

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY
Faculty Senate
Meeting No. 150
February 8, 1984

1. Chairman Young called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.
2. Announcements:
 - A. The Coordinating Board has sent to the Legislature and Governor White a recommendation for a nine percent (9%) salary increase in 1985-86 and six percent (6%) in 1986-87. The Board also expressed support for faculty leave and organized research.
 - B. The Council of Faculty Governance Organizations has extended the deadline for applications for internships from January 31 to February 17.
 - C. Senator Whillock joined Chairman Young for a conference with Dr. Johnson and Dr. Gaston at which time they discussed anticipated uses of student evaluations. A proposal from Professional Welfare Committee II is expected in March.
 - D. A cost analysis of proposed pre-registration procedures has resulted in a possible change in the method of distribution of data sheets. Rather than a mailed distribution, students may be asked to collect these in the department of their major in time to clear delinquencies prior to pre-registration.
 - E. The university Long-Range Planning Committee and the Master Plan indicate that a study of traffic flow and parking will be conducted in the near future.

3. Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of meeting No. 149 were approved with no corrections.

4. Officer Reports:

Chairman's Report:

Chairman Young and Senator Arscott attended the meeting of the Council of Faculty Governance Organizations on January 20-21 in Austin. Both expressed concern over the tenor of the meeting.

As a result of a Deans Council meeting, Chairman Young has asked Professional Welfare Committee I to study the duties and responsibilities of part-time faculty members. The Academic Affairs Committee has been asked to consider standards for Academic Excellence in academic courses.

The Deans Council has approved a recommendation to establish an office through which minority students can seek assistance in dealing with the various responsibilities and decisions of university life.

Treasurer's Report:

Balance for O & M and Travel (2-8-84)	\$2,361.36
Student Wage (2-8-84)	578.22

5. New Business:

- A. Chairman Young read a letter of resignation from Senator Maamary (Liberal Arts). In accordance with the constitution, Senator Reeves nominated Robert Szafran for that position. Senator Hallman moved that nominations cease and Dr. Szafran's election was approved by the Senate.
- B. The recent move of the Department of Communications from the School of Applied Arts and Sciences necessitates a review of an earlier report on Senate reapportionment. Senator Saunders, Chairman of the Faculty Government and Involvement Committee, will give a report of that review in March.
- C. In anticipation of intense discussions of matters to be considered by the Senate during the remaining term, Chairman Young established a 30 minute maximum discussion time per item and further limited discussion to once per speaker with a three minute maximum.

D. Committee Reports:

- 1. Annual Convocation and Wedgeworth Lecture Series. Senator Hallman reviewed the charge to the committee which was to suggest ways to increase faculty attendance and participation. The results of the committee's work included the following suggestions for consideration by the University committee: scheduling a nationally known speaker, initiating a strong promotional program, considering altered presentation formats, scheduling Regents Professor presentations for another day, and dismissing classes for the day's activities.

Senator Nall moved that we accept the report and forward it to the appropriate administration. The motion was seconded by Senator Mace and passed on a voice vote.

- 2. Basic Skills. Senator Dahmus summarized the report of the committee presented in February. The three components of that report were:

Every graduate of SFA must pass a competency test in written English. This examination will be administered at the beginning of a student's junior year, or if the student transfers to SFA after the beginning of the junior year, during the first semester in residence at SFA.

A student may drop a course up to the midpoint of a semester. After that time, no course may be dropped unless the student withdraws from the university.

A student's GPA will be computed on the basis of all courses attempted.

Senator Dahmus suggested that the last recommendation be referred to the Academic Affairs Committee for consideration. The remaining recommendations were presented independently for consideration.

The first recommendation regarding a competency test was discussed in detail. Much attention was given to the process of implementation. Senator Arscott moved to accept this recommendation for concept and return it to the committee for implementation suggestions. Motion was seconded by Senator Todd and passed on a voice vote.

The recommendation concerning the withdrawal policy was then considered. The Senate was reminded that this change was debated and defeated by a tie vote during the 1982-83 Senate. It again evoked varying responses. Discussion concerning this recommendation ended when Chairman Young imposed the 30 minute limitation. At that time, Senator Arscott moved that the Senate accept the recommendation as presented. Motion was seconded by Senator Crocker and passed on a 14-8 standing vote.

3. Elections:

Senator Clipson, Committee Chairman, announced that the process has begun for Grievance Panel elections. Members whose terms are expiring are Steve Hargis (Business), John Thornton (Education), Montague Whiting (Forestry), David Jones (Fine Arts), Joseph Devine (Liberal Arts), Walter Robertson (Science & Math), and Elaine Hackard (Library). In addition, William Toney (Applied Arts and Sciences) is retiring and will be replaced on the panel.

Senator Clipson also announced that information concerning service to university committees will be requested soon in anticipation of 1984-85 appointments.

4. Administration and Finance:

Dr. Gaston will address the Senate in March on budgetary matters. Questions for Dr. Gaston should be forwarded to Senator Smith prior to that meeting.

6. Chairman Young reminded the Senate that Faculty Handbooks are available and should have been distributed to all faculty members.

Ms. Shirley Stroud, Pine Log reporter, was introduced to the Senate.

7. The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Absences

Senator Price (excused)
Senator Whillock (excused)


Kay Rayborn

SECRETARY, 1983-84, SENATE