

University of Houston

HOUSTON, TEXAS 77004

Faculty Senate 713/749-2817

To: Chancellor Van Horn

From: Loyd Swenson

Chair, Faculty Senate

Date: April 23, 1984

Subj: Three Senate Resolutions

At the Wednesday, 18 April 1984, regular meeting of the Faculty Senate, three resolutions were passed that are of immediate interest to the University Park administration. A copy of each is enclosed with this memo of transmittal.

- 1. The Budget Committee resolution reflects considerable study by that Committee and intense concern among faculty that "belt-tightening" at the departmental levels may lead to strangulation with continuing inflation. This resolution was passed unanimously by the Senate.
- 2. The Executive Committee resolution regarding the revival of a university-wide commencement ritual is pro-active and seeks to encourage participation by faculty in the growth of a better academic community. It too passed unanimously.
- 3. The "parking problem" resolution, however, came after a vote to suspend the rules and to act in response to the impending raise in parking fees. Professor John Baust was present to argue the case for the Parking Advisory Board's "Comprehensive Recommendations" of 1 February 1984. He was persuasive, and his Committee was commended by acclamation for an excellent comparative study of this problem. But not before Senator Alex Ignatiev's resolution, as attached, was passed by a vote of 17 "ayes" to 10 "nays." This, I think, fairly accurately reflects two decades of faculty opinion on the matter.

cc: Provost Magner

Vice Chancellor Johnson Vice Chancellor Fitzgerald

Vice Chancellor Moore

The Administration is severly degrading the already poor benefits status of the faculty and staff by increasing parking fees for faculty and staff. We recommend that the Administration rescind its order for increased faculty and staff parking fees and attempt finally to improve the benefits status instead of deteriorating it.

Executive Committee Resolution

The Faculty Senate considers commencement a ritual which represents the long and honorable academic tradition extending back through the centuries and remains a symbolic link between past and future knowledge. The Faculty Senate wishes to go on record as strongly urging faculty members of the University of Houston University Park campus to attend commencement as a mark of their esteem for the contributions of the University of Houston to academic progress.

RESOLUTION

Budget Committee

The Faculty Senate urges the Chancellor and his advisers to maintain the current minimal level of funding of DOE, capital equipment, and administrative support of academic activities for the fiscal year 1985.

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