

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY
Faculty Senate
Meeting No. 148
November 9, 1983

1. Chairman Young called the meeting to order at 2:20 p.m.
2. Chairman Young introduced President William Johnson who addressed the Senate regarding the Council of Faculty Governance Organizations. President Johnson reviewed his support of the original concept of the organization. He indicated that his concern of the present constitution is specifically the statement of purpose that suggest the organization will represent views of faculty governance organizations to government and other bodies involved in in higher education and that dues assessed would be used to support that function. He reiterated a recognition of the value of the organization as a source of information and suggested that he would give consideration to whatever decision made by the Senate concerning affiliation.

In responding to questions from the Senate, Dr. Johnson acknowledged the needed accessibility to computers for both students and faculty. He recognized the financial demands for the purchase of additional computers as well as space to utilize them. He spoke specifically to continued efforts to expand existing facilities and to an improved pre-registration process using computers.

Dr. Johnson briefly reviewed accreditation changes now being considered by the Southern Association of Colleges and Universities. Presidents of Texas Colleges and Universities are opposed to many of the changes and are working to defeat them. An additional concern of the Council of Presidents relates to a proliferation of specialized accrediting agencies such as NCATE. The commitments, both time and finances, necessary for these accreditations may outweigh the long-term value. Dr. Johnson anticipates an organized effort from associations throughout the state in responding to these agencies.

3. The minutes of meeting No. 147 were approved with no corrections.
4. Officer Reports:

Chairman's Report:

Chairman Young attended Academic Deans Council meetings on October 25 and November 7. A proposal to award service pins to faculty failed because polls of faculty members suggested that other types of recognitions would be preferred. A change in the written tenure policy was proposed. Copies of the proposed change were distributed to members of the Senate. In the ensuing discussion, Dr. Gaston addressed questions posed by the Senate and reminded the Senate that this change would require approval of the Board of Regents.

Treasurer's Report:

Balance for O & M and Travel

Balance 9/30/83	\$2,765.56
Central Stores	<u>11.26</u>
Balance	\$2,754.30

Student Wage Budget 10/20/83	\$873.03
Wages 10/20/83 - 11/4/83	<u>159.13</u>
Balance	\$713.90

5. Old Business:

A. Council of Faculty Governance Organizations:

Senator Nall made a motion that we join the Council of Faculty Governance Organizations and that we elect a representative to that organization. Senator Arscott seconded the motion. The motion was passed on a vote of 17 to 3 with 4 abstentions.

Nominations for representative included Dr. Wendell Spreadbury and Dr. Bill Arscott. Motion that nominations cease was made by Senator Crocker and seconded by Senator Price. Motion passed on a voiced vote.

The Senate then elected Dr. Arscott as its representative to the Council of Faculty Governance Organizations.

B. Faculty Handbook:

Senator Young reported an error of conflicting statements in the handbook. The appropriate changes have been made and replacement pages will be distributed soon.

6. New Business:

A. Academic Affairs Committee:

Senator Price, Chairman, presented a recommendation from the committee concerning the standards for Determining Academic Probation and Suspension. The committee recommended the report of the Academic Deans Council with the change that the recommended GPA for 48-65 hours be 1.9 rather than 1.8. This change would reflect maintaining rather than lowering of current standards. Motion to approve the recommendation was made by Senator Todd and seconded by Senator Shows. It passed on a voiced vote.

B. Faculty Governance and Involvement Committee: (Senator Saunders, Chairman, reporting)

1. Senate Reapportionment:

In accordance with the Senate Constitution, elections for 1984-85 should reflect an increase of 1 Senate position in the School of Business and a decrease of 1 in the School of Liberal Arts. Motion to accept the findings of the committee was made by Senator Smith, seconded by Senator Speer and was passed.

2. The review of the Constitution pursuant to Senate reapportionment led to a recommendation to change distribution of senators elected from 11-7-7 to 9-8-8. The committee recommended that the 11 newly-elected senators (1983-84) draw lots so that 9 would serve a 3-year term, 1 a 2-year term, and 1 a 1-year term. Motion to accept this recommendation was made by Senator Saunders and seconded by Senator Hallman. The motion failed on a 6-11 vote.

3. The committee made the following recommendations concerning graduation ceremonies:
- a. discontinuing summer graduation;
 - b. changing the ceremonies from Saturday morning to Friday night;
 - c. deleting the reading of individual undergraduate names with the exception of honor graduates or deleting the speaker;
 - d. seeking input from students through student government and student organizations as to their views concerning the ceremony, especially item 3 above;
 - e. strongly opposing the scheduling of the graduation ceremony at any time prior to the end of the final examination period.

A motion to accept the committee's recommendations was made by Senator Arscott and seconded by Senator Mace.

A motion to amend c by deleting the phrase "deleting the reading of individual undergraduate names with the exception of honor graduates" was made by Senator Hallman and seconded by Senator Reeves.

An alternate amendment was made by Senator Price that each recommendation be considered separately. This was seconded by Senator Speer.

A parliamentary interpretation by Senator Clipson indicated that this could be considered if the first amendment was rescinded. Senator Hallman agreed to rescind that motion.

Item a: discontinuing summer graduation. Motion failed
Item b: changing the day and time of graduation. Motion failed
Item c: deletions in the program
Item d: seeking input from students

Senator Price moved as an alternate motion combining c and d that the Senate strongly recommend that the graduation ceremony not be lengthened and student input be sought on the content of the ceremony. The motion was seconded by Senator Reeves and passed with no opposition.

Motion to accept items c and d as amended were made by Senator Mace, seconded by Senator Todd, and passed.

Motion to accept item e strongly opposing graduation ceremonies prior to final exams was made by Senator Todd, seconded by Senator Mace, and passed with no opposition.

C. Professional Welfare Committee I:

Senator Stephens, Chairman, distributed a progress report concerning planned sick leave vs. unscheduled sick leave. She asked that this item be placed on the agenda for the next Senate meeting.

- D. Chairman Young requested volunteers to serve as Marshalls for the December graduation ceremony. Senators Arscott, Clipson, and Nall will serve with Senator Smith as alternate. He then reminded Senators that there is no scheduled Senate meeting in December.

7. A motion was made and seconded for adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Absences

Senator Wright

Ex Officio Members Present

Dr. William Johnson
Dr. Edwin Gaston
Dr. Nancy Speck
Dr. James Reese

Kay Rayborn

Kay Rayborn
SECRETARY, 1983-84, SENATE