



The Faculty Senate of Louisiana State University

HIGHLIGHTS FROM FACULTY SENATE MEETING

March 7, 2001

Comments by Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Daniel Fogel

1. Thanks to General Education and Writing across the Curriculum committees
2. Gym Armory renovations
3. Vice Chancellor for Research search status President's Report
4. Seminar on academic tenure, academic freedom and post-tenure review, LSU Union Royal Ballroom, Friday, March 23, 2001, 1:30-5:00
5. Committee Updates
6. Upcoming Meetings concerning State Employees Group Benefits Program Old Business
7. Second reading of SR 01-07, suspension of the definition of academic "prime time" currently in use, by Faculty Senator Irene DiMaio. Resolution passed.

New Business

1. Report by Nominating Committee and slate of Faculty Senate Officers for 2001-02.
2. First reading of SR 01-08, for the formation of ad hoc committee to review collective bargaining, by Faculty Senator Pat McGee.
3. First reading of SR 01-09, for the creation of a Chancellor's Honor Roll, by Richard Bengston (proxy for Faculty Senators Charles Shilling and Wayne Gauthier).
4. Update from Commencement Committee on hooding of Ph.D. candidates at May 2001 commencement, by Tim Louwers, co-chair Commencement Committee. SR 01-12, that doctoral students be hooded at the main

- ceremony in May 2001 was introduced by Dianne Taylor (rules were suspended, the resolution passed).
5. First reading of SR 01-10, that admissions decisions affecting LSU A&M made by Board of Regents be in consultation with Chancellor and faculty, by Faculty Senator Martin Feldman (rules were suspended, resolution passed unanimously).
 6. First reading of SR 01-11, that the Board of Regents in their Master Plan recognize the status of LSU A&M as Louisiana's flagship institution, by Faculty Senator Carol Barry (rules were suspended, resolution passed unanimously).
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Faculty Senate Minutes

March 7, 2001

Meeting called to order at 3:09 p.m. Invited guests included Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Daniel Fogel, Vice Chancellor for Student Life and Academic Services F. Neil Mathews; Karen Denby (Dean of Enrollment Management, Office of Academic Affairs); Robert Doolos (Office of the University Registrar); Tim Louwers and Aimee Fifarek (Co-Chairs Faculty Senate Commencement Committee); Bhavna Pandit (Student Government Association); and Teresa Devlin and Carole Maynard (University Relations). Proxies were announced.

President Kestner announced a new faculty senator, Andy Maverick, to replace Les Butler who is serving at NSF for two years. President Kestner introduced the new graduate assistant, Tushar Apshankar, and thanked Namita Oswal for her service. February 15 minutes were approved as read. Comments by Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Fogel. The Provost thanked the General Education Committee for their work in better articulating the aims of general education courses. He also thanked the committee on writing across the curriculum. Consultants will be brought to campus to advise on developing communication across the curriculum as an undergraduate requirement. This requirement will be implemented in stages. The first colleges to adopt the requirement will probably be Agriculture, which has already made great efforts to incorporate writing throughout the curriculum, and Engineering, which in its next accreditation round will need to demonstrate that students have oral and written skills. The Provost announced that the Gym Armory project is underway. The building will house the Academic Center for Athletes, the Department of Kinesiology, and a very large auditorium. Provost Fogel also stated that the candidate pool for the Vice Chancellor for Research position includes very good candidates, that he anticipates campus visits in mid-April, and a decision by the end of April.

President's Comments President Kestner reminded senators of the seminar on academic tenure, academic freedom and post-tenure review to be held at the LSU Union Royal Ballroom on Friday, March 23, 2001 from 1:30-5:00. In addition, Linda Carroll (Tulane University), who has written a recent article in *Academe* on tenure, will be speaking to the Faculty Senate on April 10. Two committees, one to oversee the bookstore and another to review service units on campus (i.e., payroll, accounting, travel, purchasing) have formed. Joe Bender, the bookstore manager, has volunteered to speak to the Senate. The Council of Policy Committees will present a report on review of administrators to the FSEC in the next few weeks. In a related matter, the Faculty Advisory Council to the Board of Supervisors sent a letter to President Jenkins asking him to gather data from all LSU system units on faculty review of administrators, including chancellors. In addition, Roger Ogden (Board of Supervisors) has asked the Faculty Senate for input in a review of President Jenkins. President Kestner announced two upcoming meetings concerning State Employees Group Benefits Program (SEGBP). On March 22, Forest Benedict will have a forum on campus and on March 28 SEGBP will have a public forum on proposed changes in rates and benefits. The State will pick up any increases in rates if that part of the Governor's budget is passed by the legislature.

