

**Stephen F. Austin State University
Minutes of the Faculty Senate
Meeting No. 217
December 11, 1991**

1. Chairperson F. Smith called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. in the Mildred Wyatt Room of the Steen Library.

2. **Approval of Minutes**

* Chairperson F. Smith presented minutes of Meeting No. 216 to the Faculty Senate for approval. Senator Corbin moved to defer acceptance of the minutes until the next Faculty Senate meeting. Senator Shows seconded the motion.

Motion passed.

3. **Report by Chairperson**

* Update on CoFGO Resolution that was tabled and amended for consideration at the February 21-22 meeting.

- The resolution pertains to a suit filed against the Faculty Senate at UT-Pan American.
- There are implications that the SFASU Faculty Senate should consider.
- Five faculty members have brought suit against forty faculty members, including most of the Faculty Senate, claiming that an official action of the Senate and publicity about that action defamed them and damaged their business reputation.
- They assert that the forty acted with malice in censuring them for actions unbecoming to the professors.
- Lack of defense by the University of Texas system complicated the situation.
- The UT system claims that the faculty acted outside their authority therefore, acted as individuals, rather than as an institutional body of the university.
- The president of UT-Pan American said, that the official policy indicates that "The Faculty Senate is not authorized to take such disciplinary action [censure of faculty members]."
- Chairperson Smith requests that the Faculty Senate review the attached Resolution for discussion at the February meeting. [See Attachment No. 1]

4. **Officer Reports**

* Chair-Elect B. Carr - no report

* Secretary L. Clark - no report

* Treasure D. Shows gave the following report:

Balance Brought Forward on 11-1-91: \$3,359.31

Debits

Telephone	\$ 6.00
Printing service	152.94
Payroll	342.13
Travel	<u>425.00</u>
Total	\$926.07

Balance on 12-01-91 \$2433.24

* The official 1991-1992 budget increase for the Faculty Senate is .59% or \$26.00.

5. **Committee Reports - None**

6. Old Business

* Resolution on Faculty Cooperation with Intercollegiate Athletic Programs.

- * Senator Arscott at Meeting No. 216 presented this Resolution, calling for Faculty non-cooperation with Intercollegiate Athletics.
- * Senator Arscotti pointed out that the Faculty Senate is an open forum and is probably the only place where the Faculty can openly express their concerns.
 - The purpose of the proposed Resolution was meant to advise.
 - Athletics, said Arscott, "bring a lot of praise to the University." However, the Resolution was drafted to express concerns by some that the athletic budget is "out-of-line."
 - Since Kelly Jones came to a special meeting of the Faculty Senate and explained the Board of Regents' stand on the budget and sought input from the faculty, Arscott requested that the status of the Resolution be changed to a Letter of Concern, and that the changes in text be considered a friendly amendment.

We the members of the Faculty Senate support collegiality and working for the betterment of our University. We believe that our University's prime function is assimilating knowledge and teaching students. We accept intercollegiate athletics as part of the University but feel that its financial support has grown much too large in relation to its role. We have expressed, through multiple resolution, our objections to excessive athletic budgets and expenditures. These resolutions have been directed to our Presidents and to the Board of Regents. We have seen no retrenchment in athletics is to receive a fourteen percent (\$447,000) budget increase. Recently, the chairman of the Board of Regents informed us that he would work to increase the academic operating budget. Taking into consideration the State's budgetary problems, the Faculty Senate will patiently wait (within a primary reasonable timetable) for a budget that will enhance what we believe is the primary role of Stephen F. Austin State University. The Faculty Senate does not wish to take any drastic actions; any help that you could render would be appreciated.

- * Chairperson Smith noted that because Senator Arscott had introduced the other Resolution at Meeting No. 216 and since that Resolution was seconded--then tabled--this letter of concern supersedes that Resolution. The letter of concern has the support of both Arscott and the individual that seconded the Resolution.

