Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday March 19, 2013  
Student Senate Room, LSU Student Union

Attendance

Faculty Senate Executive Committee members present:
1. Kevin L. Cope (President, English)  
2. Joan King (Secretary, Food Science)  
3. Ken McMillin (Vice-President, Animal Sciences)  
4. William Daly (Past President, Chemistry)  
5. Stephanie Braunstein (Member-at-Large, LSU Libraries)  
6. Judith Sylvester (Member-at-Large, Mass Comm)  
Parliamentarian: Louay Mohammed

Senators present (X = Present; A = Alternate; P = Proxy):

1. X Fakhri Al-Bagdadi (Comp. Biomed Sci/Vet)  
2. Neila Donovan (Comm Sci Disord/HSS)  
3. X Sitbel Ales Baru (Oceanography/C&E)  
4. X Kerry Dooley (ChemE/Eng)  
5. Linda Allen (Chemistry/Sci)  
6. Susan Eades (Vet Clinical Sci/Vet)  
7. Melissa Beck (Psychology/HSS)  
8. X Kenneth Fasching-Varner (Ed T Pol Pract/Ed)  
9. David Bertolini (Architect/A&D)  
10. X Juhan Frank (Physics/Sci)  
11. Dana Bickmore (Ed Theory Pol Pract/Ed)  
13. X X Jeff Nunn (Geology/Sci)  
14. Sibel Ales Bargu (Oceanography/C&E)  
15. Kerry Dooley (ChemE/Eng)  
16. X John Nyman (Renew Nat Res/Ag)  
17. X Austin Allen (Landscape Arch./AB)  
18. Dorian Dorado (Foreign Lang Lit/HHS)  
20. X Linda Allen (Chemistry/Sci)  
21. X Sibel Ales Bargu (Oceanography/C&E)  
22. Neila Donovan (Comm Sci Disord/HSS)  
23. X Jennifer Jolly (Ed Theory Pol Pract/Ed)  
24. X Dorian Dorado (Foreign Lang Lit/HHS)  
25. X Stephen Holben (Philos Relig/Eng)  
26. David Bertolini (Architect/A&D)  
27. X Susan Eades (Vet Clinical Sci/Vet)  
28. X Juhan Frank (Physics/Sci)  
29. Dana Bickmore (Ed Theory Pol Pract/Ed)  
30. Stephen Gaunt (Pathobiological Sci/Vet)  
31. Jang Ham (Plant Path/Ag)  
32. X Richard Holben (Drama/Music & DA)  
33. X Stuart Irvine (Philos Relig/Eng)  
34. X Dorothy Jacobsen (Kinesiology/Ed)  
35. X Jennifer Jolly (Ed Theory Pol Pract/Ed)  
36. ! Joan King (Food Sci/Ag)  
37. X Vince LiCata (Biological Sci/Sci)  
38. David Lindenfeld (History/Sci)  
39. X Mandi Lopez (Vet Clinical Sci/Vet)  
40. X Ken McMillin (Animal Sci/Ag)  
41. X Reem Meshal (Phil & Relig/Eng)  
42. X Louay Mohammed (C & Environ/Eng)  
43. X Carl Motsenbocker (Horticult/Ag)  
44. Jeff Nunn (Geology/Sci)  
45. X John Nyman (Renew Nat Res/Ag)  
46. Seth Orgel (Ed Theory Pol Pract/Ed)  
47. Evelyn Orman (Music/Music & DA)  
48. X Irvin Peckham (Eng/HHS)  
49. X Rosemary Peters (French/HSS)  
50. Suresh Rai (Elect & Comp/Eng)  
51. X Margaret Reams (Environ Studies/C&E)  
52. X Lawrence Rouse (Oceanography/C&E)  
53. Lawrence Rouse (Oceanography/C&E)  
54. X Gary Sanger (Finance/BA)  
55. Bhaba Sarker (Const Manage & Ind/Eng)  
56. X Andrew Schwarz (Info Sys Fed/Bus)  
57. X Katherine Stamps Mitchell (Soc Work/HHS)  
58. X Suzanne Stauffer (Lib & Info Sci/SLS)  
59. William Stickle (Biological Sci/Sci)  
60. Padmanabhan Sundar (Math/Sci)  
61. X Judith Sylvester (Mass Comm/Mass Comm)  
62. X Carol Taylor (Chem/Sci)  
63. Wanjun Wang (Mech Eng/Eng)  
64. X Christopher Weber (Polytech/HSS)  
65. Hsiao-Chun Wu (Elect & Comp/Eng)  

