

COUNCIL OF FACULTY ADVISORS OF THE LSU SYSTEM

Resolution

“Concurrence: University of Louisiana Faculty Advisory Council Efforts
for Fair Treatment of Louisiana’s Academic Workforce”

Adopted 20 September 2010

Whereas a foundation of trust, honor, and respect is the basis both of free inquiry and of the proper relationship between the faculties of higher education institutions and their administrations;

Whereas the ancient traditions of universities delegate vest authority over institutions of higher learning in their faculties;

Whereas the most successful university administrators aim to serve and preserve their faculties;

Whereas academic freedom, which advances the research and teaching missions of universities, requires both stable working conditions and a respect for promises, contracts, agreements, and cooperative relationships;

Whereas bilateral contracts prohibit unilateral, non-consensual alteration;

Whereas accrediting agencies require faculty supervision of, input into, and approval for the policies of higher education institutions;

Whereas tenure is a property right as well as a revered tradition of higher education, a tradition wisely preserved to promote free inquiry in an environment where retribution is prohibited;

Whereas observance of public meeting laws as well as commitment to transparency in

the business of public institutions requires advance notice of and an eagerness for public comment concerning all topics, whether official agenda items or matters of informal discussion;

Whereas the Board of Supervisors of the University of Louisiana System has attempted revisions of its rules of employment and its policies concerning tenure in so quick and inadequately advertised a fashion as to obstruct and even preempt discussion of this important topic;

Whereas policies adopted by one system or institution easily become precedents for others;

Whereas limited testimony from the University of Louisiana Faculty Advisory Council has proved so compelling as to convince the University of Louisiana Board of Supervisors to delay consideration of adjustments to its tenure and employment rules and policies;

Whereas major policies relating to employment and academic freedom are of concern to all Louisiana citizens and especially to all higher education professionals;

Therefore be it resolved that the Council of Faculty Advisors of the Louisiana State University System, a body comprised of the faculty governance chief executives of the LSU System campuses, calls upon the University of Louisiana System Board of Supervisors and especially its President, Randy Moffett, Ed.D., to heed the advice of the University of Louisiana Faculty Advisory Council, to negotiate in good faith with elected faculty governance officials from his System and his campuses, and to show diligence, respect, and fervor in the sustaining of tenure and other wisely implemented guarantees of academic freedom and institutional stability, guarantees that are foundational to the sustaining of the academic missions of all campuses.