

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY  
Faculty Senate  
Meeting No. 141  
March 9, 1983

1. Chairman Devine called the meeting to order at 2:20 p.m.
2. Dr. Johnson reported to the Senate on the current outlook for the fiscal condition of the state in the next biennium. Although more funds will be available than in the present biennium, still, a shortfall in state revenue in relation to the funding recommendations of the Legislative Budget Board is anticipated.

In the event the shortfall is not covered by new taxes, state agencies have been asked to prepare economy measures. Dr. Johnson's priorities for SFA would be to maintain salary and capital equipment expenditures. He would postpone building renovations.

Dr. Johnson conceded that without some kind of tax increase, SFA will face serious problems in the next biennium.

3. Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of meeting No. 140 were approved with one correction. Under the Vice Chairman's Report, Senator Thornton moved to strike the entire second sentence. The motion was seconded and approved.

4. Officer Reports:

Secretary's Report:

Senator Richter announced that the election of new senators would begin at once with a poll of the faculty to determine willingness to serve.

Treasurer's Report:

Balance for O & M travel budgets (Feb. 9)	\$2,514.53
Expenditures	593.48
Subtotal	<u>\$1,921.05</u>
Encumbrances (travel for workshop)	263.60
Balance (March 9)	<u>\$1,657.45</u>
Balance for Student Assistance (Feb.9)	\$ 773.54
Expenditures	46.91
Balance (March 9)	<u>\$ 726.63</u>

5. Old Business:

- A. Faculty Handbook:

Senator Richter, chairman of the Faculty Government and Involvement Committee, reported that all the corrections and additions identified to date have been submitted to the Academic Vice President's office to be incorporated into the draft of the handbook in the word processor. He said that he expects that a late draft of the handbook will be available for review soon.

Senator Richter distributed a handout which quoted paragraph 11, Authorization for University President to Discharge Faculty and Staff from the Board of Regents "Rules and Regulations", amended January 22, 1977. The senators discussed the provisions of the paragraph and Senator Morley moved not to include this Regents Rule in the Faculty Handbook. The motion was seconded and passed 11 to 7.

Senator Nall made a motion requesting Chairman Devine to explore the meaning of the Board of Regents rules more fully and to report back to the Senate. The motion was seconded and passed on voice vote.

## 6. New Business:

### A. Creation of Nominating Committee:

Chairman Devine reminded the Senate that all third-year senators would constitute a nominating committee to select nominees for Senate officers for 1983-84. A memo will be sent to all third-year senators to announce the first meeting.

Senator Nall moved that the Standing Rules of the Senate be amended to permit any senator to run for a Senate office. (At present, the Chairman must be a third-year senator and the other officers must be second- or third-year senators.) The motion was seconded and the motion carried 15 to 2. This motion serves as the announcement of intent to consider amending the Standing Rules. Amendment of the Standing Rules will be voted on at the next meeting.

### B. Administration and Finance Committee Report:

Senator Schoenewolf, committee chairman, distributed a report concerning University fiscal matters for the information of the Senate. He mentioned that the 1983-85 biennium estimates (paragraph 3) would have to be revised downward in light of Dr. Johnson's later estimate, presented to the Senate earlier in the meeting.

### C. Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Energy Conservation:

Senator Moore, committee chairman, distributed a report which is a compilation of faculty suggestions for steps the University might take in order to conserve energy. The report will be submitted to the administration.

### D. Science Laboratories During 1984 Summer Sessions:

Chairman Devine commented that the altered schedule for the 1984 summer sessions will include two five-week sessions instead of the present six-week sessions and class periods will be increased to 90 minutes. The most serious difficulty with this new schedule will apparently be for laboratories. After some discussion, Chairman Devine asked the Academic Affairs Committee to investigate the problem further.

E. Senate Recommendation of Policy for Creating Selection Committees for Screening Candidates for Deanships:

Chairman Devine distributed a resolution requesting the administration to permit faculty to be elected to screening committees for the selection of deans. It recommended that at least half of the faculty members of screening committees be elected by the faculty of the school in which the new dean will serve.

Senator Nall moved to accept this resolution. The motion was seconded. After some discussion the motion failed 7 to 9.

F. Unscheduled Items Presented by Senators, Ex-Officio Members or Visitors:

No comments were made.

G. Report by Senators Devine, Nall, and Stephens on "Faculty and Administrator Evaluation Workshop" which they attended February 28/March 1:

This item was rescheduled until the next Senate meeting.

7. A motion was made and seconded for adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Absences

Senator Ormsby - excused  
 Senator Rayborn - excused  
 Senator Whillock -  
 Senator Saunders - excused

*Don Richter*

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Don Richter  
 Secretary, 1982-83, Senate