Guests:

Thomas Rodgers  
John Woodard  
Maribel Dietz  
Kristie Galy  
Ryan Landry  
Meredith Veldman  
Donna Love  
Matt Gregory  
Richard ?  
Robert Doolas  
Sonja W. Patton  
Brian Ainsworth  
John Woodard  
Brian Nichols

Consideration of the Minutes from February 18, 2013

Motion by Crumbley, seconded by Farshing-Varner

Approved unanimously with potential corrections.

President’s Report

1. Searches going well. ORED search is underway and is a shining example of how search should be conducted, with five candidates in public view. The candidates have demonstrated considerable acumen in any number of areas. We congratulate the committee on the search and setting a high standard for LSU.

2. Hector Zapata is the new Director of International Programs and he agreed to talk to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee about the programs on March 27.

3. Office of Academic Affairs has given us excellent cooperation on online education. Gil Reeves has been proactive and he and David Kurpius met with Kevin Cope on matters like compensation for online courses, workload issues and quality control.

4. Facility Services undertook a revision of PS-67 and PS-90 on work policies regarding impaired employees, substance abuse and rehabilitation for persons in those situations. It was not clear what constituted a safe or safety intensive occupation and under what circumstances someone would have to submit to a drug test. We met with the Provost and he agreed to consult with the HRM department to publish a list of those jobs that are in the safety intensive category.

5. In the PS world there is no maternal leave policy. We are going to with the Office of Academic affairs to put together a task force to draft a paragraph to put in some other PS or PS-20.

6. Larry Rouse has had some strange encounters with traffic on campus. Gary Graham will meet with the FSEC on March 20 to discuss areas of campus where there are genuine traffic hazards.
7. A communiqué was issued by the Office of Academic Affairs on the PS-44 attendance policy which had a minor error, that attendance could not be counted until policy goes into effect in August 2013, but faculty can actually still use exercises and assignments to enhance attendance.

8. There have been issues with lack of direction in the agricultural world in relation to the College of Agriculture. FSEC met with the Provost on it.

9. The next statewide faculty governance/leadership meeting will be April 20th. The guest speaker will be Sandra Woodley, President of the ULL System and they may also have Jim Purcell, Commissioner of Higher Education there.

10. The conference of Louisiana Colleges and Universities meeting was held on the LSU campus just this last month. Our partners in private institutions in Louisiana have reached out to do cooperative programs with public institutions.

11. The SEC award for faculty has been administered sporadically in the past and Jane Cassidy has met with FSEC about making it fairer and an open process. There will be a real judging committee of persons.

**Q&A Summary:**

None.

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**Presentation by Chief Information Officer Brian Nichols: “The State of IT at LSU”**

Brian covered the Flagship vision for IT which is to provide excellent IT infrastructure and services and to be a leader in IT. Faculty Senate Resolution 10-08 was mentioned which established IT Governance Councils with research, teaching and learning, and infrastructure groups. Also the Moodle Development Advisory Council, chaired by Larry Rouse was mentioned. What we do in IT is based off of the faculty, staff and students at LSU. FITS 2013 was drafted in 2006. It was updated in 2011. The faculty led the FITS Governance Councils. There were 10 recommendations with 63 action items. Recommendations included several items such as involvement of community, students, faculty and staff in teaching and learning. Over the course of the last few years, 35% of the items are in place now and implemented. A little over a 1/4th are still being done. For a little less than 1/4th of the items, they need some money to do. In the last year, the Super Mike II computer became available. Email was migrated to an outsourced system saving the university over $0.5 million, Moodle 2 was established with an updated grade book, and myLSU portal was established. They will generate savings with changes in the mainframe and there were updates in the Frey Data Center and LSU online. Network 2015 is a program to replace all network material on campus and updating the wireless network. Sci-Quest is part of GRAD Act 2.0 which is an initiative to purchase items more cheaply. Big data storage is an issue right now. They have gone out and bought disk space. Tiger Bridge with BRCC was worked on by IT. Future opportunities include getting off of the mainframe so they need to re-engineer the Information Systems. The Pilot Procurement Code will allow everyone to save on hardware and software. The LSU transition is an opportunity on the IT side to share resources and get rid of redundancies. Desk tops in departments are being run on servers in departments and it may better to do so in the data center in ITS. IT Advancements allowing everything to be faster and cheaper. Challenges ahead include retaining employees in ITS. There is also a retirement of COLBOL programmers. There will be loss of institutional knowledge. There needs to be replacement of university information systems (ERP). We need to get off of the Legacy environment. There are funding constraints for all issues.

