

# NORTH HARRIS COUNTY COLLEGE UNITED FACULTY

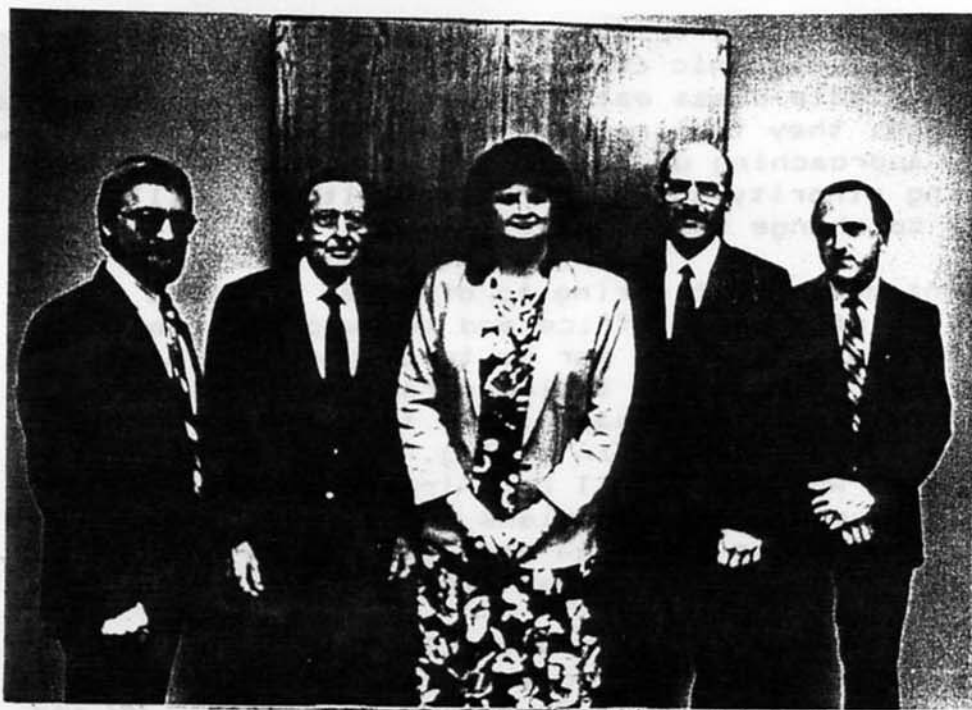
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THE ADVOCATE

NHCC United Faculty  
February, 1989

Edited by Olin Joynton  
Secretary, NHCC UF

## AFT-Endorsed Candidates Win Board Races



Shown from left to right are AFT President Alan Hall, Board Members Elmer Beckendorf, Diana Morales Taylor, and Dwayne Collins, and AFT Treasurer Allen Vogt.

<u>Race</u>	<u>Victor</u>	<u># of Votes</u>	<u>% of Votes</u>
Position 1	Collins	1727	75
Position 3	Taylor	2011	77
Position 4	Beckendorf	2461	100

AFT members raised campaign funds, posted signs, wrote post cards, and worked the polls for these candidates, all of whom pledged to listen to the faculty viewpoint (as conveyed by AFT leaders) on issues pertaining to our work as instructors. We look forward to working with these fine community leaders.

- b. -

(over)

***“Education for Democracy — Democracy for Education”***

C.

President's Column  
AFT and Minority Recruiting

by Alan Hall

The AFT has been concerned for some time about minority representation in NHCC's student body and faculty. We have sought to recruit minority faculty members into the AFT in part in order to focus attention on the problem. The 1986 Statistical Supplement published by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board reported that of the 444 NHCC faculty that year, only 30 were black (12), Hispanic (8), or Asian (10). The same problem exists in our student population. In a Board meeting presenting her ethnic analysis of NHCC's student population for the fall semester of 1988, Registrar Teresa Phillips reported on our low minority population, noting that "We are very white." These figures are not representative of our constituency in the areas comprising the College District.

