

The Faculty Senate of Louisiana State University

HIGHLIGHTS FROM FACULTY SENATE MEETING*

March 1, 1999

[Full text transcript of March 1999 Faculty Senate Meeting](#)

Provost Fogel, Chancellor Jenkins, Resolutions 99-09, 99-10, 99-11

- Remarks by Chancellor Jenkins
- Remarks by Provost Fogel
- Second reading of a resolution (99-09) to change the Constitution of the Faculty Senate by-laws regarding election of officers and members of the executive committee. Resolution passed.
- Second reading of a resolution (99-10) to form a Commission on the Status of Women at LSU. Resolution passed.
- First reading of resolution (99-11) endorsing Gov. Foster's designation of March as Career Month. The rules of order were suspended; the resolution passed.

Minutes

Faculty Senate Meeting

March 1, 1999

Invited Guests: Chancellor William Jenkins, Executive Vice-Chancellor and Provost Daniel M. Fogel, Dr. Jill Sutor, Dr. Michelle Masse, Mr. Ron Hay, Ms. Mary Langlois (University Relations).

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 PM.

Proxies were as follows: Catherine Cummins for Annmarie Davis, Elaine Smyth for Leslie Koptcho, Martin Feldman for Pratul Ajmera, Paul Wilson for Carl Motsenbocker, Abe Biswas for Dek Terrell and Geoff Turnbull, Mike Stine for Frank Rohwer, Richard Imp lay for Richard Kurtz, Margaret Reams for Paul LaRock and George Voyiadjis.

The minutes of the February meeting were approved.

Remarks by Chancellor Jenkins

Chancellor Jenkins began his comments by mentioning that more work is to be done regarding the Executive Budget; he did not go into specific details as Provost Fogel was prepared to brief the Senate on this matter. The only other item discussed by Chancellor

Jenkins was regarding the possible privatization of the LSU Bookstore. He asked for faculty input regarding this ongoing decision process.

Remarks by Provost Fogel

The Provost provided a handout of the Governor's Executive Budget Recommendations and reported that new monies are in place for higher education. This includes \$11 million for general operating needs, \$16 million for faculty salary increases (a 3% increase raise statewide), \$5 million for an economic development fund (details unavailable presently), and continuation of the \$15 million fund for enhancement of the library and scientific equipment.

Senator Harrison asked, "how serious is the Governor about this budget?" The Provost replied that at a recent press conference, Governor Foster seemed to be standing behind it. A tradeoff is that LSU will not receive monies for deferred maintenance. Senator Wojkiewicz asked if faculty salaries were still the priority of the LSU-BR administration. The Provost replied that "yes, the Chancellor still has this as priority."

Senator Prestholdt asked how the TOPS program is affecting the budget. The Provost replied that TOPS will be more expensive next year than this year. Senator Paul Wilson asked whether there will be increases in capital expenditures to accommodate increased enrollment. The Provost stated that he is optimistic about the capital outlay list in spite of the statewide limit of \$200 million on all capital outlays.

Past Senate President Collier asked how tuition increases affect faculty and the increased enrollment. The Provost replied that enrollment is expected to be 31,500 next academic year and it is currently 30,000. While there is no plan to increase tuition, there may be some additional monies to address the problems of the higher enrollment.

On other matters, the Provost commented that the status of the bookstore privatization issue by saying, "we are very open." The issue is still under examination and no decision has been made yet. The Provost provided an update on the status of the Chancellor search. He stated that he had received nominations for faculty to serve on the committee to examine PS-36 and incorporate the recommendations of the Commission on the Status of Academic Ranks with respect to instructors. Senator Stine asked if a policy had been finalized on class size minimums. The Provost clarified that class size minimums may be set by deans and the general practice is to set a minimum higher than the university minimum. This issue is still under consideration presently and will be distributed to appropriate governance bodies for feedback when a more formal proposal is ready.

President's Report

President Fletcher called for volunteers to serve on Faculty Senate standing committees. He announced the upcoming elections to be held at the April meeting. Ron Hay of Computing Services was invited to address the Senate.

Mr. Hay commented the recent e-mail problems and what is being done about them. Problems on campus are unrelated to technology and infrastructure is being upgraded through the student technology fees. He explained why many experienced problems in January at the beginning of the semester.

President Fletcher invited Bonnie Brown to address the senate regarding proposed legislation to change Social Security laws. Ms. Brown explained that the proposed legislation is a mandate for all new public employees to pay Social Security and this would adversely affect the Teachers Retirement System of Louisiana. "We cannot afford both," she said. She encouraged the Senators to write their representatives in Congress in opposition to the proposed legislation.

