The meeting, which was called to order at 11:35 am, started with comments from Bob Rasmussen. The items covered included:

A. Jack Lawton, Jr., from Lake Charles will be installed as a new member of the LSU Board of Supervisors.

B. Public comment will be provided by Kevin Cope.

C. The agenda for the BOS meeting will include reports from 4 committees. No changes were included for the reports of the Health Care and Medical Education Committee or for the Property and Facilities Committee. The Finance, Infrastructure, and Core Development Committee report will include information on mid-year budget cuts. The Academic, Student Affairs, Achievement, and Distinction Committee report will include additional information on defining the role, scope, and mission of each LSU campus and institution.

D. Bobby Jendall will be the key note speaker at the Trustees conference at Pennington Biomedical Research Facility. The open meeting will be held February 27, 2012.

E. Bobby Jendall plans to address K-12 education as well as the State retirement systems in the next legislative session.

Kevin Cope noted that his comments in the BOS meeting will deal with the current upheaval in the educational systems within the State. He will address financial links between the LSU boards and administrators plus proposals to take apart the LSU System and to divest the System of the regional campuses. John Lombardi is proposing that studies, conducted to include members of the faculty council and the staff council, be undertaken to determine the futures of the institutions. Lombardi’s proposal will included summer workshops for chancellors during the summer of 2012; statewide meetings including COFA, colleagues, staff, students, and members of the community during the fall of 2012; and joint meetings and panels with the chancellors to develop formal proposals. Kevin Cope and Ken McMillin would propose a more deliberate approach that would include the health centers in the development of the missions/scopes.

Tammy Dugas and Mike Mathis provided input of salary inequities between faculty and administrators at LSU Health (LSU Health Sciences Center Shreveport); comparatively low faculty salaries; problems with the retirement systems; plus inequities between Civil Service and other pay scales. Similar documentation needs to be developed for other institutions so the package can be presented to John Lombardi. Attention needs to be paid to PM 69 which requires ranges of salaries within ranks. Kevin Cope and Ken McMillin are scheduled to meet with HRM personnel in the near future.
The next COFA meeting will be March 16, 2012.

The next Louisiana Statewide Colleagues Collaborative will be March 17, 2012, at LSUA.

The meeting adjourned at 12:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elisabeth Elder
COFA Secretary
February 10, 2012