

UTA Retirees Club

Meeting Minutes

October 11, 2016

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 8, 2016, 10am-noon

I. Announcements

President, Rita Thompson, urged everyone to pick up a copy of the 2016-2017 meeting dates and programs. She also said that a post card with the information would be mailed out to all retirees. She reminded everyone to register their car for parking on campus. This must be done each year but the cost is zero to retirees. She presented a plaque to Rosanne Minyard for UTA Retirees Club Roll of Honor for 2015. Rita introduced Harley Courtney, VP for Programs. Harley introduced our speaker Allan Saxe.

II. Program

Dr. Allan Saxe is a professor in the Political Science Department. He has been at UTA for over 50 years. The title of his presentation was Election 2016. However, he spoke on many topics that all have a bearing on our political conscience. He stated that free speech, a hallmark of our country, is fast becoming a thing of the past. Many students are afraid to speak out. Students are not well versed in the history of our country and are often too absorbed with their social media devices to know what is going on around them. The University of Chicago sent out a message to their freshmen that the university is a vehicle of free speech. He went on to talk about how our university's population is expanding rapidly and may even exceed that of UT-Austin in the future. He is very proud of the contributions UTA has made in areas such as engineering and science. Getting back to the political arena, he stated that it is full of hypocrisy. Arguments being used against Donald Trump were the same ones used to defend Bill Clinton. He also stated that men who have been elected in the past are often not seen in a true light. For example Woodrow Wilson was a racist and LBJ used a lot of profanity. He said we often make excuses for those in politics that we like and criticize those that we don't like. He stated that you have to pick and choose your priorities. He predicted that Hillary Clinton will win by a large margin and that the Republican Party may be on the decline. He also predicted by the end of the year, the US would be 21 trillion dollars in debt. Dr. Saxe also hosts a radio program on the west coast and he admits to being very pessimistic.

III. Conclusion

At the end of his talk, Allan Saxe collapsed. He had an attack of vertigo and was assisted by many of the retirees.

Submitted by Rosanne Minyard, secretary