Old Business

Regarding Resolution 99-09 to change the by-laws so that sitting members of the Executive Committee could be considered for re-election, John Collier explained the motivation for this proposed action. There was some discussion and Senator Garand proposed that the resolution be amended to allow the change in the by-laws to take effect immediately rather than waiting a year. A motion was made and seconded to accept this amendment and the amendment passed. The motion was made and seconded to accept the amended resolution and the resolution passed.

Regarding Resolution 99-10 on the formation of a Commission on the Status of Women, Senator Homberger was invited to comment. The resolution was read by President Fletcher and a lengthy discussion ensued. Senator Delzell raised a number of issues which were addressed by Senator Homberger and Dr. Michelle Masse. Vice President Cherry called the question, a motion was made and seconded to close debate. This motion passed. A motion was made to accept the resolution and it passed.

Senator Reams was asked to report on the work of the nominating committee for next month's elections. She did so and presented a slate of nominees for next year's Executive Committee. President Fletcher asked if there were any nominations from the floor for any offices. Senator Garand nominated Vice President Cherry for President. No other nominations from the floor were forthcoming.

Senator Bengtson explained that Resolution 99-11 was in response to a request from the Placement Office. He read the resolution. The rules of order were suspended and the motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45

Elizabeth J. Wilson, Secretary

*The full transcript of this meeting is available at
http://www.lsu.edu/guests/senate/public_html/minutes.htm

Faculty Senate Resolution 99-09

(amended)

Whereas the Faculty Senate has elections for officers and two members-at-large of the Executive Committee in April, and

Whereas in the present by-laws of the Faculty Senate of Louisiana State University and A&M College there is a potential for a lack of continuity in the membership (i.e., in terms of cumulative knowledge and experience) of the Executive Committee,

Therefore be it resolved that Article VII, paragraph 2 be amended as follows: "All current senators, the President, and sitting members of the Executive Committee are eligible to be nominated for Executive committee positions."

Faculty Senate Resolution 99-10

Whereas a decade has passed since the 1989 report was generated by the Commission of the Status of Women at LSU, and

Whereas the status of women at LSU, and in academia nationwide, has changed in the last decade, and

Whereas LSU's 1994 Self-Study and other documents reveal reasons for continuing concern over the status of women at LSU, and

Whereas it is in keeping with the spirit of LSU's University Planning Document to review and assess the present status of women at LSU, as well as to set goals for and monitor progress in the status of women at LSU, and

Whereas Bernice R. Sandler, Senior Scholar in Residence at the National Association for Women in Education and a nationally recognized consultant on the status of women in higher education, urged during a recent visit on campus that LSU follow a nation wide trend and establish a permanent Commission on the Status of Women with designated staff and financial support, and

Whereas LSU's Provost has stated his support for such a Commission,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Faculty Senate strongly support LSU's administration in creating a permanent Commission on the Status of Women consisting of faculty, staff, and student representatives to identify the needs of women on campus, to monitor changes in the status of women at LSU, to generate regular reports on its findings, to make recommendations regarding conditions at LSU that affect women employees, and

to work with LSU's administration to implement policy recommendations in a timely manner.

Faculty Senate Resolution 99-11

To endorse the Governor's designation of March as Career Month in Louisiana

Whereas Louisiana State University, as the flagship university in Louisiana, strives to provide statewide community services; and

Whereas this program creates a partnership between statewide educators and employers who, together, during the month of March, provide a community service to educate people of all ages about the changing world of work, and

Whereas LSU faculty are asked to provide career-related programs and resources and the potential employers (i.e., recruiting organizations) are asked to provide career related experiences; and

Whereas LSU faculty are asked to have students do research on the career choices related to their majors and to invite guest speakers to address their classes on their job responsibilities; and

Whereas LSU faculty and staff are requested to volunteer to address a classroom or a student group at LSU or elsewhere to inform members about the career opportunities within their professions, and

Whereas the LSU Faculty Senate joins Governor Mike Foster and the Louisiana Municipal Association, at the request of LSU Career Services, in celebrating March as Career Month in Louisiana

Therefore, be it resolved that the LSU Faculty Senate does hereby endorse the declaration of March as Career Month in Louisiana and encourages all the LSU community to support this program for a more informed LSU graduate, a more productive employee and a more prosperous alumnus.

Be it further resolved that a copy of the Resolution shall be transmitted to the LSU faculty.