

Stephen F. Austin State University
Faculty Senate Meeting / Retreat #406
September 22, 2012
9:30am, Pine Creek Lodge Inn

Minutes

- I. Greetings, opening remarks, and introductions, 9:35am
- II. Steve Bullard, PhD – Dean of the College of Forestry and Agriculture
Topic: Leadership and team building skills
Dr. Bullard presented on “Leading Leaders” by pulling in current trends and issues relevant to leadership skills necessary to faculty. He also pointed out how military and corporate leadership models were devoid of what best fits a higher education’s needs. Dr. Bullard provided wonderful examples and references that were noteworthy of take-home facts. Overall, he created a wonderful atmosphere and segued the Senate into the next session of getting to know each other.
- III. Getting to know you
 - A. Icebreaker #1 asked the Senators to identify their individual hopes, fears, expectations about being a (a) faculty member, (b) the Faculty Senate, and (c) the university
 - B. Group discussion of Personality Inventory results
 - C. Senator Cooper presented on the different personality combinations, the Senate’s makeup of personalities, and the relevance of understanding one’s own personality in team building
- IV. Defining the purpose for the Faculty Senate
 - A. Group discussion was held using the responses from Icebreaker #1.
 - B. A Brainstorming session asked the Senators to answer the following questions:
 1. What is your perception/how do others perceive (of) the Faculty Senate?
 2. Why did you put your name on the ballot for the Faculty Senate?
 3. How do you think we can change the negative perception of the FS?
 - C. Committee reports for the Senate agenda will include reporting from both internal (FS) and external (University level) committee
- V. Lunch
- VI. Keynote Speaker, Dr. Ric Berry, Provost/VPAA
Topic: A reflection of the past
Dr. Berry provided a brief autobiography of his tenure with SFA. He then reflected on the successful paths taken by past leaders and members of the Senate. Highlighted benchmarks and actions of past Senate bodies provided an uplifting understanding of the influence of SFA’s Faculty Senate. In this reflection, we were also able to grasp a better

understanding of the relationships that had been established with past Board of Regents and how lessons have been learned.

- VII. Outlining our foundation: The Constitution and Standing Rules
 - A. Senators attendance was discussed.
 - B. It was decided to use this as the benchmark year to monitor attendance with a concluding report to be sent to college deans.

- VIII. Committee agendas: internal and external
 - A. The Senate used the old business from Meeting #405 and the past 2011-2012 academic years for committee assignments

- IX. University policy review
 - A. The Senate selected the order to review the five policies.
 - B. It was decided to review concurrently, *Overload Assignments* (A-37) and *Faculty Workload* (A-18). The Provost will be sending that for public viewing in the upcoming months.

- X. Closing remarks, THANKS, and Adjournment, 3:00pm