

**Stephen F. Austin State University Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes**  
**Meeting #391 February 9, 2011**

Subject to approval at the 392<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

Senators present: Norjuan Austin (1); Brian Beavers(2); Kathleen Belanger(3); Parliamentarian, Linda Bobo(4); Chair, Ken Collier(7); Secretary, Carolyn Conn(8); Dana Cooper (9); Dianne Dentice(11); Ann Ellis (12); Treasurer, Keith Hubbard(16); Kim Kato (17); Mikhail Kouliavtsev(18); Cynthia McCarley (19); Emmerentie Oliphant(21); Carl Pfaffenberg(22); Rose Powell(23); Daniel Scognamillo(24); Juan Carlos Urena(27).

Excused/Sent Representative:

Charity Carney(6) – left senate, replaced with Nancy Fox

Chair-Elect, David Howard(15)

Not present:

David Campo(5); Mitch Crocker(10); Tracey Hasbun(13); Christine Hennessey(14); Michael Maurer(20); Sandra Stewart(25); Janet Tareilo(26)

I. Call to order. Chair Collier called the meeting to order at 2:32pm.

II. Presentations:

- A. Dr. James Standley, QEP/SACS briefing  
“Make an Impact at SFA” folder handed out  
Must focus on “student learning”  
Goal: “Make an IMPACT on student learning by improving higher order thinking skills.”  
Method: “Employ high-impact practices in the classroom.”  
Collaborative Learning for Freshmen  
Field-based learning for Juniors/Seniors  
Mentored research project for Juniors/Seniors  
For more information: <http://www.sfasu.edu/HIP>  
Review “QEP Summary” for our SACS visitation  
Information tables last week of February in Student Center
  
- B. Dr. Mary Nelle Brunson- Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs  
No new news on budget issues  
Faculty will NOT be a part of first round of furloughs. Future contracts will be written to allow furloughs if and when they become needed  
President, VP, etc... will all be furloughed this round  
Most employees will only be giving up comp time or vacation time rather than actual pay reduction.  
Income under \$30,000 is not an exemption from furlough as once hoped but may be re-considered in future potential rounds of furlough  
The furlough will net \$600,000 in savings. Remaining \$400,000 will be split over institution. Most cuts have been done via efficiencies rather than salary reductions so far.  
Some faculty have asked to voluntarily participate but there is no way to facilitate that request.

### III. Officers' reports:

- A. Chair –  
Please offer any feedback to University Policy Committee regarding policy changes.  
Chair Collier addressed the “State of the Faculty” with the Regents. Expressed concerns about external criticisms, positive reactions to the “SFA Way” program. The faculty is “restless but hopeful.”  
Expressed that the faculty senate wants to spread the burden of the budget crisis as much as possible.  
Need to continue to highlight the strengths of what we do.  
Senator Collier has drafted a letter regarding budget cuts.  
Senator Kouliavtsev asks how we are saving \$600,000 without costing the employee. Senator Hubbard explained that the state mandates a cash reserve for comp time pay. Therefore, we can use that reserve to “pay” for the savings without an actual cost to the employees.  
Senator Hubbard states that it is not supportive of student learning for faculty to take furlough rather than a pay cut.
- B. Chair-elect – not present
- C. Treasurer - \$4500
- D. Secretary – no report

### IV. Election of new adjunct senator

Chair Collier nominates Nancy Fox from English  
Senator Belanger moves to accept, Senator Hubbard seconds the motion.  
Unanimously passed.

V. Approval of minutes from Meetings #390. Motion to accept by Senator Powell seconded by Senator Bobo; unanimously passed.

### VI. Committee Reports:

- A. Faculty Government and Reapportionment –  
Senator Hubbard recaps that no area decreases but Business will increase by one representative. Senator Hubbard recommends that we look at the standing rules to address the number of representatives in order to be in agreement with the constitution. Senator Cooper moves to accept reapportionment. Senator Kato seconds. Unanimously passed.
- B. Professional Welfare Committee –  
Senator Bobo requests that the Faculty senate host a \$1000 adjunct teaching excellence award and need to determine from where that money can be pulled. Senator Collier suggests that the senate could fund that in the short run but other sources would need to be found in future. Tickets and plaque will be supplied by the Teaching Excellence Committee. Each college will put forth a candidate and the Professional Welfare Committee will choose from those six candidates. Chair Collier suggests that he take this discussion to the Provost. Consider a Faculty Senate donation to the awards in exchange for an added Adjunct Faculty award.
- C. Communication Committee – no report, open to suggestions of new assignment
- D. Academic Affairs Committee –

- E. Administration and Finance Committee – no report
- F. Elections/Constitution Committee –  
Will generate plan based on new re-appropriation of representatives.  
Begin seeking possible nominees within your areas.

VI. Old Business: None

VII. New Business: None

VIII. Adjournment: Chair Collier adjourned the meeting at 4:23pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Conn  
Secretary