

## MINUTES OF THE FACULTY SENATE MEETING

November 7, 1985

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Susan Kupisch, James Bell, Reece Elliott, Scott Magruder, Don Carlin, Rae Hansberry, Tom Pallen, Lawrence Baggett, Gaines Hunt, Andrea Parodi, Wayne Chaffin, Fred Matthews, Ben Nwoke, Charles Calhoun, Patricia Chappell, Robert Crews, Ramon Magrans, Bruce Myers, Delores Gore, Charles Holt, Harriett McQueen

President McQueen convened the Senate at 3:18 p.m. Dr. McQueen moved changing the agenda to hear committee reports, Dr. Holt seconded, and the motion passed.

Dr. Myers reported on elections to the Academic Council and the Long Range Planning Committee. Elected to the Long Range Planning Committee were: J F Burney, College of Business; Richard Gildrie, Arts and Sciences; Judith Wakim, Graduate and Professional Programs; and Don Lambert, Education. Elected to the Academic Council were Wayne Whitmer, College of Business; Francesca Farrar, Graduate and Professional Programs; and Harvey Blanck, Arts and Sciences.

Dr. Kupisch reported for the Rules Committee, suggesting revisions of the constitution and by-laws. She distributed copies of the proposed changes, discussed them, and answered questions. No definitive action was called for or taken.

Dr. Magruder reported on the progress of the proposed forums. Ballots are out, and to date there have been seven responses. Dr. Magruder encouraged senators to promote participation among the faculty. Dr. McQueen urged senators to attend all three forums and to urge the faculty to attend and to get involved. She also said that the LRP Committee had met one time since the last senate meeting to go over figures and review data.

Dr. Riggs said that the Board had approved a capital outlay for the new music building, that it has a priority rating of 4, and that funding is virtually assured, given a normal fiscal year. THEC objects to the proposal on several bases, including the fact that it contains provisions for mass communications facilities, and that the building might be construed as setting a precedent for Centers of Excellence. The project has been reduced to conform to THEC concerns, and THEC now recommends funding for academic year 87-88, rather than 86-87. The proposal will go to the governor for his action. The State Building Commission met on November 7 and approved an allocation of \$1,150,000 for the building.

Dr. Riggs also said that the Board would meet in a called meeting on

November 8 in regard to the new chancellor. The THEC meeting will adjourn to allow for the SBR meeting. On November 12, the presidents of the SBR institutions will meet for the last time with Dr. Nix as chair. On December 12 and 13 the Board will meet for the last time this year, with Dr. Nix presiding. The meeting will be preceded by a gala on Wednesday, December 11, featuring a musical performance under direction of Dr. George Mabry.

Dr. Riggs informed the group that a second center of excellence will probably be established in biology at APSU. The State will contribute \$250,000 and the University will contribute approximately \$135,000. The President then pointed out that he was responsible for the decision to submit a proposal for the center. He said that in the worst case, funds would be moved internally from other programs: we will have some new money, and some money is built in the proposal.

The President said that plans are going forward for accreditation of the undergraduate program in business, and that the next chair of excellence will probably be in business. He discussed the unhappiness among faculty at other SBR institutions concerning chairs of excellence, and pointed out that APSU has the option of sending the money allocated for a chair to the State treasury, matching the accruing interest dollar-for-dollar, and using that money for upgrading undergraduate programs.

Dr. Butler praised the APSU faculty and expressed his appreciation for the opportunity of addressing the Senate. He spoke of the increasing emphasis on accountability, the emphasis on numbers, and the negative effect on morale. He said that concern is realistic, but that the faculty should look at the larger issues such as how we intend to carry out our mission as a liberal arts institution. Although the administration is looking at departments and individuals in terms of productivity, we need not think of it as the only criterion for judging relative worth. He encouraged the senators and other faculty to use the upcoming forums as opportunities to express philosophical positions, although this might not be the best time to talk of philosophy, given the low morale.

Dr. Butler mentioned the annual Regents conference, April 6-8, 1986. The theme will be liberal arts and general education for all students in the SBR system. He said that APSU has twenty-two slots and urged interested faculty to contact him if they want to become involved and active in disseminating information obtained at the meeting.

In discussing the problems of centers of excellence on small campuses, Dr. Butler cautioned against jealousies of others' opportunities. He said that centers should not be divisive, that focus should be on featuring excellence found in a number of places, and that APSU should have more than two centers.

Dr. Butler then answered questions concerning how the University's part of the money would be appropriated. Senator Calhoun asked the Vice President to address rumors that the deans had been instructed to find specific places where the money could be found, and that the places were equivalent to faculty positions.

A point of order arose concerning time allocated to Dr. Butler's

remarks. Senator Parodie moved, seconded by Senator Nwoke, an extension of time by fifteen minutes. The motion carried.

Dr. Butler responded to Senator Calhoun by saying that he (Dr. Butler) had been assigned the duty of finding in the budget the necessary match (approximately \$135,000). At a meeting of the deans, they discussed the possibility of finding positions in terms of retirement and superfluous positions, and discussed the possible need for six positions. He then said that there are other ways to match, that perhaps no positions will be needed, that maybe a few would be needed, and that the need is undetermined at this point. Much of the needed money, he said, is built into the process itself.

Following Dr. Butler's remarks, Dr. McQueen expressed a need for the Senate to take a stand on the quarter-semester issue, and said that it will be discussed at the December or January meeting.


Dr. McQueen informed the senators that the Executive Committee had received material from two senators having to do with apparent deviation from the established tenure and promotion procedures. The material will be turned over to Dr. Chaffin and the White Committee for a report.

A third matter identified by the President of the Senate is the Faculty Senate letter from MTSU to the Chancellor asking him to reconsider proposed changes in the tenure laws to apply to departments rather than institutions. The MTSU Senate asks that other SBR institutions establish a stand on the issue and make it known. Dr. Calhoun and the Red Committee have been asked to respond.

The October minutes were approved on motion by Dr. Magruder, second by Dr. Kupisch.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 5, in UC 313 at 3:15 p.m.

Nov 21, 1985  
Date

  
Charles C. Holt  
Secretary

