

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY
Faculty Senate
Meeting No. 139
January 19, 1983

1. Chairman Devine called the meeting to order at 2:20 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of meeting No. 138 were approved with no corrections.

3. Officer Reports:

Chairman's Report and Announcements:

Chairman Devine reported that the Deans Council projection of Spring enrollment is 10,800, with some students turned away because of lack of housing.

He announced that nominations for Regents Professors are due in the hands of department chairmen by February 15.

Treasurer's Report and Announcements:

O & M /Travel Budgets (12-8-82)	\$2,564.35
Expenditures	49.82
Balance	\$2,514.53

Student Wage Budget (12-8-82)	\$ 962.14
Expenditures	70.35
Balance	\$ 891.79

Treasurer Carns, as Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee on Elections, announced that elections of Grievance Panelists will be held soon. A ballot to be mailed on January 31 will be for faculty to indicate their own willingness to serve on the Grievance Panel. February 14 is the deadline for the return of these forms.

Ballots for the election will be mailed to faculty on February 21 and will be due back by March 7.

If any runoff elections are necessary, these ballots will be mailed on March 21, with a return deadline of April 4.

If a second runoff election should be required, these ballots would be mailed on April 11 and would be due back by April 25.

4. Old Business:

A. Policy on Operation of University Vehicles:

An interim report on this Administration-proposed policy was distributed by the Faculty Government and Involvement Committee at the very end of the December meeting. There was no discussion at that time.

Dr. Standley, Dean of the School of Applied Arts and Sciences, attended the Senate meeting to discuss the proposed policy. He stated that the policy would require that any University staff member, to qualify to operate a University vehicle, would have to:

- 1) be designated by his department as a driver,
- 2) hold a valid Texas Drivers License,
- 3) have a satisfactory driving record with the Texas DPS, and
- 4) complete a course of defensive driving given by the SFA Division of Continuing Education

Dr. Standley continued: Requiring the defensive driving course is an attempt to improve the safety record of University vehicles. The only other advantage to the University of this requirement would be a stronger liability position in the event of lawsuit. There would be no reduction in the University's insurance rate except the possible eventual reduction caused by an improved safety record.

Dr. Standley's statement was followed by several questions and a brief discussion by Senators.

Senator Richter, chairman of the Faculty Government and Involvement Committee, commented that his committee would continue its study of the proposed policy and present its recommendation in February.

5. New Business:

A. Unscheduled items that Senators or ex-officio members would like to bring before the Senate:

Senator Crocker noted the fact that the optical scanner in the Registrar's office malfunctioned, giving erroneous grades to many students for the fall semester. Dr. Gaston assured the Senate that steps are being taken to correct this problem as quickly as possible. He said that a print-out will be sent to each department to be used by all professors to correct any grades that are incorrect.

B. Resolution requesting the administration to inform each faculty member annually about how much sick leave has been accrued:

Senator Carns distributed the draft of a resolution, which stated:
 Each faculty member shall receive written notification annually showing how much sick leave has accrued.
 Notification shall accompany the annual listing of insurance coverage which is sent to individual faculty members.

Senator Carns moved that the Senate adopt the resolution; the motion was seconded.

During the discussion which followed, Dean Reese requested that the second sentence of the resolution be deleted. The Senate agreed and the amended resolution was adopted by the Senate on voice vote without opposition.

C. Policy on faculty development leaves:

Chairman Devine assigned this matter to the Professional Welfare Committee II, chaired by Senator Nall. Chairman Devine commented that, considering the decline in state income, it is unlikely that the legislature will fund such leaves in the immediate future. However, we are required by law (1967) to have such a policy, and we should have a policy already in place whenever it is funded.

D. Recommendation that Faculty Government Committee study possible amendments to the Senate's Constitution:

Senator Thornton presented a faculty request that the Senate consider amending its constitution to permit faculty to serve successive Senate terms and to serve successive terms as Senate officers. He moved that the matter be assigned to the Faculty Government and Involvement Committee for study and recommendation. The motion was seconded.

After a brief discussion, the motion failed 8 to 11.

E. Policy on eating, drinking, or smoking in classrooms:

Senator Nicholson moved that consideration of this proposed policy be assigned to the Faculty Government and Involvement Committee for study and recommendation. The motion was seconded; it failed on voice vote.

F. Appointment of Ad Hoc Committee on student advising:

Chairman Devine appointed Senators Thornton (chair), Carns, and Nicholson as a committee to study the problems of student advising.


G. Copyright Law:

Senator Morley, chairman of the Professional Welfare Committee I, stated that his committee would require more time for this matter.

6. A motion was made and seconded for adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Absences

Senator Quarles - Excused
 Senator Stephens - Excused
 Senator Young - Excused



 Don Richter
 SECRETARY, 1982-83, SENATE