

Resolution of the SFASU Faculty Senate Regarding the funding of the Baseball/Softball Complex

Whereas, the addition of a Baseball program and elevation of Equestrian program to varsity status was an outcome of an SFASU Board of Regents retreat with no on-campus discussion regarding the pros and cons of such a move; and,

Whereas, the Faculty Senate was presented with estimated revenue (less scholarships) and operating costs for the two programs that required a total of 110 new students (75 athletes and 35 additional students) to attend SFA in order to cover the conservative estimate of costs for the new programs (see Faculty Senate minutes #331) and insofar as the Faculty Senate has not heard that the increase in undergraduate enrollment has been linked to the addition of these two programs; and,

Whereas, the Faculty Senate was assured by the Administration that the complex costs must be met with private funds, not with tax dollars (see Faculty Senate minutes #331) and was informed that at least 25% of the cost of the Baseball/Softball Complex must be raised with private funds before the Coordinating Board will authorize the borrowing or bonding of other funds (see Faculty Senate minutes #336); and,

Whereas, the Chairman of the Board of Regents informed the Faculty Senate that 2.5 million dollars of the needed \$10 million in funding required for the Baseball/Softball Complex must be raised before SFA could issue a bond for the rest (see Faculty Senate minutes #341); and,

Whereas, the Corps of Engineers has not approved the mitigation of the 2.6 acres of wetlands within the 20 acre Baseball/Softball complex site as required by law for the development to proceed; and,

Whereas, the recent Board of Regents action authorizing the use of \$1 million from the SFA designated reserve pool gives the impression that the above statements are either false or that there was no intention of abiding by the above statements and therefore the SFASU Faculty Senate considers the use of the \$1 million from the reserve as a broken promise made to the faculty at SFASU;

Be it Resolved:

That the Faculty Senate at SFASU requests that the SFASU Administration and the SFASU Board of Regents retract their recent action regarding the use of the \$1 million from the reserve and abide by statements made to the Faculty Senate of SFASU by Administration and the Board of Regents representatives to use only private funds for the building of the Baseball/Softball Complex. The Faculty Senate also requests that they be provided a detailed budget plan by the end of the 2005-2006 academic year that details the funding of both the Baseball and Equestrian programs, including costs to enhance and develop current facilities and the Baseball/Softball Complex.