

## Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting

Thursday, 1 April 2004, 3:00 p.m.

Atchafalaya Room, LSU Union

Present: William Adkins, Claire Advokat, Pratul Ajmera, Priscilla Allen, Frank Anselmo, Nicholas Apostolou, Jack Beggs, James Catallo, John Chandler, Larry Crumbley, Lois Day, Charles Delzell, Yvonne Fuentes, Karola, Gray, Linda Griffin, Brian Hales, Steven Hall, Gregg Henderson, Dominique Homberger, Sigrid Kelsey, Don Kraft, Dennis Landin, Thomas Lynch, Mary McGehee, William Moore, Kathy O'Reilly, Irvin Peckham, Glenn Pettifer, Sarah Pierce, Terrie Poehl, Witton Prinyawiwatkul, Leonard Paul Ray, Judith Schiebout, Joseph Skillin, Edward Smith, Victor Stater, Robert Tague, William Todd, Kalliat Valsaraj, Robert Ward, Paul Wilson.

Absent: Lori Bade, Jon Cogburn, Ian Crystal, Bill Daly, David Dismukes, Louis Gagliano, Angeletta Gourdine, Brian Hales, Laura Hensley, James Honeycutt, Kelli Scott Kelly, Julius Langlinais, Robin McCarley, William Metcalf, Carl Motsenbocker, Thomas Neff, Nancy Nelson, Aravamudhan Raman, Margaret Anne Reams, Danny Reible, Milton Rush, Mark Slovak, Jill Sutor, Dek Terrel, Aimee Elizabeth Welsh

Proxies: Brian Hales for Bill Daly, Mary McGehee for Aimee Welch, Yvonne Fuentes for John Pizer, Paul Wilson for Carl Motsenbocker, Dominique Homberger for Jim Catano, Don Kraft for Mike Cherry, Witton Prinyawiwatkul for Maren Hegsted, Don Kraft for Michael Cherry, Dennis Landin for Laura Hensley and Nancy Nelson

Alternate Representatives: Timothy Page for Priscilla Allen, Paul LaRock for James H. Cowan

Guests: William Jenkins (LSU System President), Andy Kopplin (Chief of Staff for Governor Blanco), Risa Palm (Provost), Andrew Christie (ASH Committee) Vince Wilson (ASH Committee), Karen Denby (Academic Affairs)

- I. Meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m.
  - A. Proxies were read.
  - B. No minutes were read. Minutes of the 18 March 2004 meeting will be presented at the 13 April Meeting 2004.
- II. Reports
  - A. Remarks by LSU System President Jenkins
    1. President Jenkins was asked by the Board of Regents to act as Interim Chancellor. Because of his confidence in the leadership at all the system institutions President Jenkins agreed to serve when Chancellor Emmert leaves LSU to become Chancellor of the University of Washington this summer.
    2. There will be an extensive national/international search for the new chancellor using an executive search firm to get the very best candidates. A search committee will be formed that will be as representative and inclusive as possible with as many constituencies as possible represented. He would like to have a committee that is under 20 individuals. He called for nominations from the faculty. He would specifically like to hear nominations for the chair of the committee from the Faculty Senate. He anticipates that this search will take until the end of the year, possibly into the spring. The committee will be formed and start work over the summer but the real work will take place in the fall. Regarding the search the President is "optimistic."

3. The legislative session has started. The tidings are not especially good, but he does not want anyone to be too pessimistic. He anticipates nothing worse than a standstill budget.

4. President Jenkins addressed questions from the floor.

a. *Regarding FS Resolution 04-10 and post-tenure review:* Dr. Jenkins stated that he played an important part in initiating the post-tenure review and getting a document in place. From the beginning it was his intention that this be a faculty driven process. Each campus would have to develop policies that suited their culture. He has not yet seen 04-10, but his policy is that if PM-35 does not fit the culture of LSU fix it; however, there has to be some review process and he will not back away from that stand.

Provost Palm informed the Senate that 04-10 had been sent to System Vice-President Hargrave and was under review.

In response to a question regarding the process of rewriting PM-35/PS-109, President Jenkins said that faculty working through the office of the Provost should come up with a document for review.

b. *Open letter from the faculty to President Jenkins.* Senator Homberger read an open letter (see attached) to President Jenkins requesting that during these restrictive budgetary times no new administrative positions be created and that there be no administrative raises until the budgetary conditions improve. President Jenkins accepted the letter.

c. President Jenkins stated his desire to speak more frequently to the Faculty Senate.

B. Remarks by Andy Kopplin, Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor.

1. Governor Blanco understands the importance of LSU and the Flagship Agenda. The Governor does not want to be personally involved in the selection of university presidents. She wants to see LSU pursue an open, vigorous, honest, national search and will help in any way appropriate.

2. Mr. Kopplin addressed questions from the floor.

a. *Regarding the support that LSU can expect from the new administration.* Governor Foster unapologetically supported higher education, which resulted in a level of antagonism with those concerned for health care. That political policy was not sustainable.

Governor Blanco presented a budget that attempted to be more balanced. The submitted budget is a standstill budget, with no funds requested for inflationary costs and other mandates. It is estimated that higher education has \$35 to \$40 million in costs that are not covered in the budget.

Louisiana has an unusual higher education system; some parts are still under court order and require a different funding stream. The fact that LSU is underfunded as a flagship is not

debated by the administration. Governor Blanco's approach will be balanced to allow each institution to meet its mission.

