

Council of Faculty Advisors
Meeting Minutes for March 5, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 am.

Dr. Robert Rasmussen met with the Council of Faculty Advisors (COFA) to discuss the agenda for the afternoon meeting of the Board of Supervisors (BOS). In addition to reviewing the agenda, Rasmussen indicated the next BOS meeting will be held on the campus of Louisiana State University at Alexandria (LSUA). The meeting time has been changed to 9 am to 11 am which does not facilitate the COFA meeting which generally precedes the BOS meeting. COFA will not meet in April but may opt to meet electronically

The items discussed in the COFA meeting included:

1. Representation on COFA. The Pennington faculty has not been represented for a substantial length of time. A conversation between an active COFA member and a Pennington faculty member indicated there isn't a Faculty Senate at Pennington and their participation in COFA has been discouraged. A similar situation has occurred at the LSU Laboratory School. Possible mechanisms for including their participation were discussed.
2. General Education Committee of the Articulation Council and the 120 hour mandate. Decisions on the transferability of 60 hours within general education curriculum in the General Education Committee have come to a standstill. The first 21 hours passed without problem but the remaining hours are problematic. Whether the courses should be general or whether they should be organized into different major-dependent tracks will continue to be discussed. The proposal to limit bachelor degrees to 120 hours is also still under discussion.
3. The Association of Louisiana Faculty Senates (ALFS) and the Council of Louisiana Colleges and Universities (CLCU). The two groups will meet at LSUE in 2011. This meeting will provide an opportunity to re-task these groups and to coordinate the activities of ALFS, CLCU, and COFA.
4. Louisiana Tech University/LSU meeting. Kevin Cope met with President Martin from Tech. Martin will meet with representatives from LSU to discuss the future of the research institutions within Louisiana and to develop lobbying blocks and public forums.
5. Policy Statements (PS) and Permanent Memoranda (PM). Members were asked to determine if the postings of PS and PM on each campus website was up to date. Out of date postings could account for problems on interactions between COFA and Pennington.
6. Children's Hospital Research Institute. The academic status through LSU was discussed.
7. Executive qualifications. The lack of terminal degrees and the need for appropriate credentials for many LSU System executives, including vice chancellors, was discussed.

Respectfully submitted,

Elisabeth Elder
Elisabeth Elder
COFA Secretary
March 8, 2010