Discussion

- Senator Robertson suggested that the letter also be sent to Ms. Sadie Allison, Director of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women.
- Initial discussion centered around whether or not, given the drastic changes in text, this letter of concern was truly a friendly amendment.
- Chairperson Smith declared that it was indeed a friendly amendment.
- Senator Ledger inquired as to the meaning of the phrase "drastic action."
- Senator McGrath wanted to know Senator Arscott's definition of "any help."
- Senator Arscott responded that "drastic action" is open for interpretation and that "any help" means just THAT--any help or assistance would be greatly appreciated.

- The original resolution, Arscott observed, was successful because of the attention that it received in the press and elsewhere. The success is also evidenced by the people present at today's Faculty Senate meeting.
- Senator Corbin said that the newspapers misrepresented the resolution originally proposed; therefore, he is concerned about preventing future misrepresentation.
- Senator Arscott said Regent Jones is now aware of the dissatisfaction of the Faculty. Therefore, he [Arscott] has submitted a less radical document calling for help and wishes to wait a reasonable time for action regarding Faculty concerns.
- Senator Johnson said that if the radical points had been removed when the resolution was originally presented, he would have supported it.

- Senator Codispoti saw no relationship between the proposed Resolution and Regent Jones' visit. Regent Jones had expressed a willingness to meet with the Faculty Senate prior to the proposed Resolution.

- Furthermore, said Codispoti, he has heard rumors and anecdotes about athletic expenditures and has listened to varied Faculty reactions to the amount of money allocated to athletics. Maybe the expenditure is "too large for a university this size--that may be true, but I don't know." All Codispoti sees are generalities; he wants a systematic asking of questions and compiling of data. Investigating and compiling data are more in line with what is within the power of the Faculty Senate.
 - Senator Jones noted that as representatives from specific schools we get input from our constituents, but are we making sure that Faculty from all areas are canvassed.
 - Senator Price pointed out that lots of knowledge on the subject exists, in fact, more statistics than the Resolution presents. For example, during the last five years, departmental operating budgets have increased 0.0%, while athletic budgets have increased 65%. This year with increased tuition and fees, money has been set aside to increase athletic scholarships, yet none has been set aside for graduate students. The athletic budget has increased 14%, but the library serials budget has been cut 33%. The numbers are not as important as is the shift in priorities in universities. "It may be anecdotal that there has been no formal report," but numerous Senators have found data that would support a resolution like this one.
 - Senator Frye stated "It is silly to claim the \$447,000 increase anecdotal when the Chairman of the Board of Regents is publicly acknowledging it; I don't think we need to study it!"
 - Senator Codispoti commented that the budget needed for athletics has previously been off the books; the only difference now is this athletic budget is up front on the books--a fact that seems to be an improvement. Now we can see the "real budget." The proposed resolution or letter of concern could encourage the Board or anyone else who is sympathetic to back away from an open athletic budget. If this amount is the size of past athletic budgets; then this is what we will have to live with. Faculty seem to have varying views about the budget. The statement "ALL of the Faculty, the VAST MAJORITY of the Faculty, or MOST of the Faculty are upset about the size of the athletic budget--I don't see that as accurate." This Senate has the capability to determine who holds what opinion(s). "We are supposed to have a survey--seems to be a phantom survey--of the Faculty on the athletic budget, etc., except it [survey] never seems to appear, never seems to be done or completed. In the meantime we seem to be passing resolutions seeming to speak for the entire faculty."
 - Senator Downing questioned where the athletic playoff money goes if teams do not go to the playoffs.
 - Chairperson Smith responded, "I think we were told it [playoff allocation] would revert to the general fund."
 - Answering Senator Codispoti, Senator Arscott said he does not think we [those who believe athletic expenditures are too high] are a minority; he has met very few who feel that the athletic budget is all right.
 - Senator Johnson, "I have been here listening to this for twenty-five years and do not find athletic expenditures anecdotal. Just because we did not know how much they were spending, didn't mean we approved of it."
 - Senator Codispoti said, "People talk in the halls; that is wonderful!" but he again stated the need for a systematic study.
 - Furthermore, Codispoti observed SFASU gets money from the NCAA; the other money is to send others, like the band (not the team), to the playoffs.
 - Senator Smith said "the Senate did try to put together a questionnaire regarding athletics, but the committee could not agree on the contents."
 - Senator Johnson called for appointing an athletic committee.
 - Senator Codispoti, "Isn't this putting the cart before the horse?"
 - Senator Howard, who seconded the original resolution, pointed out that the Letter of Concern does not say "We the Faculty," but says the "Faculty Senate." He continues to support the Letter of Concern with the changes. The Administration and Finance Committee's preliminary report on Expenditures and Percent Change for Intercollegiate Athletics, Football, [See Minutes of Meeting No. 216, pg. 5] presents support of an increasing trend in athletic expenditures.
- * Senator Howard called the question, and Senator Gotti requested a roll call vote.
- * Roll Call Vote
- | | |
|---------|-----|
| Arscott | yes |
| Avant | yes |

