

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY
Minutes of the Faculty Senate
Meeting #226
December 9, 1992

- I. The meeting was called to order by Dr. Carr, Chair at 2:35 p.m. December 9, 1992 in the Wyatt Room, Steen Library.
- II. The minutes of the previous meeting #225 were accepted with no changes (except typographical).

III. Report by Chair

Dr. Carr announced her appointment of Joe Ballenger of the College of Business (Marketing Department) to serve on the Graphics Design Committee.

IV. Officer Reports

- A. Chair-Elect - Suzy Weems: no report.
- B. Treasurer - Sherry Rulfs: not received.
- C. Secretary - C. P. Barton - no report.

V. Committee Reports

- A. Academic Affairs - will be continuing to study its charge.
- B. Administration & Finance - no report.
- C. Elections - no report.
- D. Faculty Governance - Senator Price submitted the written report of the Faculty Governance Committee on the Review of the Faculty Handbook. This report is on file in the Faculty Senate Office.

The committee also examined University committee membership. The committee reported:

- 1. The Instructional Council is not to include faculty members.
- 2. Committees which have no faculty members are Administrative & Fiscal Affairs Committee; University Policy and Procedure Manual Committee; President's Executive Council.
- 3. The Academic Affairs Council has only one (non-voting) faculty member.

This report is also on file in the Faculty Senate Office.

Senator Price proposed a Faculty Senate recommendation "...that the Chairperson of the Faculty Senate be made

a regular member of the Academic Affairs Council."

Senator Price then discussed a somewhat different position adopted by the (department) Chairs' Forum. He also clarified the usage of the word "regular" (member) and the definition of EX OFFICIO according to a reference by Dr. Adams of the Chair's Forum. A motion to table the proposal was made by Senator DiNucci and seconded by Senator Shigley. The motion passed.

- E. Ethics - no report.
- F. Professional Welfare - no report.

VI. Old Business

- A. A memorandum from President Dan Angel discussing his specific response to recent Faculty Senate resolutions was presented by Chairperson Carr. In this memorandum, President Angel explained his response and in some detail the reason therefore on:
 1. University Ombudsman (not approved).
 2. Release time for Faculty Senate Chairperson (affirmed 3-hour release load).
 3. Budgeted Faculty Salaries (reviewed recent raises and explained budget updating practices).
 4. Merit pay (under review; invited ideas input).
 5. Parking Fee Increases (supplied comparisons).
 6. Redistribution of Funds (assured he does not intend to do this).
 7. Sexual Harassment (explained our policy briefly).

A copy of this Memorandum is placed in the files of the Faculty Senate office.

- B. Senator Mace asked for a clarification of the Merit pay raise policy. Interim Vice-President Ashley responded with the Administration's current positions and thoughts: merit policy has not changed; academic Deans want more autonomy in this matter; less standardization among schools; there are no fixed dollar amounts; there is a need for varying criteria at the College level.

The Merit policy will be reviewed by the academic Deans. Senator Mace stated that concern expressed to her was less about dollar amounts than about criteria for decisions as to who gets it.

Vice-President Ashley again stressed the need for clearly stated criteria at each College level.

Chairperson Carr reaffirmed that the faculty desires input into merit-pay policy.

VII. New Business

- A. Chairperson Carr discussed the make-up of the Search Committee for the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Dr. Barbara Carr (English) has been appointed Chairperson of this committee. Nominated by the Faculty Senate to fill two positions on this committee were the following:
- John Goodall (Music)
 - Tom Benoit (Biology)
 - Richard Shigley (Applied Arts & Science)
 - Mark Turner (Accounting)

Senator Jones moved that the nominations cease.
Senator Gobel seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The nominators discussed each of their respective nominees. John Goodall and Mark Turner were elected by ballot to serve on the Search Committee.

- B. Senator Ledger asked to be replaced as a member of the University Assessment Committee. Chairperson Carr appointed Senator W. R. Clark to replace him.
- C. Senator Weems and Senator DiNucci were appointed to serve as Marshalls at Graduation.
- D. Senator Jones brought a proposal to increase the number of (full) academic scholarships to equal the number of athletic scholarships. This proposal was referred to the Academic Affairs Committee.
- E. Senator Mace raised the question, "Is the modified retirement policy about to be changed?"

Vice-President Ashley responded that the policy will indeed be reviewed this Spring. She mentioned there is some feeling among department chairs that there could get to be too many on half-time retirement and half-time employment. Statements from the faculty on this matter are encouraged.

- F. Senator Mace brought a question from an honors student about the Honor Dormitory, Wisely Hall. She questioned the G. P. A. of student residents. She questioned the lack of quality programs for attracting honors students to the Hall.

Vice-President Ashley responded that the 3.25 G. P. A. was set by the Regents and printed (in error as 3.5) in the brochure about the hall. She also stated she was not involved in programming designed for life in the Honor Hall. She described some honors courses (two) and programs planned for the Spring.

- G. Senator Wright called for follow-up on planning faculty input for the President's plan SFA 98. She reminded the Senate that time is short for us to influence this plan. No specific action was taken at this time.
- H. Senator Howard requested action on a motion given to the Academic Affairs Committee on March 14 concerning "awarding of a grade to a student whether completing the course or not be the exclusive and proper responsibility of the faculty."

VIII. Adjournment

It was moved by Senator Weems to adjourn, seconded by Senator L. Clark. Motion passed. Adjournment was at 3:36 p.m.

ABSENCES

J. Frye
W. D. Hearell (Excused)
G. Lowry
S. Rulfs (Excused)
L. Watts (Excused)
J. Jackson (Excused)

VISITORS

J. Ashley (Ex-Officio, VPPA)
W. Hobgood (Dean, Fine Arts)
T. Atchision (Dean Math/Sci.)



Calvin P. Barton, Secretary 1992-93