

# NTSO Meeting

## November 17th, 2005

### Call to Order:

Meeting began at 12:00  
Passed out December calendar  
Introductions of Guest Speaker: Dr. Bernice Strauss

### New Business:

- From a combination of the proceeds earned from the bake sale and donations, the organization will be made into a chapter by 2006-2007.
- The selected chapter will be the Association of Non-Traditional Students in Higher Education.
- We will be doing the bake sales/fundraising events in the future to earn money for the organization and for the refreshments served at the meetings.
- We sent out a mass email to the non-traditional students at SHSU to increase membership to the listserv.

### Old Business:

- We learned some lessons from the bake sale: Monday and Wednesday are the busy days, and we should just sell one type of item rather than many different types, and increase the price.

### Guest Speaker: Dr. Bernice Strauss from the Sam Center

- Dr. Strauss is a regular guest speaker for NTSO and fully supports the organization. She discussed one of her sayings “Make Friends with Failure.”
  - What Dr. Strauss means by this saying is that we should learn from our mistakes and when something goes wrong academically don’t give up.
  - She said that when we fail at something academically we can take a step back and learn what we did wrong, and achieve from lessons.
  - She also talked about the different experiences that non-traditional students face, such as being parents or working full-time in addition to attending classes.
    - She said that we should be organized and make a list for tasks.
    - Another point is not to be afraid to ask for outside help, such as, hiring a maid service during finals week to help clean or rely on daycare.
    - We should start projects early instead of later so as not to wait until the last minute.
    - She also talked about maintaining an academic reputation, by turning in projects on time even if the grade may be average.
    - A last point that she made is that we should stay positive. She said that most non-traditional student’s grades are average, but that doesn’t mean that we can’t achieve something great like a PhD. When we fail at something we should eat ice cream for three days and move on.

Next Meeting: December 1st, 11:45 – 1:00 @ LSC Rm 315