

Texas Southern University Faculty Senate Meeting
February 7, 2008
Minutes

Senators Present: Michael Zeitler, Emlyn Norman, Tommy Woods (LABS); Andrea Shelton (COPHS); David Hansen (BUS); Edith Wu (LAW); Elsa Leggett, Nina Saha (EDU); James Opolot (PA); Jonathan Lewis (COST); Rita Saylor (GRAD)
Officers Present: Alex Swan (Chair), Lalita Sen (Vice Chair), Howard Beeth (Asst. Secty.), Rambis Chu (Treas.), Christopher Tymczak (Parl.)

Senators Absent: Salena Ahmed (LABS); MacJohn Akpaffiong, Arun Jadkar, Mildred Bright (COPHS), Marion Smith (BUS), Marian Ferguson (LIBR.); Christopher Ulassi (COM); 2 Senators (COST)
Officers Absent: Dianne Mosley (Secty.), Ronald Samples (Ed.)

The meeting was called to order at 3pm by Chairman Alex Swan. Chairman Swan began by introducing the first guest speaker, Vice President for Facilities and Construction, Lance Ross, who addressed item 6 on the agenda prepared by Chairman Swan (Faculty Headquarters-Condition and Repair). Mr. Ross stated he wanted to provide information on the background of the issue and the path forward. He stated several proposals have been submitted for renovation of the Lanier House ranging in cost from \$150,000 to \$153,000, but no record of approval of these funds has been located. Mr. Ross stated that a capital project proposal and approval process has been reinstated at TSU consisting of a capital planning committee reestablished in January 2008. Project consideration requests must be submitted to this committee for its approval. Mr. Ross has established priorities, the first of which is emergencies. He stated the Lanier House qualifies as an emergency.

As a result of Mr. Ross' presentation, the Senate passed a resolution (with Dr. Opolot only dissenting) that the Lanier House be demolished and rebuilt in the same location within the next funding cycle, with faculty oversight and approval throughout the process.

The next major speaker was Texas State Representative Garnett Coleman, who spoke about the legislative agenda with regard to TSU. Discussion about this subject followed his remarks.

Chairman Swan told the Senate that the new president (President John Rudley) wants to meet with the Faculty Senate on February 19 at 9am.

Faculty Assembly committee elections held on January 10, 2008 were discussed. Chairman Swan stated he did not receive results of the election. However, it was pointed out to him that results were emailed to Chairman Swan and all officers of the Assembly/Senate on the afternoon of January 10, 2008. It was also requested, at this time, that Chairman Swan call an officers' meeting to discuss the outcome of the elections and dissemination of results to the Faculty Assembly. This meeting has not yet taken place. At the end of the meeting, about 4:40pm, Chairman Swan mentioned that the Senate's meeting minutes for the last meeting, but refused to convey them to the Senate for

consideration because he said they were more an editorial than minutes. Asst. Secretary Beeth protested the Chairman's decision to withhold the minutes from the Senate, arguing that it was not his decision to make but rather the Senate's decision to make. Chairman Swan brushed aside Beeth's objection and declared the meeting over at about 4:41pm without further addressing this subject or, indeed, most of the items listed on the meeting agenda.

(Revised 3/5/08)