**Q&A Summary:**

Joan King
Are you no longer going to support older Windows Operating Systems?

Brian Nichols
Windows XP will be going out of support. The vendor will give out a date and that is when they recommend a new platform. In the last year we have ungraded to Windows 7.

Kevin
What is the general forecast for software downloads services like TigerBytes?

Brian Nichols
We will maintain the environment, but then decide where to go. Drop box may be better.

Senator
What support is out there for help with faculty web pages?

Brian Nichols
If you go with a wordpress program, IT is more than willing to help and there are workshops available.

Senator
Can faculty create their own webpage with HTML coding?
Brian Nichols
Yes we can do that.

Senator
Is there any support for funding agencies plans to put all data online?

Brian Nichols
We are looking at the NSF issues with Joel Toline and we plan to have solutions in next year.

Report of the Nominating Committee (Louay Mohammed, Chair)
The members of the committee were Paulo Adremblo, Andy Nyman, and Susan Eates. The nominees were for President Kevin Cope, for Vice President Ken McMillin, for the two Member-at-Large nominations Bill Bottlehower and Suresh Rai,

Joan King nominated Stephanie Braunstein and Judith Sylvester for Member-at-Large and it was seconded by Louay Mohammed and Andy Nyman.

Q&A Summary:
None.

Old Business

Third reading, Resolution 13-01, “Adopting a University Policy for Retention and Recruitment of Dual Career Faculty Members”, Introduced at the Request of Andrew Schwarz

Read by Andrew Schwarz

Faculty Senate Resolution 13–01
“Adopting a University Protocol for the Retention and Recruitment of Dual Career Faculty Members”
Sponsored by Andrew Schwarz

Whereas the percentage of individuals seeking faculty positions who are part of a dual-career academic couples is significant (35-40%) and is increasing at a rapid rate¹

Whereas over half of research institutions in the U.S. already have programs in place for the retention and recruitment of dual career faculty members²

Whereas few SEC schools have a formal protocol for the retention and recruitment of dual-career academic couples²

Whereas, without a protocol LSU is at a competitive disadvantage in the retention and recruitment of such faculty ³, ⁴

Whereas the adoption of a protocol would enable LSU to increase the retention and recruitment of top candidates, including those from underrepresented minorities ³, ⁴

Whereas the achievement of the Flagship 2020 Agenda depends on the retention and recruitment of outstanding university professionals⁵ and the failure to adopt a protocol will hinder the retention and recruitment of top faculty

Whereas the availability of employment for a spouse or partner becomes a major determinant in the decision to remain (in the case of retention) or join (in the case of recruitment) LSU

Whereas the failure in adopting this protocol by the administration represents a critical threat to the retention of top faculty at LSU
Therefore be it resolved that the university fully and immediately adopt a Dual Career Opportunity Program for the retention for all affected current faculty that is consistent with PS-36 (hiring of candidates on merit), PS-25 (Nepotism), and Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) principles and be it resolved that the university ensure equity is guaranteed for all current faculty affected by this protocol and be it resolved that the university fully and immediately adopt a Dual Career Opportunity Program for future hiring decisions that is consistent with PS-36 (hiring of candidates on merit), PS-25 (Nepotism), and Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) principles.

References

2. LSU University Council on Women White Paper

3. From a recruitment perspective, a recent study found that, within the sciences, 62% of married women with science Ph.D.s were married to fellow science Ph.D.s [Proposal for Recruiting and Retaining Dual-Career Couples The Earth Institute ADVANCE Working Group on Science & Technology Recruiting to Increase Diversity (STRIDE)* October 7, 2005– numbers from a study, Sonnert, G. and G. Holton, (1995), Who Succeeds in Science? The Gender Dimension (Rutgers University Press)].

