

**Stephen F. Austin State University
Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
2008 Meeting #367
May 7, 2008**

Subject to approval at the 368th meeting.

Senators present were: Neill Armstrong (1), Joe Ballenger (3), Sara Bishop (4), Vikki Boatman (5), Dennis Bradford (6), Erin Brown (7), Parliamentarian, Ken Collier (8); Carolyn Conn (9), Secretary, Jeanie Gresham (13); Al Greule, (14), Scott LaGraff (16), Kevin Langford (17), Perry Moon (19), Rose Powell (20), Clint Richardson (21), Treasure, Elton Scifres (22); Lee Stewart (23), Chair-Elect, Sally Ann Swearingen (24); Ken Untiedt (26)

Excused absences: Chair, Marc Guidry (15)

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m. by Sally Swearingen at the Tracy Pearman Alumni Center.

GUESTS

PRESIDENT DR. BAKER PATTILLO

Dr. Pattillo was not here.

PROVOST DR. RICK BERRY

Dr. Berry discussed the following:

- He said that Dr. Pattillo was on his way to Austin and could not attend this meeting.
- He discussed the summer enrollment figures:
 - Maymester - 961 students
 - Summer I - 3427 students are enrolled if the figures hold. This is up about 500 students.
 - Summer II - We are up about 270 students compared to last year.
 - Fall - We are up about 100 compared to last year.
- The summer experiments might be working according to Dr. Berry.
- Responses to Questions:
 - Parking – Why was forgiving faculty parking tickets dropped? There has been no change in policy since 2006. D -12 is the policy that governs tickets. Parking citations can be appealed within 7 days.
 - Library – Why has the materials budget been dropping? Dr. Berry said that he thought that we should not have any budget dwindle. In 2006 – 2007, the materials budget was about 1.6 million; this year it is over 1.7 million. It has been increased. He said he will enter in budget talks soon.
 - Librarians – Will the library be able to replace librarians? He said yes that librarians and staff will be replaced.
 - Library – He said that renovation requests are addressed as they come in. The requests are prioritized.

- Library – What is the future of the library? The use of the library is campus central. The offices now there are there because it is central. So advising, etc. are there. He said that he supports the library making plans for the library.
- Advising and Registration – Could advising and registration be moved so that they are not in dead week or finals? He supports that move. Fees can not be set for registration until the board meets. That is why it was late this year. The board wants to discuss these issues face to face. In the fall, there is more freedom. He said that he would look at the registration issue then. He said that we could advise any time that we want to; this is an internal issue for colleges.
- Senator Langford asked if holds could be released earlier. Dr. Berry stated that the holds could be released.
- Senator Scifres stated that he thought that fees would be regulated. Dr. Berry said that he thought that they would be regulated by now, but they have not been regulated. He said that he thinks that there will be a push to regulate fees by the state. He thinks colleges will have to defend fee increases.
- Faculty Activity Reports – He said that the question was whether or not faculty could add events to the FAR for the previous year after Sept. 1. He said that salaries are based on the FAR. Also, salaries are based on the previous two years. He does not see an answer for this issue. He would like to find a solution for it.
- No smoking campus – He is in favor of it but does not know how it will be enforced. He will pass the issue on.
- Senator Moon asked about the FAR. He asked if it would be possible to maintain the FAR from year to year. He will try to find out. He said that he did have bad news about Digital Measures. Sandi Turner has been the SFASU point person. She will not continue to be the point person; she is taking over the Access project.
- Senator Ballenger asked if football games are nonsmoking. Dr. Berry said that he did not know. Senator Ballenger reviewed how other colleges enforce nonsmoking.
- Senator Untiedt stated that he never notified anyone about people being stuck in the elevators. He was stuck in the elevator. The police officers told him that they have to open the elevator each week for individuals trapped. Dr. Berry said that there are more elevators on campus that do not work properly. He reviewed an example of this problem. He said we did receive some money for deferred maintenance. A plan for deferred maintenance is being created. Senator Untiedt said that we all should report problems. Dr. Berry said to submit problems to Deans or Danny Gallant's office.
- Dr. Berry also stated that SFASU is serious about receiving suggestions about the tenure policy.
- Dr. Berry said that he appreciated recognizing the Board and administration with the presentation of the books to the library.

ASSOCIATE PROVOST DR. RICK BERRY

Dr. Brunson was not here. She is in Arlington discussing SACS.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Chair Guidry is at a conference and unable to attend.
- Vice-Chair Swearingen said that we need to give feedback to Dr. Berry concerning the tenure policy.
- Gloria Gresham received the Senator of the Year Award.
- Vice-Chair Swearingen asked who would volunteer to serve as commencement Marshall. Clint Richardson and Kevin Langford volunteered.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Vikki Boatman to approve the minutes from meeting #366th. All approved. Minutes were approved as written.

Chair's Report

Chair Report:

- Chair Guidry was not present; he was away attending a convention.

Vice-Chair Report:

- Vice-Chair Swearingen reviewed the accomplishments of the Senate in 2007-2008.
- She expressed her gratitude to Chair Guidry for an outstanding job as Chair. She passed around his plaque for all to see. She said that Marc had done a great deal to highlight our accomplishments to the board.
- She stated that she has been working on elections. She said there have been some mishaps. She stated that she has reviewed the rules to be sure that they are being enforced. She said that the new senators are not here because they elections are not finalized. There will be some run-offs in several of the colleges. She asked for all of us to show a positive face concerning this issue.

Treasurer Dalton discussed the following:

- He said that money was spent for the two plaques.

Secretary: No report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academic Affairs: No report.

Administration and Finance: No report.

Communications: No report.

Elections: Susan Clark will replace Lani Draper. She asked for a motion. Sara Bishop motioned, and the motioned was seconded by Lee Stewart. All approved. Susan Clark will replace Lani Draper.

Faculty Government and Involvement: No report.

Professional Welfare: Senator Langford reviewed the resolutions.

Ethics: No report.

Strategic Planning: No report.

OLD BUSINESS: No old business.

NEW BUSINESS: Vice-Chair Swearingen reviewed the officers' elections. Sara Bishop added her name for the office of treasure. Vice-Chair Swearingen asked if anyone would

like to add their name for Chair Elect. No one added their name. Senators Langford and Untiedt gave speeches. The officers are: Kevin Langord, Chair-Elect; Elton Scrifres, Treasure; Jeanie Gresham, Secretary.

The meeting adjourned at 3:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanie Gresham
Secretary