

Minutes of the LSU Council of Faculty Advisors (COFA)
August 26, 2011

Attending: Kevin Cope, Scott Rubin, Tammy Dugas, Jennifer Rood, James Robinson, Natalie Hummel, Mary Jarzabeck, and Elisabeth Elder with Bob Rasmussen as a guest

The meeting was called to order at 11:35 am by Kevin Cope.

Bob Rasmussen updated the Council on the agenda for the afternoon meeting of the LSU Board of Supervisors (BOS). The only addition to the agenda was an item on the Les Mile's contract under the Section V Athletic Committee. Rasmussen commented that the Finance Committee might not meet. Rasmussen also commented that the item on standardized associate and bachelor degrees would deal with the number of hours required. He further commented that the budget for LSU was in pretty good shape system wide.

Following the update from Bob Rasmussen, Kevin Cope continued with the remainder of the COFA meeting, which included:

1. A discussion of the financial difficulties being faced by the Southern University System
2. A discussion of the lack of actual open discussion during the BOS meetings
3. Alexandria summit on Sept 24. Suggested inviting Tom Carmody, influential legislature, author of HCR184, established latest commission to review structure of higher Ed.
4. Discussion about concerns with lobbying, use personal computer and personal time. Do not represent yourself as representing university.
5. LSU United update
 - a. Newsletter
 - b. Concern over dues collection
 - c. Requested dues collection through payroll deduction. System policy but not faculty administered on campus. Proposal turned down on grounds that no permission had been given in last twenty years but not accurate, faculty club, for instance, uses this system.
 - d. Led to an appeal to the system office
 - e. Relationship between LSUnited and system seems to be good.
 - f. Told to give clear path of appeal, write letter to explain PM.
 - i. Technicalities, had not sought permission to form themselves.
 - ii. PM65, relation to vendor.
 - iii. Is LSUnited a vendor?
 - g. Inquiry sent to Lombardi again. Appeal has been received. System will enter a discussion and get back to him.
 - h. Now at 110 members.
 - i. Encouraged to work with a professional organizer if they want to grow. Otherwise difficult to grow at more universities.
 - i. Presence on Facebook?
6. Common course number
 - a. 38,000 courses on the book.
 - b. Number of courses not related to size of faculty. McNeese has the most.
 - c. Looked at most commonly transferred, 75 courses everywhere, 60% of transferred

- courses are 25 in total. Have developed a new proposal.
 - d. New panel to examine base question, course equivalency.
 - e. Disciplinary experts will look at courses to develop common course outcomes. Timeline has been established, initial study completed by 2012, implement by fall 2013, more by fall 2014. Modest goals are aspirational.
7. Athletic program concerns
 - a. The tiger four
 - b. Wide receiver, insider trading in NCAA information. Spree of handing out raises to athletic programs. Question about where the funds are coming from.
 8. Retention packages and salary equalization.
 9. Purcell, Arkansas a good model of private funding.

Respectfully submitted:

Elisabeth Elder

Natalie Hummel

September 2, 2011