

Council of Faculty Advisors
LSU Board of Supervisors
August 16, 2007

The Council of Faculty Advisors met at 12:00 noon in the Systems Building on Thursday, August 16, 2007. Bill Daly, called the meeting to order. Members present were James Robison, LSU Eunice; Dennis Paul, LSU Health Science Center; Gary Seab, University of New Orleans; Kevin Cope, LSU Baton Rouge; Kelly Alig, LSU Health Science Center; Paula Click Fenter, LSU Health Science Center; Bernard Gallagher, LSU Alexandria; Jerry Whatley, LSU Agricultural Center; Bill Daly, LSU Baton Rouge; and guest Dr. Robert Rasmussen, LSU System Office .

Bill recognized Dr. Rasmussen who reviewed the agenda for the afternoon committee meetings. Bob pointed out that this meeting was one of significance as it would be Dr. Jenkins last meeting as President of the System, Dr. Cavanaugh's last meeting as Chancellor of LSU Alexandria, and Mr. Rod West's last meeting as Chairman. He also reviewed other agenda items of importance to the Council. One item on the agenda was the termination of 5 tenured faculty under the Financial Exigency guidelines. Council members were informed that exigency procedures had been followed in the termination of tenured faculty. The discussion of this action by Council members was directed at the importance of following procedure. It was noted that the credibility of Financial Exigency depended on administration insuring that actions resulting in termination followed guidelines set forth in the plan approved by the Board of Supervisors. This discussion also led to the question as to the status of the Health Science Center in New Orleans that has been operating under forced majeure since the hurricane.

Bill then opened the floor for election of Chair and Secretary of the Council. Kevin Cope was nominated for Chair and Jerry Whatley for Secretary. With no other nominations both were elected by acclamation.

Bill presented data on graduation rates of the different universities in the state. The question of what the rates were measured against and what characteristics of the student population contributed to drop out or transfers. Bill also noted the small amount of capitol outlay money directed at academic classrooms when compared to parking lots, athletic facilities and other construction projects.

The council then discussed identifying priorities for it to work toward and compiled the following list:

- Capitol Outlay for academic facilities
- Graduation rate and use of that data
- Financial exigency policy
- PM 36 revision-hiring, retention and evaluation of faculty
- tuition exemption for faculty and children of employees
- e-mail issues and upgrading of Spam detection system

The Council then discussed and recommended that the chair contact Dr. Lombardi, President and arrange for a meeting with he and the Council sometime in November. The last item discussed was how many campuses conduct Monday and Wednesday classes and none after noon on Saturday. Bill asked how many Faculty Senates were actually functioning at the present. The answers reflect that there is a wide range of operating procedures and policy between the

different faculty senates. Some have no representation of administration during the meetings , some have representation of administration that inhibits the free flow of dialogue at the meetings and some have much more influence of administration to the extent that the administration inappropriately controls the meetings. It was of general consent of the Council that each Senate should review their by-laws and that meetings provide an opportunity for communication and dialogue with administration but that faculty would be provided a time during the meetings where there would be no influence of administration, perceived or otherwise, upon the faculty representatives.

Bill Daly was commended for his excellent leadership of the council and there being no other business the meeting was adjourned for the Council to attend the afternoon committee meetings.

Respectfully,
Jerry G. Whatley,
Secretary