Barton	yes	
Brown	yes	
Carr	*absent	
Clark, L.	yes	
Clark, W.	yes	
Codispoti	no	
Corbin	yes	
Darville	yes	21-yes
Downing	yes	3-no
Frye	yes	1-absent
Gotti	no	
Howard	yes	
Johnson	yes	
Jones	yes	
Ledger	yes	
McGrath	yes	
Price	yes	
Robertson	no	
Rulfs	yes	
Seaton	yes	
Shows	yes	
Turnage	yes	
Weems	yes	

Motion passed as amended in a friendly manner.

*** Letter to the Board of Regents on Budget Priorities.**

- Senator Smith presented the Executive Board's draft of the letter which the Faculty Senate requested be composed and sent to the Board of Regents concerning budget priorities.

The Faculty Senate applauds the Board of Regents for an acknowledgement of the needs of the faculty and staff with regard to the monetary status of these groups and the discrepancies which exist.

The Senate further applauds the Board for including the faculty in the process of budget making and in other committees involved in the governance of the University.

The Board is further commended for providing an atmosphere of openness at Board meetings and providing an opportunity for observation and input.

Equally important, the Faculty Senate holds the position that the Board of Regents is obligated to set policy which advances the purposes, goals, and mission of the University.

The following is a part of the stated objectives of the University:

Stephen F. Austin State University is a comprehensive, state-supported University whose goal is to serve as an intellectual, cultural and educational resource of distinction.

It is dedicated to the pursuit of truth; the freedom of inquiry and discussion; the expansion of the intellectual and cultural experiences of its students, faculty, and public; the preservation and expression of society's diverse cultural and intellectual heritage; the discovery and dissemination of new knowledge and ideas; and the enhancement of the quality of life for all those it serves.

The University strives to discover truth while communicating existing knowledge, sources of information, and processes for understanding through its encouragement of the interrelated and mutually enriching activities of teaching, research, and artistic creativity in those areas consistent with its primary function.

In contrast, the most recent budget reflects a shift in priorities away from these goals and the Faculty Senate would urge the Board of Regents to reverse this trend in the future.

Discussion

- Chairperson Smith indicates that the letter lifts from the current 1991-92 SFASU Bulletin the stated objectives of the University.
- Senator Price proposed a friendly amendment to the letter which would state the origin of the goal (i.e. "as presented in the University Bulletin).
- Friendly Amendment was accepted.

Motion passed as amended in a friendly manner.

* **Implementation of Faculty/Board of Regents Task Groups**

- Senator Smith indicated that he would be glad to receive names of those interested in serving on the Task Groups and would forward the names to the Board.

* **Status of Longevity Pins and Ceremony for Faculty**

- Dr. Reese indicated that personnel has identified all eligible faculty, and President Bowen wants to have a ceremony in the Spring.

