

**Stephen F. Austin State University
Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
2006 Meeting #349
May 3, 2006**

Subject to approval at the 350th meeting.

Senators present were: Norjuan Austin(1), Julia Ballenger(2), Joe Ballenger(3); Chair, Chris Barker(4); John Boyd(5), Deborah Bush(7), Linda Calvacca(8), Deborah Dunn(10), Jeannie Gresham(11), Gina Haidinyak(13); Secretary, Kayce Halstead(14); Kevin Langford(15), Perry Moon (16), Wanda Mouton(17), Debbie Pace(18), Jeana Paul-Urena(19), Anita Powell(20), Karen Price(21), Elton Scifres(22), Sally Ann Swearingen(23), Mark Turner(24), Brian Oswald for Dan Unger(25), Brian Utley(26), Michael Walker(27); Treasurer, Elizabeth Witherspoon(28).

Excused: Mary Nelle Brunson(6), Warren Conway (9); Chair-Elect, Mark Guidry(12)

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:40 p.m. by Chair Chris Barker at the Tracy Pearman Alumni Center.

Newly elected Senators are:

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|----------------------|--|-------------------|
| Norjuan Austin | College of Liberal & Applied Arts (English) | (3yr term) |
| Joe Ballenger | College of Business ((MM & IB) | (3yr term) |
| Linda Calvacca | College of Science & Math (Nursing) | (2yr of 3yr term) |
| Gloria Gresham | College of Education (Elem. Ed) | (3yr term) |
| Kevin Langford | College of Science & Math (Biology) | (3yr term) |
| Perry Moon | College of Liberal & Applied Arts (Modern Languages) | (3yr term) |
| Karen Price | College of Liberal & Applied Arts (Criminal Justice) | (2yr term) |
| Sally Ann Swearingen | College of Education (Human Sciences) | (3yr term) |
| Mark Turner | College of Fine Arts (Music) | (2yr term) |

ANNOUNCEMENTS/OFFICER REPORTS

Chair Barker had several items for discussion:

- He wants to form a committee whose mission would be to develop a plan to bring salaries into equity with peer institutions. The plan would include a specific set of proposals for how to go about achieving equity. He will assign this to the Strategic Planning Committee, which will include the past Senate Chair, Brian Oswald, the Chair-Elect, Marc Guidry, and himself. A motion was made by Senator Julia Ballenger to create a committee to study the salary issue. It was seconded by Senator Boyd. Motion carried.
- He mentioned a recommendation he received to study the state university systems. After some discussion, a motion was made by Senator Witherspoon to create a committee to study the state systems. It was seconded by Senator Boyd. Motion carried.

- He will write a resolution thanking Dr. Jeffrey for his service to the university and it will be presented at his upcoming retirement party.
- He discussed the idea of sending a Senate resolution to the BOR regarding how we feel about the new baseball program in that it takes away from the academic mission of the university.
- He asked that we think about ways to get our messages across to the BOR.

There was a great deal of discussion on ways we can handle communication with the BOR. Senator J. Ballenger suggested we invite Regents to activities on campus that might change their perception of the work faculty do—such as the Bright Ideas Conference. Senator Swearingen agreed that we should emphasize positive interaction with the BOR and try to have representatives at their meetings whenever they are on campus. Senator Scifres suggested doing a study that would call awareness to the impact low salaries have on faculty turnover and the difficulty it causes in attracting new faculty to the campus. Senator Price recommended that we invite politicians to speak to the Senate. It was also suggested that we invite the new VP of Finance and the new BOR Chair to speak at our meetings. It was mentioned that we need to get a schedule of BOR meetings.

New Business

Election of Officers

Wanda Mouton is the new Chair of the Elections Committee. After ballots were counted, the following were elected officers for the 2006/2007 year:

Marc Guidry is Chair-Elect
Kayce Halstead remains as Secretary
Elizabeth Witherspoon is Treasurer
Warren Conway is Parliamentarian

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Senator Haydinyak. Seconded by Senator Boyd. Meeting adjourned at 4:50.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kayce Halstead
Secretary