The AFT member most active in minority student recruiting efforts is Spanish and French instructor Bertha Parle of the South Campus. She has sent me the following report concerning some of her recent activities:

d. I am very pleased finally to be taking part in NHCC's efforts to attract minority students to our campuses.

We have an image to change; we are seen by the poor black and Hispanic community as a primarily white upper-middle class establishment in the fancy suburbs. Somehow, they feel more comfortable going towards town than approaching us. Going out into the community, taking minority staff or faculty with us, will help to change this image.

I sent memos last spring to offer my services to the Public Information Office and to keep them informed of the opportunities for us to be present in the Hispanic community. I always received written responses but was disappointed that a more active involvement was slow in coming. I was delighted, however, when last fall Dr. Airola and Dr. Head began to make concrete plans to go into the poor junior highs in the area and asked me to participate. I felt that the action was long overdue.

Our first effort was very successful. We, in cooperation with UH, had an information night at St. Leo The Great Catholic Church on Jan. 14th. UH and NHCC set up information tables to provide oral and written information to the parents of prospective students. There were several representatives on hand to provide answers to questions, and hand out literature. We were impressed by the presence of two of our board members, Dr. Dwayne Collins and Dr. Don Stewart. Mr. Jack Neary, a MacArthur counselor, and Mrs. Jean Neary, an NHCC piano instructor, were also on hand to answer questions. In order to reach out and be more effective in the future, we need to publicize better and to organize a short presentation that targets our audience. For many of those present, this was their first family experience with college-level applications and information. So they were understandably confused and disoriented. Responses to their questions were frequently met by blank stares. They all left with stacks of literature, but my concern is whether they will be able to wade through it.

I believe we can learn from this experience and adapt to the needs of the people we are trying to reach.

e.

### AFT and Minority Recruiting (cont.)

UH has recognized the problems which Bertha notes. It has sought and received a \$115,000 U. S. Department of Education grant to help dropouts, students, and graduates of high schools from the Aldine area who wish to pursue higher education. We are glad to see that NHCC is beginning to move discernibly on this issue. We are particularly pleased that one of our members has been instrumental in getting the process started and hope that it will spill over into faculty recruitment as well.

### Paper by AFT Treasurer Published

Dr. Allen Vogt, South Campus history instructor and Treasurer of AFT, received word in November that the National Social Science Journal will publish his paper "The Kennedy Assassination and the Historian." Congratulations for this fine piece of scholarship!

### Noisy Rooms on the South Campus

By Bob Miller

Last winter, Dr. McMillian met with AFT members on the South Campus to hear our concerns about the quality of education at NHCC. Among the many items that were discussed, the problem of noisy classrooms was raised by a number of AFT members. On February 3, 1989, I met with Dr. Phillips to ask him if anything were being done to take care of the problem. He replied that he had asked Mr. Wooten to look into the problem, but that Mr. Wooten had not reported to him as yet. Dr. Phillips stated further that money is now being spent to correct air-flow problems and that no formal acoustical study is being contemplated at this time.

Dr. Phillips went on to say that before a study could be done, the administration needed to know which rooms were particular problems; he said he had received no specific complaints about rooms this year. He did say, however, that A-212 would not be a video-viewing room by the end of the year since video-viewing would be dispersed to individual rooms. Dr. Phillips made two suggestions for faculty who find noise from adjacent classrooms a problem: 1) all faculty should show restraint in controlling the volume of video machines, and 2) faculty members should report noisy rooms to their Division Chairpersons. They in turn should report to him or Dr. McMillian. In this way, he said, the administration would be able to determine where specific problems existed.

### Membership Growth

Membership in the AFT at NHCC has grown by 18% since the beginning of the fall semester of 1988. The greater our numbers, the more we can do for the NHCC faculty. Membership is open to faculty (both fulltime and adjunct) and division chairs. The rate is \$18/month for fulltime personnel and \$9/month for adjunct personnel. Contact Allen Vogt, South Campus, extension 583, if you are interested in joining.