THE FACULTY SENATE

May 16, 1996

Dr. Ray M. Bowen
President
Texas A&M University

Dear President Bowen:

At its regular meeting held May 13, 1996 the Faculty Senate approved the following curriculum matters and recommends them for your approval.

New Undergraduate Courses: BICH 407, CLAS 381, ENGL 333, KINE 421, MATH 403, MATH 470, MODL 260, WMST 333.

I enclose for your information a copy of the material sent to Senators on the above items.

Thank you for considering these items. Please inform me of your action on these recommendations.

Sincerely,

Pierce E. Cantrell
Speaker, 1995-96

Enclosure
pc: Dr. Ronald G. Douglas, Executive Vice President & Provost
Dr. R. Bruce Simpson, Chair, University Curriculum Committee
Ms. Linda F. Lacey, Director of Academic Support Services

APPROVED

DATE

FACULTY SENATE RECEIVED

MAY 23, 1996
Report of the University Curriculum Committee  
March 8 and April 12, 1996

The University Curriculum Committee recommends approval of the following:

1. **New Courses**

   **Biochemistry 407. Horizons in Biological Chemistry II.** (1-0). **Credit 1.** Application of formal classroom instruction; applied view of biochemical concepts; use of biochemical principles to ascertain, evaluate, and make judgments on research information. May be taken 6 times. Prerequisite: BICH 411 or 441.

   **Classics 381. Ancient Athletics.** (3-0). **Credit 3.** Study of Greek and Roman athletics in their cultural and historical contexts through the examination of ancient literary, archaeological, and artistic sources; readings in English.

   **English 333. Gay and Lesbian Literature.** (3-0). **Credit 3.** Gay and lesbian literature from classical times to present, studied in its historical and cultural context, including works by Sappho, Catullus, Shakespeare, Marlowe, Philips, Wilde, Forster, Brown, and Orton. Prerequisite: ENGL 104. Cross-listed with WMST 333.

   **Kinesiology 421. Sports Law and Issues.** (3-0). **Credit 3.** Explores the relationship between sports and law, including fundamentals of contract law, negligence law, labor law and collective bargaining and constitutional issues; the effect of state and federal laws on sports; current legal issues involved in sports; and regulation and employment of athletic agents. Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification.

   **Mathematics 403. Mathematics and Technology.** (3-0). **Credit 3.** Mathematical problem-solving and communication through the use of various technologies (both hardware and software). Intended primarily, but not limited to, students working toward teacher certification. Prerequisite: 400-level math class or approval of instructor.

   **Mathematics 470. Communications and Cryptography.** (3-0). **Credit 3.** Introduction to coded communications, digital signatures, secret sharing, one-way functions, authentication, error control and data compression. Prerequisites: MATH 222 or 304 and CPSC 110 or approval of instructor.

   **Modern Languages 260. Contemporary Mexican Culture.** (1-0). **Credit 1.** Introduction to contemporary Mexican social, cultural, and political institutions; discussion of Mexican university system; readings and discussion in Spanish and English. For preparation for study abroad program in Mexico. Prerequisite: SPAN 101 or equivalent.

   **Women's Studies 333. Gay and Lesbian Literature.** (3-0). **Credit 3.** Gay and lesbian literature from classical times to present, studied in its historical and cultural context, including works by Sappho, Catullus, Shakespeare, Marlowe, Philips, Wilde, Forster, Brown, and Orton. Prerequisite: ENGL 104. Cross-listed with ENGL 333.
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Office of the President

May 22, 1996

Memo to: Dr. Steven Oberhelman
Speaker, The Faculty Senate

For your information.

Ray M. Bowen

cc: Dr. Ronald G. Douglas

FACULTY SENATE
RECEIVED
MAY 23 1996

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
MEMORANDUM

TO:  Chief Executive Officers
      The Texas A&M University System

FROM: Stanton Calvert

DATE: May 17, 1996

SUBJECT: Report of May 14, 1996 Senate Education Committee Hearing

The Senate Education Committee met this week to consider recommendations relating to the Interim Committee Charges. The recommendations approved by the Committee are provided in the attached document.

The Committee did not consider all Charges, but will most likely do so at the next scheduled hearing. (Proposed recommendations that were “pulled” from consideration at this hearing could be recalled at a future meeting; so we will stay at attention on them.) We will advise you when we receive notice of the date of the next meeting.

Please call us if you wish to discuss any item.

Thank you.

xc:  Chancellor Barry B. Thompson
     Deputy Chancellor Dick Lindsay
     Deputy Chancellor Leo Sayavedra
Recommendations adopted by
the Senate Education Committee
May 14, 1995

Charges and some recommendations not addressed at the hearing will be considered at
the next hearing. Author(s) of the recommendation is noted.

