

NTSO

NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION

GENERAL ASSEMBLY MINUTES

November 11, 2004

Call to Order: Frances Fennessy, NTSO president, called the meeting to order.

Officers in attendance: Ralph Bales, business manager, and Valerie Johnson, secretary.

Special Attendees: We were honored to have Dean Yarabeck, Dean of Students, speak with us. Dean Yarabeck spoke on co-curricular transcripts. For additional information please refer to www.shsu.edu/cocurricular.

Also in attendance was Leah Winfield from Student Activities. SHSU student activities supported our NTSO functions. We have Ms. Winfield and SHSU to thank for the wonderful lunch.

Minutes: The first official meeting of the NTSO 2004 kicked off with a bang. Presently we have over 200 members. We had 36 members' sign the attendance sheet, but it appears as if there were a number of members who attended that missed the sheet. We had ordered 60 lunches and almost all of them were gone! Thank you all for coming and helping to make our organization great. It takes many hands to work together and make this a success. This is an exciting time.

The meeting began with an introduction of the new officers, for the position of business manager, Ralph Bales and Valerie Johnson as secretary. Ralph started the proceeding by honoring our veteran's with a short remembrance of their service to our country. After brief introductions Frances addressed the group.

Topics of discussion:

1) Suggestions for speakers that would interest you. If you have suggestions for a speaker please contact us and let us know. We would like to have a speaker attend each of our monthly meetings.

2) There will be a number of opportunities for your involvement. Please let us know when you will be available and let us know what you would like to do.

3) We have received approval for our formal night. This will be held during the Spring semester. We will need your support to make this a success. There will be opportunities to assist with this by serving on a committee. More details will follow as we go along.

4) Question posed if after graduation a member could continue to participate in club activities. We are a brand new organization with a tremendous amount of potential. There is certainly the possibility of developing an alumni association, which our members could continue to support.

5) We are working on a website; however, this will take some time to develop. Please be patient with us as we go through the growing pains common to any new organization. In the meanwhile, our listserv is open. Please remember when you use the

listserv you are sending your email to everyone in the group, all 200+ members. We suggest that you direct your message to an individual when it concerns a private matter or a matter best handled by an individual. Or, in the alternative you may contact one of the club officers directly. Frances Fennessey, president, at roughneckbooks@hotmail.com, John Fennessey, vice president, at roughneckbooks@hotmail.com, Ralph Bales, business manager at stdrjb19@shsu.edu, or Valerie Johnson, secretary at stdvjj14@shsu.edu. Additionally, you can personalize the settings for the manner in which you receive your messages by setting it to batch. That way you will only receive one email containing all the messages sent on a particular date. This will reduce the overall number of messages coming into your inbox. We will be glad to help you with this should you encounter any problems.

6) At the present time our organization has no dues. However, we cannot guarantee that the student activities center will continue to foot the bill for lunches, etc. This is an area that may change and develop over time based upon the needs of the organization and the wants of the members.

7) There was a great deal of discussion and concern over the issues surrounding the Gintz apartments. A meeting has been scheduled at Whitehall on Monday, November 29th, at 4:00 pm for those interested in and/or affected by the issues surrounding Gintz. This meeting will include President Gaertner, who is attending in an effort to meet the residents, and to hear the concerns of those who are affected by his decision to tear down the Gintz. Additionally, a discussion forum has been set up online, which you may want to participate in; read the President's Corner below.

President's Corner (Frances Crawford Fennessey) - I was really impressed with the turnout we had at our first meeting. You guys are wonderful! I look forward to working with you in the future and meeting every one of you. In response to several requests, I have started a bulletin board thread for the Non-Traditional Students Organization. If you would like to read it, add to it, ask questions, introduce yourself, etc. please feel free to do so at: <http://ww2.shsu.edu/forum/viewtopic.php?t=8811>. In response to several other requests about the Gintz apartments, there is a thread on the bulletin board about that topic as well (I did not start this one). To review it, add to it, or just ask questions, please feel free to do so at: <http://ww2.shsu.edu/forum/viewtopic.php?t=9191>.

Vice President's Corner (John Fennessey) – I'm very sorry I was not able to meet you at our first meeting. However, I assure you I will be at the next one! Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 9 at 11:45 until 1:00. As we did at the last meeting, we will be serving a free lunch courtesy of the Student Activities Center. Our guest speaker is Dr. Bernice Strauss; she will be presenting a workshop entitled, "Beat the Stress! Non-Traditional Stress Management." If you are interested in attending, please RSVP by December 6 at roughneckbooks@hotmail.com. As always, if you need to leave at 12:30 or enter at 12:30, you should feel free to do so.

Business Manager's Corner (Ralph Bales) – We'll need your support to make this work. It's your organization. If everyone will give a little, every time, we can make this a huge success. Please email me at stdrjb19@shsu.edu if you are interested in working in a committee or have ideas that you would like us to consider. Thanks for your help!

Secretary's Corner (Valerie Johnson) – I will need some assistance with the preparation of a flier advertising our next meeting. Please email me, at stdvjj14@shsu.edu, if you would like to create the flier, or you have time to put some fliers up in your building. Thanks!