

Faculty Senate Meeting #251 October 11, 1995

The meeting was called to order by Chair Berry at 2:30 p.m.

Senators absent: J. Gotti

Berry asked for additions/corrections to the minutes for meeting #250. Senator Carbajal moved the minutes be accepted as written and Senator Stewart seconded the motion. The motion carried and the minutes were approved.

REMARKS FROM DR. LEE RAYBURN, DIRECTOR ACADEMIC COMPUTING

Dr. Lee Rayburn discussed several points involving academic computing. Rayburn described a \$300,000 HEAF allocation which primarily will be used to replace obsolete equipment. The funds will begin to bring state-of-the-art desk top computing to campus. The funds will be spent this year and then a life cycle replacement program will be designed.

Senator Turner asked if the \$300,000 was in addition to the normal HEAF allocation. Rayburn said that it was additional funds.

Senator Lisieski asked if leasing computers had been looked at rather than buying new computers. Dr. Rayburn stated leasing would be of no significant advantage, depending on how obsolete equipment was defined.

Senator Choate questioned computer replacement priorities such as administrative vs. academic. Senator Price also asked about competing with administration for computer funds. Dr. Rayburn replied that the competition would not change from the present process.

Rayburn stated his goal was to improve the faculty's access to computers for teaching and research. He spoke of the concept of a Department of Instructional Technology at SFA. Dr. Rayburn's department submitted a grant request to build a three-story, 45,000 square feet Telemedia Center to be located near the Nursing and Mathematics Building.

Senator S. McCune questioned the need for special staff to meet the demands of increased internet use on campus. Dr. Rayburn was uncertain, but said it would depend on the demand.

Rayburn discussed some of the relationships and distinctions between Administrative and Academic Computing. First, each reports to different divisions of the administration.

Second, Rayburn pointed out there are some duplication of services while other needs are not

serviced as well as one would like.

Third, reorganization is being discussed that could alleviate some of these situations, but it is in the concept state at present. Reorganization would involve changing the role of support technology on campus.

Academic Computing would focus on specialized instructional technology. There would be an eight member User Service group, not specialized, but would have full responsibility for production work.

Last, Rayburn outlined how the reorganization might enhance the authorship of software, consulting opportunities, technology application research and coordination of telecommunications.

Senator Choate asked about transferring internet services from Rice to Austin.

Dr. Rayburn stated that SFA changed from Sesquenet (Rice) to Thenet (Texas) for Internet access as of 26 September 1995. The change will save money and give the campus greater capabilities to access data. The possibility of being a hub in the net is being considered but would require multiple user support.

Rayburn added that in the near future point-to-point-protocol (PPP) will be available to expand the flexibility of home computers tapping into the campus backbone. The procedure will require the home computer to have at least a 14,400 modem. There most likely will be an access charge of \$20/month for students and \$25/ month for faculty based on 40 hr/ month access time.

Dr. Rayburn discussed House Bill 85. He is a part of a nine-member panel charged to determine how to allocate \$150 million dollars. In particular, Rayburn will be part of a task force deciding funding for distance learning projects. The plan is to be ready March 9, 1996.

The plan could allow SFASU to become a regional hub for education, health care and library services databases to distribute to East Texas locales and beyond.

Rayburn mentioned that the Northeast Texas Consortium documents contained plans for collaborative Masters programs that might be tapped in the future.

Rayburn pointed out that the campus was moving forward on improving access to high speed circuitry, telecommunications and videography.

Senator McDonald asked about UNIX support. Rayburn replied that UNIX support on campus was limited.

Senator D. McCune asked if Rayburn's staff could be consulted on statistical applications. Rayburn replied that the office could help building files for SAS but was not involved in developing experimental designs to use in statistical analyses.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

Chair Berry commented on the 3 October 1995 Academic Affairs meeting. During the meeting new transcripts were presented by Dr. Jones.