COMMITTEE CHARGE #1

REVIEW THE ROLE OF THE TEXAS LEGISLATURE, TEXAS HIGHER
EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD, AND THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEMS IN
MAKING CHANGES IN THE GOVERNANCE OF UNIVERSITIES AND
IMPLEMENTING ACADEMIC/RESEARCH PROGRAMS

Role of the Higher Education Coordinating Board

- Provide advice and comprehensive planning information for higher education,
  including developing for the Legislature's consideration a geographic-based master
  plan for higher education that identifies the future role of each institution in the state
  and ensure statewide access (Zaffirini) to higher education. (Ratliff)

- Require the Coordinating Board to submit a report concerning the impact of any
  proposed legislation that would establish a new professional school, an additional
  institution of higher education, or an additional campus. (Bivins)

- Create a set of outcome measures for higher education that included student
  performance on a nationally-normed "rising junior" test, the Graduate Record
  Examination and other graduate exams, and professional licensing tests. (Ratliff)

- Identify "peer institutions" in Texas and nationally for each institution for reporting
  outcome measures, faculty salaries and additional cost data, and other productivity
  information. This would provide a fair comparison among similar institutions.
  (Ratliff)

- Study (Luna) the board's authority, within a statewide master plan (Zaffirini), to
  review course offerings and approve new departments, schools and undergraduate
  (not graduate) degrees at universities. Also study the elimination of the board's
  authority to approve new construction, rehabilitation projects and real property
  purchases at public universities of higher education. (Ratliff)

- Eliminate the board's authority to restrict distance learning courses. (Ratliff)

- Limit the board's formula recommendations to funding formulas for technical
  programs at community colleges, Lamar-Orange and -Port Arthur, and the Texas

5/17/96
State Technical College System (TSTC). The board would implement the two-year academic and university funding mechanisms established by the Legislature and review the funding structure every five years to provide recommendations for legislative changes. (Ratliff)

**Role of University Systems**
- Review and assess the quality of all degree programs offered at each institution with the system. (Ratliff)

- Establish a faculty evaluation policy that includes an annual review of the performance of all faculty, including tenured faculty. The review would include the use of peer and student evaluations. Below standard peer and student evaluations for two consecutive years would provide cause for tenure revocation or dismissal. (Ratliff)

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**COMMITTEE CHARGE #3**

REVIEW THE AFFORDABILITY OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN TEXAS IN LIGHT OF POTENTIAL CUTBACKS IN FEDERAL STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, INCREASES IN TUITION AND STUDENT SERVICES FEES, AND RECENT STATE-FUNDED STUDENT ASSISTANCE MEASURES.

- Recommend the State seek ways to increase spending on student financial assistance should federal spending on financial assistance be reduced. (Barrientos)

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**COMMITTEE CHARGE #4**

The Committee will address the recommendations under committee charge #4 at a later date.

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**COMMITTEE CHARGE #6**

STUDY THE APPROPRIATE ROLE OF A RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE LEVELS OF EDUCATION IN TEXAS. SUCH RELATIONSHIPS INCLUDE ELEMENTARY/SECONDARY EDUCATION AND HIGHER EDUCATION, AND TWO-YEAR AND FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONS.
TSTC—Mission and Course Offerings

- Develop a precise mission statement and implement alliances with community colleges. (Luna)

- Narrow TSTC’s role and mission to offering advanced and emerging and highly specialized, cost intensive technology programs as defined by the Coordinating Board. Academic course offerings would be limited to courses that support programs approved by the Coordinating Board based on TSTC’s new mission and are required by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools for accreditation. (Ratliff)

- Remedial education is to be provided by a local or service region community college, under contract, at the TSTC campus with no additional fees or tuition paid by the student. (Bivins)

TSTC—Location and Operation

- Eliminate all TSTC authority for the establishment of new extension centers and programs—must have legislative approval. (Bivins)

- Designate the extension center at Marshall as a TSTC campus. (Bivins)

- Authorize, but do not mandate, the TSTC extension centers at Abilene, Brownwood, and Breckenridge to merge with a service region community college utilizing the continued commitment of local economic development funds as an alternative to additional ad valorem taxation. (Bivins)

- Recognize campus operations in Waco, Harlingen, Sweetwater and Marshall. Extension centers in Brownwood and Abilene, and the extension program in Breckenridge would be maintained provided that the equipment and facilities costs, including maintenance and utilities, continue to be borne by the local communities. (Ratliff)

TSTC—Funding

- Implement a new funding formula for advanced and emerging technology courses. The new formula should account for the higher costs of advanced and emerging courses and be applicable to TSTC and community colleges. (Bivins)

Recommendations of note that failed to pass

- Reduce the size of the board from 18 to 15 members appointed by the Governor from each of the State Board of Education districts. (Ratliff) (Pulled from consideration after a lengthy discussion)
- Include every university in the state in a system. (Ratliff) (Voted down 2-6 with Montford and Ratliff voting aye)