

Stephen F. Austin State University Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
Meeting #387 September 15, 2010

Subject to approval at the 388th meeting.

Senators present: Norjuan Austin (1); Brian Beavers(2); Kathleen Belanger(3); David Campo (5); Charity Carney(6); Chair, Ken Collier(7); Secretary, Carolyn Conn(8); Dana Cooper (9); Mitch Crocker(10); Dianne Dentice(1); Ann Ellis (12); Tracey Hasbun(13); Chair-Elect, David Howard(15); Treasurer, Keith Hubbard(16); Kim Kato (17); Mikhail Kouliavtsev(18); Michael Maurer(19); Emmerentie Oliphant(20); Carl Pfaffenberg(21); Rose Powell(22); Daniel Scognamillo(23); Sandra Stewart(24); Janet Tareilo(25); Juan Carlos Urena(26).

Excused/Sent Representative:

Parliamentarian, Linda Bobo(4)

Not present:

Christine Hennessey(14)

Agenda

I. Call to order. Chair Collier called the meeting to order at 2:34pm.

II. Presentations:

- A. Dr. Baker Pattillo – President
Out of town.
- B. Dr. Rick Berry – Vice President for Academic Affairs
Faculty Senators invited to Parent's Day game to see game from press box. September 25th. Invitations will arrive soon.

2 committees are being formed:

Core Curriculum Advisory Committee- review core and every course in core, every new course, and review new state policies

Cost Reductions Committee- research and offer recommendations on how to reduce budget in order to satisfy the 5% cut back. Looking to economize summer school budget. Also need to look at a longer term financial plan.

Enrollment- Appears that we will set new record for high enrollment. Slightly behind on credit hour generation.

- C. Dr. Mary Nelle Brunson –Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs
SACS Reaffirmation (Compliance Report)- Has been submitted
Will receive focus report in late December.
QEP will be submitted on January
Visit in March 2011. December 2011 reaffirmation will be given.
Need to refine our QEP. Determine target audiences etc...

Assessment- 2 years of data collected and action plans begun. Deadline for academic assessment data will be September 16.

III. Officers' reports:

Chair

- A. Chair
- Met with Regents this summer-
Expressed the high quality of the SFA faculty
Expressed the degree of "at-risk" students that we serve
We are continuously asked to do more. We need to avoid burn-out
What we are doing: Coping with budget cuts, improving communication with Regents, improving campus culture
Problems: Lagging salaries are causing "family budget" struggles
 - Welcome input on what we need to present to Regents in future meetings
 - Response to new faculty polo shirts was positive
- B. Chair-elect- no report
- C. Treasurer- in process of re-assigning account status. Should have \$4353 in account. Look for responsible ways of using budget.
- D. Secretary- no report

IV. Approval of minutes from Meetings #385 and #386. Senator Hubbard moves to accept. Second by Senator Pfaffenberg. Unanimously passed.

V. Committee Reports: All reports tabled until next meeting.

- A. Academic Affairs Committee (will address new admission standards and frequency of waivers)
- B. Administration and Finance
- C. Elections / Constitution Committee
- D. Faculty Government and Involvement
- E. Professional Welfare Committee
- F. Communication Committee

VI. New Business:

- A. The "SFA Way"
Need to push for more reference to strong academic offerings
Senator Pfaffenberg suggests wearing pin and including some of that information in our syllabi
- B. Election of new senator from Library
Conducted summer election for Library Senator
- C. Monitoring new admission standards
Assigned to Academic affairs Committee
- D. Budget process/creation of Senate Budget committee
Team will include Chair Collier and Chair-Elect Howard
Consider forming a Faculty Senate Budget Committee, vote at next meeting and determine structure, suggest making sure team is staggered to cover all three years so that there is always some continuity
Short term - find way to reduce by 1 million dollars by summer budget.
Senator Belanger stresses that this is possible the most important item that we need to deal with this year and we should consider getting an immediate jump on this.
Will be tasked to Administration and Finance Committee to get started

- E. Everyone should continue to formulate and gather ideas for this plan
Course reduction for Chair of Faculty Senate
Removed from policy?
Senator Conn moves that course reduction is returned to policy.
Seconded by Senator Belanger. All in favor. Passed by acclamation.
- F. Registrar's Office and Business Office Issues
Senator Tareilo is concerned about general unhelpfulness of office personnel. Senator Hubbard also experienced some difficulty with a person in Registrar's office. Report to supervisor and keep documentation. Also take care to observe and recognize positive behavior.
- G. Delays in email account for new faculty –
Senator Oliphant has heard that some Adjunct faculty may still not be able to access Blackboard
- H. Faculty Senate Conference – unfortunately scheduled on our Homecoming weekend. Chair Collier suggests Spring conference instead
- I. Chair Collier highly suggests accepting invitation to press box at football game. Wear purple. Be engaged and enthused and represent faculty to Regents.

VII. Announcements

VIII. Adjournment: Chair Collier adjourned the meeting at 4:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Conn
Secretary