7. **New Business**

* **Letter in Support of President Bowen**

- * The following petition was introduced at the December 4, 1991, Faculty Senate Executive Committee meeting:

Proposed Resolution

Be it resolved that since the following faculty members believe that Dr. Donald E. Bowen, President of Stephen F. Austin State University, has been diligent and above board in his efforts to improve the status of faculty members at SFASU and to resolve potential sources of conflict, that individual faculty members who believe this to be true should express their appreciation to Dr. Bowen on their behalf and extend to him a strong vote of confidence. A copy of this resolution should be given to Dr. Bowen and to any other interested party that the Faculty Senate deems appropriate.

Discussion

- Chairperson Smith commented that the petition came from some members of the faculty of the School of Business and reflects their individual positions and not that of the school.
- Senator L. Clark corrected the impression that the petition came only from the School of Business, saying that faculty members from other schools had also signed the petition.
- Senator L. Clark said that the petition was an endorsement of President Bowen's policies by those who had signed the petition.
- Senator L. Clark also noted that staff members had expressed an interest in signing the petition.
- Senator L. Clark said, "the constituents who presented this document to me envisioned a petition that would have individual signatures."

- Senator Smith indicated that the original petition was signed by eight faculty members which obligates the Senate to act. Possible courses of action include: tabling, acting immediately, or giving the petition to committee.
- Senator Arscott said, "the Board of Regents will go into an executive committee meeting on Saturday. We assume the meeting is regarding personnel matters. If the petition is going to be effective, we should act today."
- Chairperson Smith said that the agenda has been posted, and Senator Codispoli wanted to know what it contained.

- Chairperson Smith said that the agenda is public, but he has not seen it. As was indicated, Smith has heard that "there are personnel matters, plural" on the agenda, but Smith commented that "we were making a lot of assumptions."
- Dr. Reese declined to comment.
- Senator Robertson pointed out that the petition says "We the Undersigned." She is willing to support the petition if that reading means the Faculty Senate.
- Senator Jones moved that the petition be changed to read "The Faculty Senate...." The amendment was not seconded at this time.
- Senator W. R. Clark indicated that the petition was envisioned to be from all of the faculty on campus who wished to sign, not just the Faculty Senate.
- Chairperson Smith reminded the Senate they were not following parliamentary procedure.
- Senator Johnson seconded the motion to amend the petition to read "The Faculty Senate."
- Senator Arscott did not see where the original motion [petition] pertained to the Faculty Senate; the petition called for campus-wide circulation and would take a lot of time. Given the fact that the Senate knows the petition exists, Arscott believes the issue under consideration should be how members of the Faculty Senate feel.
- Senator Price said maybe the intention of the petitioners was to authorize the Faculty Senate members to present the petition to their constituents and return it to the Faculty Senate, acting as a "clearing house." If that was the intention, then we still need a motion to allow the Faculty Senate to serve as a "clearing house." We still have a motion expressing sentiments of the Faculty Senate as a whole.
- Senator Corbin understood that the petitioners were asking for support of the petition. He said that the Senate should accept responsibility in backing this petition and to have a separate motion of its own.
- Senator Arscott said that by voting for this amendment, we are saying that the Faculty Senate is giving our support to the President. If we do not, "are we by defacto not giving our support to the president?"
- Senators Jones and Corbin discussed the logistics of circulating the petition.
- * Senator L. Clark called the question.
 - Chairperson Smith reminded the Senators that they were voting only on the amendment to the original petition.
- * The vote was taken by a show of hands.
 - Five in favor of the amendment
 - Nineteen against

Amendment failed.

- * Senator Corbin then moved that "We, The Faculty Senate, accept the petition and aid in its delivery."

Seconded by Senator Downing

Discussion

- Senator Brown believed that, should the petition pass, the Senate should consider the mechanics involved. Since final examinations will be completed on Friday, many of our colleagues will be scattering.
- Secretary L. Clark suggested photocopying the petition and having senators responsible for gathering signatures in their respective schools.
- Senator Arscott expressed a concern that with the time constraints, if the Senate is unable to get a majority of faculty members' signatures, the outside perception could be "negative just as well as it could go positive."