4. From a retention perspective, 83% of HR directors cite the increase in dual careers as the primary employment concern facing their university (Wolf-Wendel et al, p 5).

5. Flagship 2020 goal 3a states that a strategic goal of the university is to increase the number of tenure-track faculty by race and gender

Q&A Summary:

The University Council on Women did not author the amended version of the protocol, Andrew Schwarz said that he changed it with that word 'preferred' in the January 2013 version and he apologized for changing the wording. He thanked the UCW for their original work on the crafting the white paper. He was not asking us to agree on a protocol, a procedure but to agree that we need one.

Jeff Davis
I have the changed resolution from last time.

Stuart Irvine
Who will revise the protocol once we pass the resolution?

Andrew Schwarz
I am not addressing that issue. I am just asking for you to have the university adopt a protocol. I am not going on reconrdr to say what it should be.

University Council on Women Representatives
Kristie Galy, current UCW chair, Maribel Dietz, Past Chair, Sonja Wiley-Patton and Jeff Davis

UCW is an advisory council appointed by the Provost addressing certain tangible concerns and issues of all faculty and has 19 women and men on the council. They wrote white papers and protocols on topics such as 'stop the tenure clock, staff and faculty mentoring, child affordability and availability, monitoring the impact of the budget cuts and duel career hiring. UCW removes their endorsement for the resolution since it was altered without the approval of the UCW. It was revised by Andrew Schwarz and the wording violates PS-25, PS-26, and PS-1. They urged him to withdraw his resolution and if he does not they urged the senate to vote against it and the UCW will be offering an alternative resolution in the April Faculty Senate meeting.

Charles Delzell
Are you recommending voting against today’s or the old version?
Kristie Galy  
On all versions since they will be providing their own.

Larry Crumbly  
I am not sure what ‘fully and immediately’ means. Delete them.

Andrew Schwarz  
I am willing to take it as a friendly amendment.

Moved and seconded.

Unanimously approved.

Kenneth Farshing-Varner  
The 5th whereas has a wording problem using the word ‘minority’.

Andrew Schwarz  
He will change it to ‘underrepresented groups’ as a friendly motion.

Moved and seconded.

Suresh Rai  
Minorities have footnotes for 3 and 4. Will groups have footnotes?

Unanimously approved. To fix wording to change minorities to groups.

William Stickle  
Call for the resolution question.

Senator  
Passing this resolution will not preclude the UCW from submitting a new more detailed resolution right?

Kevin Cope  
There is nothing preventing submission of a resolution.

Used show of hands for voting.
For: 23  Against: 19  Abstentions: 3

**New Business**

**First Reading of Resolution 13-03**, “Defacement of Library Holdings: Education and Remedy”, Sponsored by Stephanie Braunstein, David Lindenfeld and Elissa Plank.

Read by Stephanie Braunstein

Delayed until April Faculty Senate meeting.

**Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Anti-Plagiarism Software and Services (Gundela Hachmann, Chair)**

A written report was provided and covered. A proposal from TurnItIn was also provided. Only two of three choices were integrative with Moodle which was a key need. The two products were Plagscan and iParadigms. Plagscans, based in Cologne, Germany so technical support would not be as immediate as a U.S. company. Technical support questions would be delayed for 24 hours so this one is not feasible. With electronic assessment it is more than just plagiarism. The task force recommends that LSU uses all tools available. They recommend TurnItIn and iThenticate. TurnItIn should include plagerism detection, platform for paperless grading and platform for paperless peer grading. iThenticate serves to check graduate and faculty research for violations of academic honesty. Both programs check open online sources. TurnItIn places the focus on undergraduate and non-scholarly publications while iThenticate accesses and compares submissions to scholarly publications.
in widely used academic databases. They recommend that the tools be able to be accessed through LSU’s content management system, Moodle.

Jeff Nunn
Products are very much a learning tool rather than just grading or punitive. It allows students to properly learn how to cite literature. Peer review package will allow students to grade. For the anti-plagiarism judicial process there needs to be a feeling of being fair and that the students were given tools to correctly credit sources and paraphrase.

Brian Nichols
The products being recommended is used a lot in higher educational institutions and it works well with Moodle so he recommends the product.

Meredith Veldman
TurItIn.com will enable us as faculty to do our jobs so much better. It’s not just about plagiarism. It’s good to teach students what is proper. The software will enable us to require writing and use data driven pedagogy. Seventy out of 100 of the US News and World Report top institutions use this product.

