. Chairman L. Clark, Elections Committee, will prepare ballots to elect replacements for a senator from the College of Liberal Arts, and one from the College of Education.
- B. A motion by Senator Jim Howard (Economics/Finance), seconded by Senator C. Jones (Art) was made that "The Faculty Senate reaffirms its appointment of the University Ombudsman, and request funding for that position."

After some discussion, including remarks by President Angel in opposition to the issue, the motion carried by voice vote.

- C. Senator W. Clark (Accounting) asked about studies of the current student evaluation form. Senator DiNucci (Kin/Health Sci) then moved to suspend the Student Evaluation program for the Fall 1992 term. There was a brief mention by Chairman Carr of former Vice-President Reese's intentions about the program. Senator H. Mace (History) gave a brief review of the entire history of the student evaluation programs. Several members of the Faculty Senate objected to the currently used university-wide evaluation questionnaire as being so general and vague as to address only the most basic logistics of teaching. There being no second, the motion died.

VII. **New Business**

- A. A resolution:
"Be it resolved that:
The Faculty Senate of Stephen F. Austin State University, recognizing the importance of and demands upon its chair, recommends that release time from normal academic activities be granted to its chair for each term that its Chair holds office and is employed by Stephen F. Austin State University."

Was presented by Senator Howard and seconded by Senator E. Ledger (Geology). Resolution passed.

- B. A motion: "The Faculty Senate protests the 1991-92 Stephen F. Austin State University Budget for the reasons that:

1. The 1991-1992 salaries listed for faculty are not correct.
2. Levels of merit (Merit Raises) were rewarded at one-half the usual amount."

was made by Senator Howard and seconded by Senator G. Lowery (Forestry). Vice-President Ashley explained that the reduction was made in order to recognize last years faculty merit recommendations.

Senator B. Johnson's motion to amend the motion by adding "c. and other reasons" died for lack of a second. Senator R. Berry (Music) expressed concern merit raises were not specified as to level; nor is any information given as to what the meritorious service was.

Motion carried.

- C. Senator J. Howard moved "The Faculty Senate protests Stephen F. Austin State University's 'revenue enhancement' by the increase of fees charged to Stephen F. Austin State University employees. Specifically, the raising of employee parking fees for the stated purpose of obtaining greater discretionary funds is bemoaned.

Seconded by Senator D. Hearrell.

The Motion carried.

VIII. Comments of Ex-Officio Members

Joel Wyatt, President of the Student Government Association, was introduced by Chairman Carr. Mr. Wyatt greeted the Faculty Senate with optimism for improvements at SFA. He deplored any opposition or conflict among the constituencies at SFA and issued a call for cooperation among the Regents, Administration, Faculty, Staff, and Student body of the University.

IX. **Adjournment**

The Faculty Senate was adjourned at 4:30 p. m.

ABSENCES

J. Corbin
J. Frye
K. Price (excused)

VISITORS

D. Angel (President)
J. Ashley (Ex-Officio, VPAA)
J. Wyatt (Ex-Officio, SGA)



Calvin P. Barton, Secretary 1992-93