- Senator Smith said he was unclear, "if it [the petition] is accepted, to whom will it be sent."
- Senator L. Clark noted "That was not in the original that I was asked to introduce."
- Discussion centered around to whom the petition should be delivered, if passed and signed. Senator W. R. Clark believed that the intent of the petitioners was to have the document sent to the Board of Regents.
- Senator Arscott felt the need for a deadline.
- Chairperson Smith said, "We are assuming a state of urgency which we do not actually know exists."

* Senator Arscott called the question.

* Senator Howard moved to table the petition.

Seconded by Senator L. Clark

Discussion

- Senator Jones indicated that he felt very strongly that the Senate should voice support for President Bowen. "There seems to be one chance and that is now!"
- Senator Howard said that gathering signatures in two days is hard, and a failed petition is a negative statement and is not his intention. Therefore, he wanted to table and try another approach.
- Senator Gotti asked whether the motion to table the petition could be made after the question was called; he was told, "yes."

Motion to Table passed.

* Senator Jones moved that prior to the Regents' meeting on Saturday, December 14, the Faculty Senate send to the members of the SFASU Board of Regents a vote of confidence in President Bowen with essentially the same wording as the proposed petition that was tabled.

Seconded by Senator Codispoti

- Senator Price proposed a friendly amendment that would make the document more comprehensive. In addition to "improvement of status and welfare of the faculty" Price believes other aspects of Bowen's work are equally important, for example, Bowen's "study of priorities and long-range plans and role and scope of the University."
- The friendly amendment was accepted by Senators Jones and Codispoti. Wording to be finalized by Senator Price and Secretary L. Clark. [See Attachment No. 2]
- The question was raised whether or not this was a first reading today. The Chair indicated that action could be taken today.
- Further questions were raised concerning procedure.
- It was decided to FAX the document to each member of the Board of Regents.

* A Roll Call Vote was requested.

Arscott	yes	
Avant	yes	
Barton	yes	
Brown	yes	
Carr	*absent	
Clark, L.	yes	
Clark, W.	yes	
Codispoti	yes	
Corbin	yes	
Darville	yes	23-yes
Downing	yes	1-no
Frye	no	1-absent
Gotti	yes	

Howard	yes
Johnson	yes
Jones	yes
Ledger	yes
McGrath	yes
Price	yes
Robertson	yes
Rulfs	yes
Seaton	yes
Shows	yes
Turnage	yes
Weems	yes

Motion passed as amended in a friendly manner.

* **Staff Concerns**

- * Chairperson Smith indicated that the Staff does not at this time have a forum for expressing their views. Senator Carr was supposed to present the Staff concerns; but since she could not be present, a spokesperson for the Staff could do so instead.
 - The Staff has similar concerns, as do the Faculty, regarding budget, administration, etc., said Chairperson Smith. Beyond those stated concerns, Smith is not sure if the Staff is asking for relief or seeking a platform .
 - Ms. Sandra Stanley, speaking on behalf of the Staff, pointed out that the Staff wanted to unite their voice with that of the Faculty Senate. She noted that all of us work for a common purpose--higher education. The Staff gets one view and the Faculty another, but input from both sides could help the University.
 - The Staff wants to know if they could have an ex officio member or could join the Faculty Senate. The Staff needs a unified voice!
 - Chairman Smith indicated that Staff input is welcome, but beyond that there is no Constitutional provision for Staff representation in the Senate. "The [Faculty Senate] Constitution would have to be altered drastically to include people outside of the Faculty even as ex officio members." A better alternative, observed Chairman Smith, would be for the Staff to organize a similar group.
 - Senator Arscott indicated that he agreed with the Staff, noting that Staff and Faculty have similar concerns. He recommended that until the Staff is organized, they should work with the Senator from their respective areas so that their Senator(s) could relate those feeling to the Faculty Senate as a whole.
 - Ms. Stanley responded that for areas like housing, financial aid, purchasing, for example, "there is no such 'animal' as a Senator."
 - Senator Shows said Faculty Senate is set up by the present Constitution so that any concern from a group outside the Faculty can be brought onto the agenda by invitation of the Chairperson; that procedure was followed when the Director of Athletics was invited to express his concerns to the Senate.
 - Senator L. Clark suggested deferring Staff representation to the Faculty Government and Involvement Committee.
 - Senator Johnson that the Senate possibly needs a study, since the Staff need help.
 - Senator Price agreed that a separate organization was needed, but until that organization could be set up why not have a channel of communication for the Staff--possibly through the Executive Committee or the Chair of the appropriate Standing Committee.
 - Ms. Stanley was advised that the place to start would be with the University administration. She, nonetheless, expressed a desire to have the Staff in some way meet quarterly with representatives of the Senate.
- * Chairperson Smith asked to have the issue deferred to the Faculty Government and Involvement Committee, as originally moved.

