SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY
Faculty/Staff Meeting
Wharton Auditorium
September 17, 2002, 1:00 p.m.

MINUTES


Devotional/Prayer: Michael England presented the devotional on the subject, “Would Jesus give an “F””?

Academy/University Faculty Development October 3-5. All Southwestern Union Academy teachers and principals will be on campus. A dinner on Thursday night will begin the time together followed by meetings all day on Friday. More information will be placed in the mail boxes. Dr. Bunch asked that SWAU faculty and staff be especially friendly and helpful as they meet with the academy personnel.

Noel Levitz Workshop on Retention: Steve Stafford presented a summary on the retention workshop. The national average for retention is 59%. SWAU was at 58% this year. Twenty-one percent of students drop out after their first year. College Student Inventories were given to 114 new students. These were supplied by Noel Levitz and covered areas such as academic motivation, general coping skills, and offered support serves by the university.

Steve said that some of the signs of dropout proneness are: poor class attendance, sleeping in class, missing homework, poor test/quiz scores, working 20 or more hours per week and lack of academic goals. If students are showing one or more of these signs Steve Stafford should be alerted so he can work with the student. Early intervention is the key.
It is better to “win with student over” than to “weed them out”. Steve’s philosophy for success is for the faculty and staff to make themselves available to the student, talk and pray with them, invite them to their homes, be seen at functions outside of the classroom, discuss academic goals, and focus on the student’s strengths. He said that every student needs three outstanding teachers in their lives. He challenged, “Will you be one?”

**President’s Report:** Don Sahly reviewed the terms of the budget crisis. It was originally reported that SWAU would be about 1.7 million dollars short in their budget because of the FFTE being down by 80 students. After further review and budget cuts it is hoped that a deficit of 1.3 million dollars is a closer reality. This fact will be presented to the board next week to seek their counsel.

Dr. Sahly and Dr. Harder visited Jefferson Academy on Monday and spoke with 23 seniors. Fifty-eight percent of Jefferson’s seniors this year are attending SWAU. Drs. Sahly and Harder will have visited with each of the academies in the SW Union this month and next.

**Announcements:**

*Larry Philbeck:* ADP Seminar is starting on Sunday, September 22. Teachers who work in ADP will be notified regarding counseling sessions.

*Larry Garrett:* Because of the budget problems this year Christmas bonuses will revert to the denominational amount of $100 rather than the $200 that has been given in previous years. Also, the cafeteria meal allowance will be cut in half from $90.00 to $45.00.

*Kimberly Mitchell:* On the directory that was distributed “When You Need Help” her extension number was incorrect. Her extension is actually 746.

*Don Sahly:* Last week he visited some schools in southern Mexico who have an interest in working with SWAU.