Matthew Gregory
They reached out to other institutions and found many have institutional use or individual colleges use it. It was accepted by institutions and more by students. A majority of students coming to them for plagiarism have a deficiency in skill and do not realize they are doing something wrong. This will assist students in learning and save them from having to go through an accountability process.

Gundela Hachmann
The programs are widely used by educational institutions. A list of schools who use it in Louisiana was provided in the report. The number of K-12 and high schools using TurnItIn is 118. In the SEC region 14 schools self identified as using plagiarism software. They received endorsement by Gary Byerly who said graduate needs are different from undergraduate needs. Some theses and dissertation issues come up. Some have to be retracted if they make it through to publication. This creates a problem with the funding agency and faculty. TurnItIn is good for grading reports, but iThenticate is important and used now in journals to cover self plagiarism as well. Kenneth O’Miles, Assistant Vice-Chancellor and Director of the Cox Center for Student Athletes said TurnItIn will allow us to keep integrity. The LSU Health Science Center in New Orleans invited a representative from TurnItIn. We must do it for all of LSU or not at all. Jane Eason was contacted and she said the School of Nursing has used TurnItIn. They are trying to use it in the context of good writing. Students struggle to re-write something so that it is not plagiarism. It will help faculty streamline what they do. They like that it interfaces with Moodle which is what they use.

Q&A Summary:

Senator
Would this duplicate the writers workshop in Moodle?

Brian Nichols
No it would not.

Senator
The handout states that Earmark is not available on Moodle direct.

Gundela Hachmann
It will be available soon for Moodle. It is in development already.

Thomas Rodgers
It says that the student tech fee will be used to fund this project. This is not a viable option this semester. Is there any other option?

Gundela Hachmann
No there is no other option.
Brian Nichols
We will bring it to the STF for next year.

Carol Taylor
What is the cost?

Gundela Hachmann
There are different pricing models, based on using TurnItIn and not other tools, but other pricing for using all tools. There would also be discounts for subscribing for three years. It would cost about $90,000 a year.

Graham Bodie
What is size of tech fee budget?

Brian Nichols
The STF is about $4.1 million. This year there are funding issues.

Louay Mohammed
Are there any limitations to this software?

Gundela Hachmann
It’s for writing and images. It would not work for building things.

Joan King
Would it work on math or programming?

Gundela Hachmann
If in excel file it would not work. It depends on how the problem is being presented.

Judith Sylvester
Will the graduate school spend more time on this issue with students or will faculty spend time doing this?

Gundela Hachmann
It includes those students not knowing the code of conduct. We can have students do their own check on the paper. If the report shows plagiarism, then they understand that they have to re-work it. We want to use it as an educational tool for students to understand plagiarism. If we make this purchase we will have to start a discussion across campus about plagiarism and how to deal with it.

Dorin Bolder
Will there be a 10% increase from the beginning? They increase the price every year.

Gundela Hachmann
This is lower than the regular price increase per year.

Larry Crumbley
TurnItIn doesn’t help them write a paper, it just grades it right?

Gundela Hachmann
No it doesn’t grade it. The submitted papers will be run for an originality check. The instructor still has to grade the writing. Faculty can write comments and it can be used on several papers at once to save time. Also an instructor can define the rubric for grading. Students will automatically receive the written comments. Other schools are highly satisfied with this software.

Senator
iThenticate is included in resolution. But pricing for iThenticate is not included in the proposal.

Gundela Hachmann
They do not use the word iThenticate, they call it TurnItIn for researchers.

Senator
Can the faculty see the original paper so students do not plagiarize and then tweak the paper?
Gundela Hachmann
Students can access TurnItIn directly to the website or faculty can look at it through Moodle. That is what we want students to do.

Stuart Irvine
Will the professor also get feedback on the copied parts? Can the professor still send students to the Dean of Students?

Gundela Hachmann
Yes. The office of students gets 165 cases of plagiarism. The number of actual plagiarism cases occurring on campus is much higher than reported. The professor can explain the changes needed for the student to correct their writing as a pedagogical tool.

Senator
How did you decide on three years as a test period?

Gundela Hachmann
This is the length of the offer received. We think we should have a test base since it takes time to change.

