

TEXAS COUNCIL OF FACULTY SENATES

Business Meeting

February 20, 1999

Minutes

President Hudnall called the meeting to order at 9:45 A.M. Present were forty-two members of faculty senates from twenty-seven institutions.

Minutes from the October Executive Committee and Business Meetings were approved as distributed in a motion by Charles Howard, Tarleton State University and second by Margaret Shelton, University of Houston, Downtown.

Jack Gilbert, Treasurer, presented the financial statement indicating a balance in the Guaranty account of \$4,240.80 and \$19,878.62 in the Vanguard account. Frank Hawkins, Prairie View A&M University moved the financial statement be received as distributed with a second by Joan Hays, Southwest Texas State University.

President Hudnall reported on an invitation to join the Presidents, President Elects and Executive Directors of AAUP, TACT and TFA in a luncheon at Baylor. Both President Elect Jim Case and President Hudnall attended. This meeting included a discussion about what kinds of issues on which all organizations could cooperate. A second meeting in Austin on January 8th took place wherein a discussion of potential legislative agendas and issues of interest to all took place. A third meeting was held, but a representative from the Texas Council of Faculty Senates was unable to attend. TACT, AAUP and TFA attended and visited offices of legislators. This group has taken the name of "Alliance for Higher Education" and they will meet again following this Business Meeting.

President Hudnall reported on the Fall budget item of \$2,000.00 which was approved to fund research projects that would be carried out by committees of faculty senates. Inasmuch as there was no response, but interest expressed, senate officers were encouraged to take this information to their campuses for proposals to be received either by President Hudnall or Executive Secretary Sharon Grimm by April 1st to be reviewed by the Executive Committee at their April 10, 1999 meeting.

President Hudnall presented a report that she had recently received entitled "Higher Education in Texas 1998 Status Report" as published by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. It will be distributed by Texas Council of Faculty Senates and can also be accessed through the web site of THECB at www.thecb.state.tx.us.

Sharon Grimm, Executive Secretary, called attention to the updated directory list included in packets distributed with Round-Up Reports and to the form used for updating when elections

take place. She asked that senators in attendance present them to their successors in order to have readily accessible information at the start of the 1999/2000 school year.

Vice Presidents were called upon to explain their positions and to report on the content of their Region Meetings held prior to the Business Meeting.

Marie Hayden reported that she is the Vice President of the East Region and chair of the Nominating Committee for the elections held every two years and is also responsible for the distribution of data regarding the Coordinating Board Fellows program. She referred new attendees at the meeting to the Handbook for further information and to Page 15 for the application form. From her region meeting, the following topics were noted for their importance in future areas of interest for the Council to pursue:

1. Information on the makeup of the search committees for university administrators.
2. Information on the evaluation of administrators.
3. For future meetings, a suggestion that each senate send in a list of three to five issues six weeks in advance of the meeting and that the President compile them and e-mail to each senate for discussion purposes at the upcoming meeting.
4. It was suggested that Round-Up Reports be required two weeks prior to the meeting so that copies could be made and packets available at registration.
5. The desire for cooperative effort with all organizations that work with faculty.

In the absence of O. Jayne Bowman, Northeast Region Vice President and Editor, due to illness, Jim Case chaired the Northeast Region meeting. A copy of O. Jayne's report titled "Newsletter Information" was distributed to all meeting attendees. President Hudnall urged senate representatives to respond to her requests and to include her in their distribution list. Topics of interest are:

1. Part-time faculty issues.
2. Recruitment of faculty.
3. Field of study curriculum.
4. Determine how the Coordinating Board establishes the policies and procedures for the adoption of new academic programs - particularly bachelor and masters programs - at various universities.
5. Faculty senate representatives on councils, dean's, etc., with the subsequent issue of "shadow" government.
6. A document to take back from the Texas Council of Faculty Senate's meetings to share with senates, chancellors and others who would be interested in meeting content.
7. Regarding distance learning and concurrent credit issues at high schools, policies stating the academic credentials required and the selection process for approval of teachers are needed.

The South Central Vice President, Jack Gilbert, who also serves as Treasurer, reported the following:

1. The South Central Region believes there is a need for this organization to develop resolutions and be more active in distributing them to appropriate entities when procedural problems and shared governance issues are identified. The following problems need to be addressed immediately:
 - a. Issues related to Faculty Handbooks.
 - b. The lack of a faculty governance organization at Texas A&M at Texarkana.
2. Action should be taken to promote organization of a system level Faculty Advisory Council for every system that would be sanctioned by the appropriate Chancellor and Board of Regents.