Seconded by Senator Johnson

Motion passed.

8. Other New Business

*** New Grade Reporting**

- * Registrar E. Barbin came to the Senate meeting to answer questions on the new grade reporting procedure.
 - Senator Codispoti indicated that Faculty already were part way into the grade reporting process and thought that questions and comments could be postponed to a time when everyone was not so rushed.
 - Registrar Barbin agreed to wait for better timing.

*** Representation of Other Groups**

- * Senator Howard pointed out that the Faculty is represented by the Faculty Senate, and sentiment has been expressed to have some kind of representation for Staff. However, "Call Faculty" is still left out. Senator Howard moved that official "Call Faculty" representation also be examined by the Faculty Government and Involvement Committee.

Seconded by Senator Arscott

Discussion

- Senator Downing wanted to know if input could be solicited.
- Senator Turnage asked about Graduate Student representation and learned that group is represented by SGA.
- * Chairperson Smith called for a vote on Senator Howard's motion.

Motion passed.

9. Comments by Ex Officio Member(s)

- * Kent Hutchison commended the Faculty Senate for their work.

Mr. Hutchison reported that in reference to Saturday's called meeting of the Board of Regents, SGA has drafted and sent by FAX a letter of support for President Bowen and his administration. Mr. Hutchison read the text of the SGA Letter. [See Attachment No. 3]

SGA is still interested in working with the Senate to conduct a survey regarding Intercollegiate Athletics at SFASU.

- * Vice President Reese jokingly observed, based on this meeting, "Rumor 101 should be a senior-level course."

10. Adjournment

- * The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

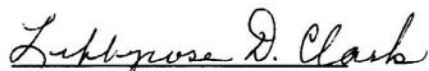
ABSENCES

B. Carr (excused)

VISITORS

J. Reese (Ex Officio, VPAA)
D. Henry (Ex Officio, VPA&FA)
K. Hutchison (Ex Officio, SGA)
E. Barbin
D. Stanley
C. Chaney
S. Milstead
D. Cox
S. Reeves
M. Ludorf
J. Speer
J. Dahmus
N. Hearn
D. McMillan
T. Atchison
M. Finkenberg
V. Gobel
J. DiNucci
K. Kennamer
B. Click
R. Mathis
S. Gallant

E. McCune
D. Haddox
J. Radar
D. Boubel
C. Alhashimi
S. Stanley
L. Wheeler
E. Campbell
S. Sneed
P. Rogers
L. Stone
J. Rushy
D. Stockwell
A. Beavers
R. Barra
J. Garrett
J. Westmoreland
M. Burton
J. Ballenger
J. Adams
J. Cox
K. Hutchison


Libbyrose D. Clark, Secretary
Faculty Senate

ATTACHMENT NO. 1

Item 1 - Resolution Regarding UT-Pan American Case

(Presented October 26, tabled and amended, for consideration by CoFGO February 21-22, 1992)