Thomas Rodgers
Student Government is in support of this and will do a resolution. They have passed previous resolutions to form a committee to look at this.

Meredith Veldman
We should have brought a facsimile of a report. It shows the likelihood in percentages and the sources that the words come from.

Larry Crumbley
What is the definition of plagiarism and does this software tell us where it came from?

Gundela Hachmann
Yes it tells you where it came from and how much percentage it is the same. It boils down to a technical definition in the code.

Rosemary Peters
How can this be used for other languages than English?

Gundela Hachmann
It can be used for French, Spanish, German and Italian and one more besides English.

Ken McMillin
The Code of Student conduct defines plagiarism and we must report if we see it. Will we have to change the rules to accommodate using this as a learning tool?

Matthew Gregory
It supports what we define as plagiarism. It can search several databases and does not require a change in our policy.

Ken McMillin
I don’t understand how students can benefit and learn from their mistakes if faculty will not allow a re-write.

Matthew Gregory
At other schools it is usually used in the draft stage and faculty will allow a re-write.

First Reading, Resolution 13-06, “Implementing Software for Detecting Plagiarism and for Enhancing Electronic Assessment of Research Papers” Introduced at the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee on Anti-Plagiarism Software and Services

The formal reading was delayed until April. We can vote next month. The actual first reading is not always required.
Faculty Senate Resolution 13–06
Implementing Software for Detecting Plagiarism and for Enhancing Electronic Assessment of Research Papers

Whereas a goal of LSU’s Flagship Agenda is to “expand discovery through transformative research and creative activities”, and

Whereas another goal of the Flagship Agenda is to “increase the number of students with strong skills in critical thinking, creative problem solving, and effective communication”, and

Whereas violations of academic honesty can severely damage the career of a faculty member or a student, in particular on the graduate level, and

Whereas plagiarism violations, especially when they concern individuals of public interest, can severely harm the reputation of the responsible academic institution, and

Whereas, according to the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) 2012 Job Outlook survey, the ability to obtain and process information is among the five most relevant skills that employers look for among job candidates, and

Whereas LSU’s Office of Accountability and Student Advocacy (SAA) dealt in 2012 with 165 cases of suspected plagiarism, making it by far the most frequent violation of academic conduct, and

Whereas the number of plagiarism cases that do not come to the attention of SAA can be estimated to be significantly higher, and

Whereas many plagiarism cases are rooted in misunderstandings of the standards of academic integrity, and

Whereas using anti-plagiarism software helps students, faculty members, and administrators to apply and communicate consistent standards of academic conduct, and

Whereas TurnItIn and iThenticate are the most comprehensive tools currently available that serve both pedagogical and research-related purposes in identifying and preventing violations of plagiarism based on a nationally recognized standard, and

Whereas many faculty members find themselves unable to commit the necessary time to grading written work, manually checking for plagiarism violations, and providing extensive feedback, and thus seek out alternative forms for assessing student performances, and

Whereas TurnItIn automatically reports potentially plagiarized content and allows faculty members to grade student submissions electronically in a manner that is time-efficient while it also provides detailed instructional feedback to students, and

Whereas peer reviews are known to be effective tools for training critical thinking skills in students, and

Whereas TurnItIn offers a platform that allows easily accessible electronic peer reviews, and

Whereas according to iParadigms, 118 K-12 schools in Louisiana, and according to self-reports, at least 14 colleges in the South Eastern Region already use TurnItIn on their campuses, and

Whereas iThenticate offers a comprehensive check of research papers, book manuscripts, or theses against commonly used academic databases,

Therefore be it resolved that LSU initiates a 60-day trial of TurnItIn and iThenticate in the fall semester of 2013 during which a selected group of students, instructors, and administrators tests these products and reports its findings to the Faculty Senate and other relevant parties, and
Further be it resolved that, if the selected group assesses that these products are effective and useful to the LSU community, LSU purchases a 3-year subscription to both iThenticate and TurnItIn, including their platforms for paperless grading and paperless peer reviews, starting in the spring semester of 2014.

