

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE
MEETING #187
MAY 11, 1988

1. Chairman Howard called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.
2. Minutes of Meeting #186 were approved.
3. Announcements:
 - A. Vice President Reese requests the Senate check revisions and additions to the Faculty Handbook since several changes in the Senate Constitution were made this past year.
 - B. The Board of Regents approved the budget for next year.
 - C. The Coordinating Board has been presented the first draft of the proposed library expansion program.
 - D. The Board of Regents approved the request by the Administration to remove the designation of "teaching" or "research" from the Regents Professor awards.
 - E. The Senate Executive Committee is proceeding with the selection of a computer.
 - F. President Johnson will begin meeting with the faculty by individual departments or schools on a regular basis in the fall.
 - G. The resolution passed by the Senate at a previous meeting requesting faculty abide by the rules in the Faculty Handbook regarding final exams has been approved by the Academic Affairs Council and distributed through administrative channels.
 - H. The Teaching Excellence recommendation is still being considered by the Academic Affairs Council.
 - I. Remedial courses required by the TASP exam will be funded by the state, but the final details have not been announced.
 - J. The President and Vice President for Academic Affairs has approved a reduced academic teaching load beginning this fall for all Faculty Senate Chairmen in the future.
 - K. Chairman Howard distributed copies of the spring meeting report by COFGO and encouraged Senate members to read and share the information with colleagues.
 - L. Richard Voigtel has been named as the new chairman of the Department of Counseling and Special Education and requests that his name be withdrawn as a candidate for

4. Officer Reports:

- A. Vice Chairman Dean reported the following from the Academic Affairs meeting:
 - 1. No special admission provisions should be made for the handicapped but the University should continue to make special allowances in terms of time or testing methods to accomodate handicapped students.
 - 2. Before considering the raising of G.P.A. to 2.0 to avoid suspension, the Council will wait to see what the impact of the implementation in the Fall of 1989 of a minimum G.P.A. step of 1.5 to 1.7 to 2.0 will have.
 - 3. A B.S. in Interdisciplinary Studies was proposed by the Department of Elementary Education.
- B. Senator Bailey, Treasurer, reported the balance on hand as of March 31, 1988 is \$4,435.27.

5. Committee Reports:

- A. Senator DiNucci, Academic Affairs Committee, reported that after checking into the few courses that have special sections for certain majors, the committee found the course content was not significantly different to that of other sections. An effort is made, however, to relate examples used in class to the particular field of the students in that section.
- B. Senator DiNucci, in summarizing the work of the Academic Affairs Committee this past year, explained their primary responsibility was the study of the Retention Committee report. This resulted in two sets of recommendations being made. The first set was a response to the report and the second included specific recommendations which the Senate modified in a regular meeting.

This committee also looked into the problem of faculty giving walks, dismissing classes early and not adhering to examination shcedules. It was concluded that this is an administrative problem.

- C. Senator Markworth, Administration and Finance Committee, reported that committee had two formal charges this year. The first, to investigate the possibility of Room and Board Scholarships resulted in a resolution by the Senate that such scholarships are in the interest of SFA. The Administration is currently studying the resolution. The second charge was to study the financial history of the University for the past ten years. The study is proceeding and will be completed by September.

- D. Senator Parr, Elections Committee, reported that during the past year a Faculty Developmental Leave Committee was elected, elections were held to fill vacancies on the Grievance Panel and the Senate reapportionment of the Senate was completed and a faculty survey has just been made to determine those interested in serving on University Committees.
- E. Senator Voigtel, Professional Welfare, reported that committee was responsible for the first faculty recognition reception held in April and he encouraged future chairmen of this committee to continue the practice. He has also represented the Senate as a member of the advisory committee for the 125 Cafeteria Plan, which goes into effect this fall.
- F. Professional Ethics and Responsibilities Chairman, Senator Spreadbury, reported that committee is still waiting to hear from the Administration concerning the Teaching Excellence Center proposal sent to them last year.

Chairman Howard commended each of the committee chairs and committee members for the hard work and accomplishments this year.

6. New Business:

Senator Bailey, as the Faculty Senate representative to the Graduate Council, gave a report on the work of the council this past year. He listed a new set of theses guidelines, a report on graduate assistants, and new forms for application and renewal of membership on the graduate faculty.

Senator DiNucci moved and Senator Devine seconded a recommendation that peer review status for graduate faculty begin in the department. Motion passed.

Senator Devine moved and Senator DiNucci seconded the motion that Chairman Howard assign the Academic Affairs Committee next year to examine review policies of the Graduate Council. Chairman Howard declared the motion passed by executive order

7. Unforeseen Items:

A. Senator Lowe nominated Senator Thornton for Senate Chairman for the 1988-89 year and Senator Spreadbury seconded the nomination.

B. Senator Markworth moved and Senator DiNucci seconded the motion for the Senate to purchase a Lotus 123 computer as well as a word processing and data base system that are compatible.

Senator Evans moved and Senator DiNucci seconded to amend the motion to read "appropriate software."

The motion as amended was passed.

- C. Vice Chairman Dean distributed copies of a proposal for an honors scholarship program.
- D. Senator DiNucci announced he is trying to put together a computer seminar with SPSSX for next year.
- E. Chairman Howard distributed copies of two resolutions he requests next year's Senate to consider.
- F. ^{Devin} Senator moved and many seconded the motion that "The Faculty Senate resolves to thank Harry Miller for many years of devoted service to the University." Motion passed unanimously.
- G. Senator DiNucci moved and Senator Bailey seconded the motion that the Faculty Senate resolves to thank all retiring faculty for their many years of devoted service to SFA. Motion passed unanimously.
- H. The Senate expressed thanks to Chairman Howard for his productive leadership this year.
- I. Chairman Howard expressed his thanks to officers and outgoing Senators for their work and support. He also extended his thanks to Dr. Ray Eastman, ex officio member, Vice President James Reese, ex officio member, and Monica Ferrell, student secretary.
- J. Chairman Howard welcomed the six new senators.

8. The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Absences:

Dr. Patrick Mueller
Dr. Doug Prewitt
Dr. John Thornton

Visitors:

Krista Lovick
Rick Lambright

Ex Officio Members:

Dr. Ray Eastman

Mary Ella Lowe
Secretary 1987-88