Old Business SR 01-07, for the suspension of the definition of academic "prime time" currently in use (second reading, complete text attached). Presented by Faculty Senator Irene DiMaio for the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures. Senator DiMaio stated that this resolution would not apply to Fall 2001 schedules, as they are already finalized. Senator DiMaio also stated that the resolution calls for a hiatus in the application of the new guidelines so that their impact on the academic life of faculty and students can be fully assessed. Negative ramifications included less faculty support of extra curricular student activities, more difficulty finding meeting times for faculty and other committee meetings, and fewer open blocks of time for faculty to concentrate on scholarly activities. Subsequent discussion indicated confusion in some departments on the application of these guidelines to graduate courses. Provost Fogel stated that he agreed with the spirit of the resolution, that faculty should be closely consulted as these guidelines are modified, and that he formed a task force last semester to examine the issues concerning the changes in guidelines. Senator Barry reminded the Provost that this task force was formed after the guidelines were in place, and that the current situation is primarily the result of communication problems. The Provost also stated that the guidelines had been developed to spread courses out across the day and week and that he did not plan to go back to the old guidelines. Following discussion, the resolution passed unanimously.

New Business Abe Biswas presented the report of nominating committee for next year's Faculty Senate officers (list of nominees attached). There were no nominations from the floor. At the April 10th Senate meeting, nominations will be solicited from the floor again and elections will take place. President Kestner provided a list of people responsible for 2001 Faculty Senate elections in each

college (list attached). The FSEC has requested the number of faculty by college from Budget and Planning for election of next year's senators. Those data should be available in March. SR 01-08, for the formation of ad hoc committee to review collective bargaining (first reading, complete text attached). Presented by Faculty Senator Pat McGee. Senator McGee stated that the ad hoc committee would not recommend a particular organization and would not make the Faculty Senate a bargaining unit, but rather would recommend whether or not collective bargaining is a goal worth pursuing. President Kestner said that if this resolution passes in April, the Faculty Senate Executive Committee will present a membership list to the Faculty Senate at the May meeting. The Faculty Senate can then discuss, modify, and approve this list. SR 01-09, for the creation of a Chancellor's Honor Roll (first reading, complete text attached). Presented by Richard Bengston (proxy for Faculty Senators Charles Shilling and Wayne Gauthier). Dr. Bengston stated that at the last honors convocation, the University College had 2000 students on the dean's list and 600 with a 4.0. The Chancellor's Honor Roll would give students receiving a 4.0 in a given semester greater recognition than they are now given. Update from Commencement Committee on Hooding of Ph.D. candidates. Neil Kestner stated that on hearing that Academic Affairs had decided to move Ph.D. hoodings to college diploma ceremonies at the May 2001 commencement, he asked the Commencement Committee to have an emergency meeting to discuss the issue. Tim Louwers, co-chair of the Commencement Committee, stated that the committee unanimously supported moving the hoodings to the college ceremonies, but had decided not to put forward a resolution on the matter. Nonetheless, several Senators expressed the opinion that at least some Ph.D. degrees should be awarded at the main ceremony, that a decision needed to be finalized quickly so Colleges could plan their ceremonies, and that the opinions of graduating Ph.D. students should be considered before any changes were made. As a result, Senator Dianne Taylor, proposed a resolution (SR 01-12, full text attached) stating that doctoral students will be hooded at the main ceremony in May 2001. The rules were suspended and the resolution passed. SR 01-10, that admissions decisions affecting LSU A&M made by Board of Regents be in consultation with Chancellor and faculty, and SR 01-11, that the Board of Regents in their Master Plan recognize the status of LSU A&M as Louisiana's flagship institution (complete texts attached). SR 01-10 was read by Faculty Senator Martin Feldman and SR 01-11 was read by Faculty Senator Carol Barry. These resolutions stemmed from the concerns of the Admissions, Standards, and Honors (ASH) committee (SR 01-10) and the Faculty Senate Executive Committee (SR 01-11) over the Board of Regents Master plan. In this master plan, the Board of Regents is setting admissions standards for LSU, and ASH sees a potentially danger in that LSU faculty and administration may lose control of admissions decisions. The second resolution stems from concerns that LSU is treated much like other Louisiana colleges and universities, as a regional institution within the state. President Kestner asked that the rules be suspended for these resolutions because the Board of Regents was accepting comments on

the Master Plan only until 5:00 p.m. March 9. The rules were suspended, the resolutions passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Anderson, Secretary

Faculty Senate Meeting minutes and transcripts are available at:

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