The Council met at 11:30 with the following members present at LSU-Shreveport: Kevin Cope, Gary Joiner, Paula Click-Penter, James Robinson and Jerry Whatley. The following members participated via distance ed: Kevin Watson, Dennis Paul and Bernard Gallagher. Kevin called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to approve the January minutes. Jim moved and Gary seconded to accept the minutes as e-mailed. Motion carried. Kevin then shared the following updates:

Michael Gargana, the newly appointed Executive Vice-President for the LSU System, will concentrate efforts on recruitment of graduate students. The goal is 7000.

Kevin has not received a response from Dr. Lombardi to questions posed by the Council and will follow up.

Dr. Lombardi did meet with the Baton Rouge campus Faculty Senate to discuss the issue of Chancellor O'Keefe's resignation and the appointment of a staff member of former Governor Blanco's to the LSU System.

Kevin and Jim attended a meeting of the Association of Louisiana Faculty Senates (a state wide organization of Faculty Senates) This group has not been visible or functioning well for a while. The meeting and discussion led to the appointment of a committee to reorganize the group and Jim Robinson was selected to become the new President. Kevin volunteered to provide some help in updating the web site for this organization. Kevin also informed us that this group is recognized by the Board of Regents as a representative to them of all campuses.

Dr. Rasmussen arrived and reviewed the BOS agenda for this meeting. It was relatively light and he stated that the Board was going to try and conclude all business today so that those traveling could leave before the impending hazardous weather arrived. Items to be addressed:

Dr. Cerise would give an update on the Chancellor search for LSUHSC Proposal and information about the establishing of a cyber command center at Barksdale Air Force Base and its affect on the region.

A scholarship proposal from the Law Center
Recruitment report from Dr. Michael Gargana
Fundraising report from Dr. Joe Corso
Proposed 2008 – 2009 budget
Contract for a tennis coach

Bob the stated that the April meeting would be Cassie's last as the student member of the Board and that the students would be selecting a replacement.

Kevin and Jim reported on comments Dr. Savoy had made regarding the proposed state budget and of the possibility of fully funding the formula for higher ed. This would have a staggering affect on various campuses. Jerry was asked to request information from the Board of Regents as to what formula was being used for allocating higher education funds.

Paula reported that LSUHSC-Shreveport had to quit doing surgery, intensive care, pediatrics, and neonatal due to flooding in the building.
Discussion regarding the search for Chancellors at LSU-BR and LSUHSC-Shreveport indicated that the process for the Baton Rouge Campus was proceeding well and Kevin stated that there was substantial faculty representation in the committee. There was not much information regarding the plans to replace Chancellor McDonald but Dr. Lombardi was to update the Board and Faculty today. Kevin Watson asked if there had been any follow up on the tuition waiver request? Kevin Cope reported that a committee from the Baton Rouge Faculty Senate was drafting a proposal and Bernard said that the Alexandria Faculty Senate was in the process of endorsing the UNO proposal. Gary said they had the subject on their agenda for their meeting next week. Bernard requested that Kevin contact the other Faculty Senates by sending them a draft of what the Baton rouge Committee developed and encourage them to support the effort to secure some type of tuition exemption. Gary Joiner moved, seconded by Jim Robinson to adjourn. Motion Carried.

Respectfully,
Jerry G. Whatley
Secretary