

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY
Faculty Senate
Meeting #165
October 9, 1985

1. Chairman Speer called the meeting to order at 2:20 p.m.
2. Announcements:
 - a. Copies of the Senate's constitution, by-laws, and 1985-86 roster were made available.
 - b. It was announced that Senator Eastman was recuperating nicely from recent surgery.
 - c. Dr. Nancy Speck, Director of Development, will speak at the February meeting of the Senate.
 - d. Senator Clipson has been appointed Senate Parliamentarian.

3. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of Meeting #164 were approved as distributed.

4. Officer Reports:

Treasurer

In the absence of Senator Graves, Chairman Speer reported the following:

Payroll	\$1,177.37
O & M	2,684.00
Travel	375.00

Travel expenses incurred by Chairman Speer and Senator Mace during their attendance at the Council of Faculty Governments meeting in Austin have not been paid. Additionally, the bill for recently purchased computer components has not been paid.

Chairman

Senator Speer reported his meeting with President Johnson following Meeting #164. The resolution passed at meeting #164 concerning sick leave was presented to the President. His response, in part, was reported in the September Faculty Senate Report.

The Chairman also reported Texas A & M University is planning a class action suit concerning the revocation of the sick leave policy. He also discussed a speech given by Rep. Wilhelmina Delco in which the events leading to the Legislature's revocation of sick leave were outlined.

Senator Speer reported on his attendance at the last Deans' Council meeting. Discussed was the University's new policy concerning patents and copyrights. Also reviewed was the practice of allowing a student to count a course in two different places on a degree plan. Exceptions to the University's admission policy and mechanisms for collecting faculty evaluations from students were reviewed.

The Chairman mentioned that issues of the Chronicle of Higher Education are being circulated each week to members of the Senate.

5. Old Business:

- a. Senator Wright discussed H.B. 454 of the 64th Legislature which established longevity pay for non-academic employees of the State. Also mentioned was the status of maternity leave in light of the current sick leave situation. Maternity leave is not automatically allowed and is treated as a temporary disability.
- b. Senator Mace reported on the Council of Faculty Governments meeting in Austin. She and Senator Speer represented SFA. The Attorney General has been asked to rule concerning merit pay, she reported. The question posed was if it must become a permanent part of a faculty member's salary or can it be awarded for one year only. Senator Mace reported outside employment of faculty members is being reviewed. It was further reported that Mr. Wayne Roberts of the Legislative Budget Board predicted continued hard times for colleges and universities, especially if the price of oil drops. The Select Committee on Higher Education will meet for the first time on October 14. Mayor Henry Cisneros of San Antonio, a member of the Select Committee, was a dinner speaker at the meeting. His remarks indicate he is a friend of higher education. Rep. Delco also spoke to the group and suggested nothing be done about sick leave until the Attorney rules. Ms. Delco is also a member of the Select Committee.

6. New Business:

- a. Reporting for the Academic Affairs Committee, Senator Shows discussed a possible change in grade reporting that would allow for finer discrimination. Cornell, Baylor, and Brigham Young Universities were cited as having grading policies that award traditional grades as well as a plus or minus. Grade points are fractionally divided to reflect the plus or minus. Mr. Brian Barrilleaux, a Student Government Officer, was asked to present this proposal to the SGA and report back to the Senate. A straw poll of the Senate indicated the group to be in favor of the possible change.
- b. Senator Wright, Chairperson of the Election Committee, reported the vacancy on the Grievance Panel has been filled with the selection of Dr. Joe Ormsby. She also mentioned representation on the Grievance Panel by schools should be re-examined.
- c. Senator Howard suggested the University should review the traffic fine schedule. The question was referred to the Faculty Government Committee.

- d. Dr. Brophy discussed the Intellectual Property Policy (Resolution #92 passed by the 69th Legislature). The University is submitting a policy on patents to the Board of Regents at its next meeting. Each Senator was promised a copy of the policy. Dr. Brophy also mentioned changes in the select student program.
- e. Dean Reese reported that, because of time constraints, the patent policy would be submitted to the Board of Regents before the faculty has an opportunity to react to the document. He also outlined the reasons for the discontinuance of Bible courses at SFA.

7. The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Excused absences:

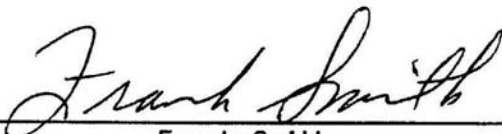
Senator Eastman
Senator Graves
Senator Lowe
Senator Reeves
Senator Thompson

Ex Officio Members:

Dr. Jim Reese
Dr. James Standley

Visitors:

Dr. Bill Brophy
Mr. Brian Barrilleaux
Dr. Connie Spreadbury



Frank Smith
Secretary, 1985-86 Faculty Senate