The following are minutes from the March 4, 2011, meeting of Council of Faculty Advisors of the LSU System.

Bob Rasmussen addressed the group prior to the BOS meeting. He basically went over the agenda for the meeting. He also mentioned the possible merger of UNO and Southern University BR while raising questions on what the merger would accomplish. The UNO faculty/students/administration are against the merger.

After Rasmussen left, we discussed the use of Podcasting to rebroadcast lectures. The issues discussed included whether rebroadcasting meets accreditation standards, supports academic freedom, conflicts with updating course materials, conflicts with intellectual property laws, conflicts with issue of overload pay for extra work, differs from a patent, and impact retention. A committee will be formed by late April to continue the discussion. The inclusion of a lawyer on the committee would be a good idea.

A discussion of retirement focused on the problems between TRSL and ORP. Items included exemption from Social Security and which system would benefit if the two options were separated.

The idea of having faculty representation on the Board of Supervisors was discussed. A student member is elected so the possibility of a faculty representative should exist. The new Commissioner of Higher Education is open to the idea. The faculty representative and a faculty bill of rights will be brought up in the future.

COFA, LAE, AAUP, and ALFS will meet on the LSUA campus on Saturday, April 16, 2011. Belle Wheelan from SACS may also attend. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 10 am in the Live Oak Room of the Student Center. A map of campus and driving directions are available on the LSUA website (www.lsu.edu).

The resolution developed on the LSU campus to support ongoing funding of LOUIS. Kevin Cope will distribute an electronic version.

The next meeting of COFA will be April 15, 2011, at the BOS Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Elisabeth Elder
COFA Secretary
March 19, 2011