Kevin Cope gave a statement on LSU Board of Supervisors Presidential Candidate chosen. The nominee was from the outside of the university which is good. There were some names in this pool of candidates who were not in this nomination pool as a possible consequence of faculty input from around the state. One negative issue was the extravagant expenditure on reports until one acceptable was found. Also the information that the Board of Supervisors provided at meetings with faculty from the universities of the LSU system was misleading. Kevin Cope provided a summary of the handouts provided by Ken McMillin on the candidate F. King Alexander’s background. Kevin Cope said that he requested a meeting with Alexander.

First Reading, Resolution 13-07, “Confidence in the LSU Board of Supervisors”, Sponsored by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee

Read by Ken McMillin.

FACULTY SENATE RESOLUTION 13–07
Confidence in the LSU Board of Supervisors
Sponsored by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee

Whereas the Faculty Senate and our constituents have tried to maintain optimism about the direction of Louisiana State University and support decisions by the LSU Board of Supervisors;

Whereas various members of the LSU System Board of Supervisors continue to proclaim their support of LSU and the importance of the LSU faculty and students to Louisiana;

Whereas the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) censure of LSU for not adhering to appropriate academic freedom principles has not been addressed by the Board of Supervisors; and

Whereas the LSU System Board of Supervisors has repeatedly stressed the importance of shared governance while rebuffing continuing requests to appoint faculty members who are not administrators to the Presidential Search Committee;

Whereas the retirement system for faculty and staff at LSU and other Louisiana universities is woefully underfunded and contributions to individual accounts fall below those of LSU’s peers and this has received no attention by the Board of Supervisors;

Whereas the Board of Supervisors maintain that one of their highest priorities is competitive compensation of faculty and staff while nothing has been done to provide pay raises in five years;

Whereas the Board of Supervisors has continued to approve salary increases and supplements for administrators and System staff while ignoring stagnant salaries of loyal staff and faculty members; and

Whereas the reorganization of the LSU System designed to bring efficiencies and synchrony among disparate campuses is being orchestrated by a consulting firm with no academic or educational record;

Whereas the aspirations for LSU to join the Association of American Universities (AAU) and thereby to be recognized as one of the top universities in the U.S. are inconsistent with the proposing by the Board of Supervisors of a nominee for President-Chancellor who has never been a tenured full professor at a major research university; and

Whereas the 4-year graduation rate is 12% and the 6-year graduation rate is 54% at California State University – Long Beach compares unfavorably to the LSU 4-year graduation rate of 29% and 6-year graduation rate of 60%;

Therefore be it resolved that the LSU Faculty Senate has no confidence in the Louisiana State University System Board of Supervisors to make appropriate or wise decisions regarding administrative leadership, budget deficiencies, or reorganization into a cohesive System structure.

Moved into debate by Graham Bodie and second Stuart Irvine

Q&A Summary:

Gundela Hachmann
What are the repercussions for this resolution?

Kevin Cope
We live in a time that is somewhat shameless. There have been good consequences by not having an appointee directly from the governor. We need to maintain continuity in the effort. This body expects standards by the BOS. The BOS wants to combine accreditation of this campus with those of other campuses. There is the fact that we will have one President or another and they need to know where they stand. They may recognize that they need to make a change. Every administrator is thinking of the next job. The lifetime is about 4.5 years. We make it clear there are reputation consequences for bad behavior.

Charles Delzell
The regulations of the BOS create the Faculty Senate. If the senate does something then the board will be notified and there will be consequences, but supports the resolution and says what are they going to do.

Kevin Cope
As long as we keep muscles in place there will be no collapse.

Ken McMillin
It should be clarified for the previous two resolutions that Kevin Cope has written a letter stating what the faculty wants. If we pass this he will continue to do so.

Bill Daly
We want to continue a conversation with the BOS. They wanted to make up for missing the last meeting. This nominee will learn on the job with regard to no experience with research universities or medical schools. We are talking about the most complex operation in the transition. The Faculty need to say we will help.

Rosemary Peters
Grammatical correction needed “of the 4%”. Increased graduation rates are listed in his accomplishments, what is it up from, for the 12%?

Kevin Cope
We do not know. I do not believe it is some dramatic improvement.

Mandi Lopez
Did you get this information from the handouts about the graduation rates? Has it been fact checked?

Ken McMillin
It is from the footnoted website.

Kevin Cope
A Board of Supervisor member was told not to breath the candidate name. The material was handed out after the name was announced. It was given to BOS and news people but not given to faculty until requested.