If additional monies become available, the Blanco Administration priorities are \$40 million for higher education, \$22 million for K-12 and \$30 to \$40 million for health care funding.

- b. *Regarding construction/capital improvement.* It was a good idea, but a premature idea. When the Board of Regents analyzed the data it found that it had not been equally developed across all institutions. The Board of Regents opted to spend a year putting together a plan that they felt would pass. This delay needed to be balanced against the low interest rates. Analysts feel that the interest rates will go up in 2005. There is now a greater urgency in getting a major higher education building initiative passed and it is being discussed.

D. Provost Palm announced that the speaker at May Commencement will be George W. Bush, President of the United States.

E. President's Report

- 1. President McGehee has received approximately 40 names and requested that faculty continue to send nominees for the Chancellor Search Committee to him. He stated that only 3 names were of individuals from other constituencies and requested names of off-campus individuals in business etc. Also faculty of all ranks should be represented.
- 2. A meeting is scheduled with Vice President Hargrave on PM-35 to determine the position of the LSU System.

### III. Old Business

A. Second Reading of Senate Resolution 04-11 Admission Requirement of ACT/SAT Essays, by sponsor Vince Wilson.

- 1. The second paragraph will be changed to accurately reflect the companies that administer the ACT and the SAT.
- 2. Concern was expressed that the essay, which is timed, might not accurately reflect the capabilities of the student.
- 3. The short duration (20 minutes) of the essay was stated as a potential problem. The possibility of a more extensive essay being conducted and evaluated at LSU was discussed.
- 3. The question was called and the resolution passed unanimously.

B. PS-36 Committee Report

- 1. Table of Contents. Sections 1 to 4 and section 9 were in the February draft. There have been changes made but not substantially so they will not be discussed today.
- 2. Discussion of sections 5 and 6. There are no changes in the procedure from present practice, but changes in organization and definitions. Several small errors were pointed out and will be addressed by the committee. Significant areas of discussion included:
  - a. Interviews. There was discussion about the absolute need for on-campus interview of all candidates; conversely, an example was

provided where an on campus interview might not be possible. This will be further worked on by this committee.

- b. The tenure clock.
  - Regarding Section 5.d., President McGehee stated it was not the intention of the committee to interfere in processes that were working. He provided a chart (*see attached*) that defined when reviews can occur and when minimum mandatory tenure review should occur.
    - In the present PS-36 there is no mandated reappointment review. The new document mandates at least one reappointment review for an Assistant Professor before year 5 on the tenure clock, in the case when the first year of the appointment is either year 1 or year 2 on the tenure clock.
    - There were questions regarding the timing when an individual has previous employment (e.g. post-doc), which will be clarified by the committee in the next draft.
    - For Associate professors and professors, there is no mandatory reappointment review; year 4 will be the mandatory tenure review.
  - Market conditions require some departments to appoint some faculty who have not completed their terminal degrees. In such cases, the new PS-36 draft calls for clearly stated conditions, one-year-at-a-time contracts, and the title of “Acting Assistant Professor”. The committee will consider inserting wording regarding reduced salary.
- c. Written rules by departments. The new PS-36 calls for the tenured faculty of the departments to adapt their rules, put them in writing and to have them reviewed by the Faculty Personnel Policies Committee and the Provost. Section 3 has guidelines for departmental criteria.

C. The ASH Committee Report on Grading Patterns was postponed to a future meeting

V. Other Matters - None

VI. Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Faculty Senate Resolution 04-11  
Admission Requirement of ACT/SAT Essays  
(submitted by the Faculty Senate Committee on Admissions, Standards, and Honors)  
Read by Vince Wilson  
(As amended 18 March 2004)

*Whereas*, the Faculty of Louisiana State University have approved a series of improvements in admission standards at LSU, the last being Faculty Senate Resolutions 02-09 and 03 -07; and

*Whereas*, the Educational Testing Service and the College Board administer the ACT and SAT, respectively, and will be offering a writing assessment in the form of a controlled and timed essay writing experience as part of their testing format beginning Spring 2005 for students applying for Fall 2006; and

*Whereas*, though ACT/ SAT will provide scores to all institutions, they will provide the essays only to those institutions that have made this writing component part of their mandatory admission requirements; and

*Whereas*, most of LSU's peer institutions identified a benchmark within the *Flagship Agenda* have already committed to requiring the writing assessment as part of their admission package; and

*Whereas*, presently an essay is required for scholarship and Honors College consideration and currently the authorship of these essays cannot be verified, and the delivery of this mechanism would facilitate more efficient processing for scholarships and Honors College admission; and

*Whereas*, adopting the ACT / SAT written component as part of the LSU admissions assessment will enhance the integrity of the essay writing process, and it will level the playing field for students applying to the Honors College and/or for scholarships by ensuring the essays are written without input from others and by using a standard set of criteria for evaluation; and

*Whereas*, by adopting the writing assessment both the ACT/ SAT standardized assessment scores of the writing will be available, and the actual written essays will be available for in house evaluation; and

*Whereas*, these writing scores will contribute to the holistic review of admission files, and

*Whereas*, both ACT and SAT are requesting institutions to notify them by May 1, 2004 of their position on the writing assessment requirement in order to prepare their publications for the 2004- 2005 academic year;

*Therefore*, be it resolved that the LSU admissions requirements beginning in Fall 2006 include the ACT/ SAT writing components for an assessment of writing from applicants.

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(As approved 18 March 2004)

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