The West Region Vice President, Charles Howard, Program Director, reported the following:

1. The best use of our time might be spent talking with each other as opposed to listening to speakers. Move Round-Up up. Develop a series of focus groups dealing with specific issues.
2. The Resolution of SB 148 should be used as a model for other resolutions to make an impact.
3. The Texas Council of Faculty Senates web site should be updated and a list serve established.
4. This organization should assist systems in establishing system-wide Faculty Advisory Councils.

In addition to Region Reports, a discussion ensued about ways to organize programs for future meetings. Suggestions made included the desirability of having no joint sessions with other groups meeting at the same time, the need for this organization to be responsible for arranging the total program including sessions that might be joint, the advantages of some joint sessions and the possibility of having all three groups scheduling full sessions and participants choosing which sessions to attend. The President announced that the suggestions would be discussed by the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee of Texas Council of Faculty Senates recommended that the dues for 1999-2000 remain at \$300.00 per year. This was unanimously approved.

In response to a question by Jeff Harwell, the President read Article XII of the Constitution and Bylaws regarding amendments wherein upon a majority vote of the members present, the proposed amendment shall be submitted to the membership by mail ballot and amendments approved by a two-thirds majority of the ballots returned within 45 days of the mailing shall

become effective immediately. She stated that the Executive Committee would meet on April 10th and would have results of the vote at that time.

A motion was made by William Fitzgibbon, University of Houston, to accept the changes to the Constitution and Bylaws as presented to the members in a mailing. Frank Hawkins seconded the motion. A discussion brought up an amendment in a motion by Jim Case to add the word "Preferably" at the beginning of the second sentence. Frank Hawkins seconded this motion.

After considerable discussion, a motion was made by Joan Hays to strike Article VI and the portion regarding Past President and President-Elect on Article VII, leaving the portion regarding "editor". Ira Wilsker, Lamar University - Institute of Technology, seconded the motion and the vote was a majority for and four opposed. The revisions will be presented to membership in a mail ballot under the rules in Article XII of the Constitution and Bylaws.

Marie Hayden announced the candidates for election for the East Region as:

Marie Hayden, Sam Houston State University

Diane Kaplan, Texas A&M University, College Station

Mavis Triebel, Lamar University, Port Arthur

and for the South Central Region as:

Jack Gilbert, University of Texas at Austin

Randall Williams, Texas A&M University, Kingsville.

President Hudnall offered a letter from Mavis Triebel asking to have her name removed from the ballot.

Bill Fleming, Sam Houston State University, and Jan Collins, Lamar University at Port Arthur, spoke for their candidate, Marie Hayden. Robert Strawser, Texas A&M at College Station, spoke in support of his candidate, Diane Kaplan. Martha Hilley, University of Texas at Austin, spoke in support of her candidate, Jack Gilbert and Frank Hawkins spoke for Randall Williams. President Hudnall appointed a committee to count the vote consisting of Basil Hamilton, Texas Woman's University, Linda Duncan, Tartleton State University and Ray Beaulieu, Sul Ross State University. The ballots were distributed, the vote taken and Ray Beaulieu reported the results of the election. Diane Kaplan was named Vice President, East Region, and Jack Gilbert, Vice President, South Central Region. New member, Diane Kaplan, was invited to attend the April 10th meeting of the Executive Committee as a guest/observer.

Anthony Knopp, University of Texas at Brownsville, made a motion in the form of a resolution regarding the establishing of faculty advisory councils, which was seconded by Robert Nelsen, University of Texas at Dallas, as follows:

Whereas, the exchange of information and opinions between faculty representatives, system-level administrators and members of the Board of Regents would promote the development of the missions of the respective systems,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Texas Council of Faculty Senates strongly urges the Regents and Chancellors of each university system to establish a Faculty Advisory Council with elected faculty representation from each component institution.

It was suggested that copies of this resolution be sent to the Chair of the Board of Regents and Chancellors of each system.

By a unanimous vote, all were in favor of adopting this resolution.

President Hudnall appointed a committee of Valentin Andreev, Lamar University, Beaumont, Jeff Harwell, Sam Houston State University and Marilyn Mertens, Midwestern University to draft a resolution regarding the lack of faculty governance at Texas A&M University, Texarkana.

President Hudnall appointed a committee of Robert Strawser, Texas A&M University at College Station, Joan Hays, Southwest Texas State University, and Robert Nelsen, University of Texas at Dallas, to draft a resolution regarding the handbook issues.

Arthur Hobbs, Texas A&M at College Station, presented his proposal regarding field of study curriculum and requested it be forwarded to legislators in every campus area.

The Fall Meeting of Texas Council of Faculty Senates will follow the meeting of the Coordinating Board and will be held on October 22-23, 1999 at the Four Points Hotel, Austin, Texas.

The next Executive Committee Meeting will be held on April 10th, Four Points Hotel, Austin at 9:00 A.M.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Grimm
Executive Secretary