Ken McMillin
I believe that what the BOS passed out, on the third page on, the vita portion, is word for word verbatim under the CFU website.

Graham Bodie
He never received tenure; he went from Assistant Professor to President of a university. He was there for 5 years and then he was President.

Stuart Irvine
In regards to the 6th paragraph about pay raises, a number of us spoke at the BOS meeting. The BOS said they have authority over pay raises. They said to contact legislators. They did not see that they are advocates for the faculty. Change the wording to provide pay raises.
Friendly amendment approved.

Vince LiCata
In last paragraph, change to ‘currently has no confidence’. Secondly, change title to ‘Lack of Confidence’ or “No confidence”.

Ken McMillin
I do not accept a friendly amendment to make it ‘currently’.

Vince LiCata
The point was not to say an isolated incident, but to allow them opportunity to change their ways.

Seconded by Graham Bodie to add ‘currently’.

Graham Bodie
If the reason is to have productive dialog, then whatever language we use is fine as long as it represents an open dialog. That kind of language would propose more openness.

Ken McMillin
Maybe we should have a second therefore to recommend they continue meeting with us.

Charles Delzell
Leave it like it is.

Vote: Nays have it, not to add ‘currently’.

Charles Delzell
That would be consistent with the other wording.

Stephanie Braunstein
If we say ‘no’ it ties it to parliamentary procedure.

Vote on the use of ‘no’ in the title.
Almost unanimously approved.

Ken McMillin and Bill Daly
Motion to add “Therefore be it resolved that LSU Faculty Senate urges the LSU BOS to expand dialog with faculty representatives”.

Vince LiCata
Add ‘so that confidence can be restored’.

Senator
Add ‘honesty’.

Bill Daly
“Therefore be it resolved that LSU Faculty Senate urges the LSU BOS to expand their honest dialog with faculty representatives so their confidence can be restored”.

Unanimously approved to add this new therefore.

Bill Daly
Drop graduation rates statement or add information about research and medical schools.
Add another therefore to include research. Other people in the system are represented by us and we speak out for other campuses. Secondly, because the nominees experience does not appear to include medical schools.

Carl Motsenbocker
Add Land Grant University.
Carol Taylor
She is on the Dean’s level search for the College of Science. He doesn’t have experience to work up to President.

Dorin Bolder
He wasn’t tenured at the Land Grant university.

Carl Motsenbocker
Can say does not have administrative experience at a Land Grant, Sea Grant and Space Grant university.

Rosemary Peters
Can we say something about transparency about this candidate? Links to the information are not available. All we have is their document from the BOS. The link on the LSU webpage is now gone. Say “Whereas the LSU Faculty Senate requests recognition for the need for transparency on the candidates background”.

Graham Bodie
Is that a claim that they did something wrong or something that you want them to do right?

Judith Sylvester
We already had a resolution about transparency. The BOS will be resentful about this. They will say look we did what you asked us to do we got a academic and not an appointment by the governor. One of the BOS members said, you have to trust us. It’s clear they don’t trust us. They say they brought us the best candidate and that the person is just stellar, that we brought the kind of person you want. We cannot keep harping on the transparencies and go over the territory they already ignored.

Ken McMillin
They have not viewed us as an equal partner. We have to accept whoever they pick. I am more worried about salary and benefits issues. I don’t want to get hung up on this search issue.

Nay vote on Rosemary Peters’ motion for transparency.

Senator
Add ‘system’ in statements for LSU Board.

Graham Bodie
Motion to suspend rules to vote now.

Vote on suspension of rules.
One nay and all others in favor.

Charles Delzell
You need an apostrophe in the third whereas.

Dorin Bolder
Concern with the nominee is that he doesn’t have experience at a major research university and this is fine if they do not want us to be a research institution. Add in therefore “make appropriate decisions in budgets adequate for a peer one institution”.

Bill Daly
They talked about this in the transition committees.

Senator
We already have this in other wherases.

Dorin Bolder
We can insert ‘administrative leadership of research institutions’ in the therefore.

Vote by show of hands.
For: 13 Nay: 21

Senator
Call the question.
Seconded
Resolution passes unanimously.

New charts were provided by the Benefits Advisory committee and anonymous sources in LSU. They may be useful for those of you with connections in the press.

Bill Daly moved to adjourn and it was seconded by everyone. Adjourned at 5:28 PM