In the meeting, Dr. Hardy reported that the official 12th day report showed a 3.6% decline in generated credit hours.

Mr. Bylow suggested that recent recruiting efforts in Louisiana have looked promising.

CLEP tests will be handled on campus in the future rather than accepting an outside source.

Dr. Ron Jones reported that the change to the MFA graduation dress was approved.

Dr. Atchinson stated that a collaborative Masters of Science in Environmental Science Degree package was moving forward. SFA will work with the UT at Tyler Health Center in carrying out the degree program.

Chair Berry and Vice Chair Dahmus met with Dr. Angel and Dr. Ashley and discussed several issues.

Tax annuities will proceed as announced in amounts ranging from \$600-\$1,500. Faculty need to contact the personnel office to make arrangements for disbursement, if they have not attended a scheduled meeting.

The Wellness Center facility has been approved and plans are moving forward.- building approved Faculty Senate members (DuFrene, Dahmus and Berry) will try to meet with the Regents Committee to discuss concerns about the proposal.

The new Academic Scholarship program is moving forward with at least a 4 year commitment.

The budget shortfall is for the fiscal year rather than per semester. The shortfall is estimated at \$1.6 million.

Dr. Ashley stated \$600,000 will be recovered with the hiring freeze this year and hiring would be done by a priority list. Other monies will come from auxiliary revenues and utility savings.

A test of telephone registration was held recently. It proceeded with only a few snags. The principal holdup was getting all telephone lines to work, although the test was seen as a success.

Chair Berry and Chair-elect Dahmus will attend the Council of Faculty Governance Organizations (COFGO) meeting in a couple of weeks. Dr. Leonard Rauch, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board member, will be a featured speaker.

Chair-elect Dahmus reported that graduate student enrollment experienced a 11% rise which yielded a 14.5% credit hour increase. Also, Dahmus stated that graduate student stipends will increase from \$5,200 to 5,400.

Treasurer DuFrene reported that the beginning balance for the month was \$4,185.60. Expenditures amounted to \$193.35 leaving a balance of \$3,991.25. An additional \$400.00 was encumbered to allow Chair Berry and Chair-Elect Dahmus to attend the COFGO meeting in Austin at the end of October.

Secretary McDonald introduced Stacie Wells as the new assistant to the Faculty Senate.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Professional Welfare - Chair Goodall presented a progress report on the committee's assignments. Discussions are continuing on the adjunct faculty issue. The committee is looking at recommendations that can be placed in the faculty handbook.

Faculty Governance and Involvement - Chair Dahmus explained amendments to the Faculty Senate Constitution (see attachments). Senator Dahmus moved the Senate accept the amendments to Article 1 Section 9 of the Faculty Senate Constitution so that a ballot including the amendments can be distributed to the faculty. Senator McDonald seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

A Faculty Senate effectiveness survey has been developed (see attachments). Senator Dahmus moved the survey be accepted. Senator Choate seconded the motion and it carried.

Elections Committee Chair Kenner will prepare the ballot for amendments and will include the survey.

Old Business:

The resolution of November 9, 1994 which addressed issues of the evaluation of administrators was brought to the floor for discussion. It was not accepted by Dr. Angel last year. Chair-elect Dahmus asked if it should be re-submitted to the administration.

It was decided to arrange a meeting with Dr. Angel to discuss the resolution through a motion made by Dahmus and seconded by Senator Price.

Chair Berry wanted the record to show that the Faculty Senate had input into the merit policies but was not the author the new merit policy.

New Business:

Chair Berry assigned the task of reviewing the Workman's Compensation Guidelines to the

Professional Welfare Committee.

Dr. Ashley was asked to comment on the status of the Bakewell lawsuit. The bench trial was heard in Lufkin by Judge Heartfield. After the hearing attorneys were given 30 days to file post trial briefs. The judge will then rule in the case.

Senator Choate moved for adjournment. The motion was seconded by Senator Goodall. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.