

AGSE Register & Weekly Blot

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SENATE MEETING

Today at 3:00 p.m. the Faculty Departmental Senate will hold its monthly meeting. Of great importance to graduate students will be the discussion of the letter sent to Dean King concerning TA/AI salaries. Basically, the letter covers these main points:

1) Expenses are going up. The survey recently circulated among the TA's and AI's showed an average rent increase of 35/71--which "pretty decisively takes care of the 82-83 pay raise granted by the Legislature."

We are using our savings--31 out of 36 of us...to pay for our education or our survival.

20 22 out of 36 of us are legally in debt--our average basic expenditure exceeds the \$5700 nine month level established by the student aid office...and they does not even address the problem of 12 months survival. We cannot live for only 9 out of 12 months, and we cannot always suspend our educations for that

three month hiatus to take a full time job. If some of the new classes are implemented by the department next year, there will be even fewer summer teaching spots.

Proposed remedies--

- 1) University to petition IRS for tax-exempt status for TA/AI salaries.
- 2) University aid in finding graduate student employment in summer...perhaps a placement service
- 3) raise salaries so that we can live on them for 12 months. Other Universities pay a lot higher, and UT has the resources...
- 4) must remember that financial aid is harder to get; rent, phone, utilities are on the rise...

The concern is with a show of good faith on the part of the administration, and an initial step toward alleviation of the pressures on the TA's and AI's. This meeting is IMPORTANT. Graduate students are welcome at the faculty senate meeting, so go and represent your interests. If you don't, you cannot complain about the result.

CONTEST...

The Writing Lab will be sponsoring a contest for AI's and TA's who have what they consider exceptional teaching materials. A 25.00 prize will be given for the best set of instructional materials, handouts, poop sheets, etc., in E 306/7/8. Judges will be Drs. Ruzskiewicz, King, and McMurrey, and Freshman Asst. Director Trachsel. Citations will also be given for superior individual handouts and assignments. A form will be distributed in early Spring, and the deadline for entry will be 21 March 83. All entries will be judged anonymously, and all will go into the files of the Freshman office. For further information, contact Bruce Gentry.