



**University Faculty Senate Minutes
Sam Houston State University
February 12, 2004**

Members present: David Bailey, James Carter, Steven Cuvelier, Mary Lynn DeShazo, Stacey Edmonson, Mary Gutermuth, Mark Frank, Marsha Harman, Deborah Hatton, David Henderson, Lady Jane Hickey, Joe Kirk, Gerald Kohers, S. Thomas Kordinak, Paul Loeffler, Holly Miller, Valerie Muehsam, Debra Price, Gary Smith, Kandi Tayebi, Tamara Waggener, Christopher White, Patricia Williams

Member absent: Christopher Baldwin (illness), Penny Hasekoester (professional conflict)

Guest Speaker – President James Gaertner

President Gaertner compared his goals provided in his initial speech to faculty in September, 2001, to what has been accomplished thus far. He addressed:

- Capital campaign to be initiated.
- Personal visits to accomplish “friend raising before fund raising”
- Pride of students in SHSU
- Salary increases over three years
- Moving outside our comfort level to grow
- Academics First – supported with less budget cuts for Academic Affairs

President Gaertner’s continued goals for SHSU include:

- Increased requirements for promotion and tenure
- Increased enrollment to fund the 9-hour teaching load
- Increased funding from outside the university including
 - Special appropriations from the legislature
 - Alumni contributions

Questions were posed regarding:

- Parking [He plans to study some of the suggestions made to ease the current situation.]
- Participation of faculty in tenure/promotion decisions [He is committed to including the faculty as part of the decision-making process.]
- Promotion & Tenure [Guidelines need to be determined collaboratively with the Provost distributing what has been finally determined.]
- Communication [He agreed that it needs improvement.]
- Mediation [He supports mediation in grievances and saw it work well at University of Texas – San Antonio where there was an ombudsman.]
- Tribunal [The administration followed the guidelines of the Texas State University System.]

Approval of Minutes

Emendations for the minutes of January 29th were approved.

Committee Reports

Academic Affairs

The report on Post-Tenure Review that was previously submitted will be discussed at the next Senate meeting.

University Affairs

Chair Tamara distributed copies of the Student Instructional Report (SIR) to peruse for future discussion.

Chair's Report

No APC Meeting:

Meeting with President Gaertner

- The Faculty Senate Survey results are, in fact, used to assist in making decisions and were instrumental in the recent restructuring of the university.
- Dean Brown will chair the Search Committee for the VP of Enrollment Management

Senate Input

- A motion was made and passed to recommend that SHSU use hang-tags, one per person, rather than decals for parking registration.
- A motion was made and passed unanimously to recommend that all university vehicles currently parked in white-tag lots be housed in an area such as Sam South rather than using faculty parking space.
- There was some concern regarding where the new Information Center would be constructed and whether the green-lawn area near Estill would be compromised. There was also some discussion regarding the reforestation of areas in which trees had been felled for construction, such as the newly constructed base-ball field.

Next meeting will be Thursday, February 19. The guest speaker will be Provost David Payne.

Respectfully submitted,

Marsha Harman, Chair-Elect