Whereas CoFGO is committed to the concept of self-governance; and

Whereas Faculty Senates have the authority to examine allegations of faculty misconduct; and

Whereas open deliberations in the making of Faculty Senate recommendations are important to interests of the university; and

Whereas the University of Texas system has stated that in voting to censure five members of the School of Business Administration for "actions unbecoming the professoriate" members of the UT-Pan American Faculty Senate acted beyond the formal authority of the Faculty Senate and are therefore individually liable for their actions, thereby absolving the System and the State from defending them in a law suit; and

Whereas such an action by the UT System calls into question the extent to which faculty serving not only on Faculty Senates but on any university committee can reasonably expect to be defended by the State if they should be sued for their actions on the Senate or a university committee;

Be it therefore resolved that CoFGO supports the faculty members who are being sued as a consequence of the UT-Pan American Faculty Senate vote of censure.

Be it further resolved that CoFGO commends the Attorney General for recognizing that the defendants were acting within their official capacity as professors and agents of the state, and for therefore representing these faculty in their litigation.

Be it further resolved that CoFGO urges all Texas university and system administrations to acknowledge that actions taken by faculty governance bodies constitute legitimate university business undertaken by agents of the State and therefore merit the State's protection in case of litigation.

Be it further resolved that CoFGO recommends that the Faculty Senates of all State universities consider resolutions supporting these faculty and the UT-Pan American Faculty Senate, and urging their administrations to go on record as recognizing the State's liability for official faculty governance actions.

Stephen F. Austin State University

P.O. Box 7091, SFA Station • (409) 569-3500
Nacogdoches, Texas 75962-7091



Office of Student Government

December 12, 1991

Board of Regents
Stephen F. Austin State University
Box 6078, SFA Station
Nacogdoches, Texas 75962-6078

Dear Members of the Board,

This letter is written in reference to the called meeting of the Stephen F. Austin State University, Board of Regents, scheduled for Saturday, December 14, at 12:15 p.m.

The Student Government Association (SGA) of Stephen F. Austin State University is charged with the responsibility of representing the SFA community of more than 12,500 students. In fulfilling its duties, the SGA must work along side the University administration on a daily basis.

The Student Government Association is concerned about possible action(s) the board may take concerning the present University administration.

For the last 18-months the University administration, under the leadership of Dr. Donald E. Bowen, has worked with the students' interest in mind. Student leaders, including officers of the SGA, Resident Hall Association and Greek community are consulted regularly concerning any University action on student policies.

Dr. Bowen along with other administration team members have created an environment the student leadership believes is successful. Although changes will take place among the University team members – the goal of the team must remain the same – *to enhance students' opportunities for receiving a quality education while experiencing total college life.* If major changes occur now, the team may fail to accomplish this task. Students will then suffer along with the University and local communities.

**PETITION EXPRESSING A VOTE
OF CONFIDENCE IN SFASU
PRESIDENT DONALD BOWEN**

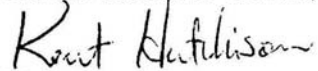
We the Faculty Senate wish to express our support on behalf of President Bowen for his promotion of long-range planning and his efforts toward improvement of the status and welfare of the Stephen F. Austin teaching faculty, librarians, and classified staff. We applaud his endeavor to resolve potential conflicts.

This petition, in effect, communicates a strong vote of confidence in Dr. Donald Bowen, President of Stephen F. Austin State University.

As student body president, I have observed Dr. Bowen making himself available for students to visit and have input prior to and after any major student policy is established or revised. It is my understanding, this type of input was not accessible or encouraged a few years ago.

Therefore, as the student body president, I must support the University administration in their efforts. The SFA community has benefited from this leadership and will continue to benefit for many years to come.

On the students' behalf,



Kent Hutchison
Student Body President

cc: Dr. Dan Wallace, Student Development
Dr. Baker Pattilo, University Affairs
Dr. Donald Bowen, University President