



The Faculty Senate of Louisiana State University

HIGHLIGHTS FROM FACULTY SENATE MEETING

January 18, 2000

Chancellor's Comments

1. Public opinion survey on increased admissions standards
2. Legislative session and fiscal issues

Provost's Comments

1. PM-35 and ongoing academic review
2. Faculty awards and recognition

SR 00-02

1. Fifth reading of resolution endorsing the proposed Dismissal for Cause Policy; passed 41 to 16

SR 00-05

1. Second reading of resolution in support of tenure; passed

SR 00-07

1. First reading of resolution supporting the Board of Supervisors Faculty Advisory Council resolution; the resolution was read, voted on and passed

SR 00-08

1. First reading of resolution proposing new admissions standards for transfer students
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Faculty Senate Minutes

January 18, 2000

Meeting called to order at 3:05 pm. Invited guests included Chancellor Mark Emmert, Executive Vice-Chancellor and Provost Dan Fogel, Robert Doolos (Registrar), Jennifer Lindsey (Office of Undergraduate Admissions), Sara Bongiorno (LSU University Relations) and Roy Schroeder (*Reveille*). Proxies were announced.

Chancellor's Comments. Chancellor Emmert said that he was pleased with the results of a public opinion survey that appeared in *The Advocate*, in which more than 59% of those polled indicated that they supported increased admissions standards at LSU. However, it was disturbing that only 33% of African-American respondents supported such increases. The Chancellor stated that we need to address this concern. The Chancellor then discussed the fact that this will be a challenging fiscal year for the state, given the significant shortfalls in revenue. He noted that the governor, in his inaugural statements, indicated continued commitment to teacher and faculty salary increases. The Chancellor would argue that state revenues are lagging behind projections because higher education is being viewed as one of the costs, rather than an investment.

Provost's Comments. Provost Fogel noted that PM-35 regarding post-tenure review had been distributed to senators. This system policy went into effect on January 1. The Provost stressed that LSU will utilize shared governance to develop our own policy regarding ongoing academic review. He announced that Gene Wittkopf is now chairing the committee that is revising PS-36 and that ongoing academic review procedures will be written into that policy. Once the revision committee has completed its work, the PS will be distributed to the Faculty Senate for input. The Provost briefly mentioned his support for the revised version of the proposed Dismissal for Cause Policy and his belief that the document has been greatly improved through the incorporation of faculty recommendations. He also expressed his gratitude to the ASH committee for their work on admissions standards for transfer students. Finally, the Provost congratulated the faculty on the number of national awards that have been bestowed on faculty members during the past few months.

President's Report. President Cherry announced that Vice-Chancellor Jelinski is currently working on a draft policy for rolling contracts and another policy for bridging funds for research faculty. She also announced that Forest Benedict, Vice-Chancellor for Human Resource Management, will address the senate at the February meeting regarding accountability procedures for faculty sick leave. Regarding PM-35, President Cherry stressed that the recommendations regarding ongoing academic review from the Faculty Senate Commission on Academic Ranks will be incorporated into the revised version of PS-36, and that

she hopes the senate will see a draft of that policy this spring. President Cherry then briefly described the four resolutions on the agenda.

SR 00-08, New Admissions Standards for Transfer Students (complete text attached). Presented by Neil Kestner, Chair of the Faculty Senate Admissions, Scholarship and Honors (ASH) Committee. Senator Kestner explained that the ASH Committee examined the performance of transfer students. They found that many transfer students were not surviving their first year at LSU and that only about 70% of transfer students were completing their sophomore year. With the new admissions standards, the transfer students admitted will be similar to students who are admitted under current freshman standards, which should improve performance.

SR 00-07, Endorsement of the Board of Supervisors Faculty Advisory Council (BOSFAC) Resolution (complete text attached). Presented by Jim Richardson. The BOSFAC resolution is a joint resolution by the faculty and university senates of the public colleges and universities of Louisiana which expresses gratitude to Governor Foster and the state legislature for funding increases in higher education in the 1999-2000 budget, and which urges the Governor and legislature to further address the needs of higher education in the upcoming special session. Senator Richardson explained that the Faculty Senate passed a resolution supporting the BOSFAC resolution in September (SR 00-01). This matter has been revisited because some schools in the University of Louisiana system were uncomfortable with the wording of the original BOSFAC resolution, which was endorsed by the LSU system. Hence, the wording of the BOSFAC resolution was changed slightly, and SR 00-07 endorses the revised BOSFAC resolution. Given the desire to present the resolution to the Governor and legislature before the special legislative session begins, Senator Richardson moved to suspend the rules and vote on the resolution during this meeting. The motion carried. The resolution then passed by a unanimous voice vote.

SR 00-05, Support of Tenure (complete text attached). Presented by Charles Delzell. Senator Delzell read a letter published in the *Reveille*, written by Professor Steven Weintraub, which called for a cogent and forceful defense of tenure. Senator Delzell then read the resolution into the record. During the discussion, two amendments were suggested. Both amendments were passed by the senate, and the resolution itself passed by a voice vote. The version of the resolution which passed is attached.

SR 00-02, Endorsement of Proposed Dismissal for Cause Policy. Presented by James Garand. Senator Garand read the resolution into the record, and discussion followed. Two wording changes moved by Senators McNeil and DiMaio passed. Various senators then presented their support for and their opposition to the proposed policy. The vote was called, and the resolution passed by a ballot vote of 41 to 16.

Committee Reports. None.

Old Business. None.

New Business. None

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Barry, Secretary

Faculty Senate Meeting minutes and transcripts are available at:

http://www.lsu.edu/guests/senate/public_html/index.htm