The Council of Faculty Advisors met at 11:30 a.m. in the Systems Building on Thursday, October 4, 2007. President Kevin Cope opened the meeting by recognizing Dr. Robert Rasmussen. Bob informed the Council that more than likely Board meetings would follow the same schedule as this one starting at 1:00 p.m. rather than 10:00 a.m. He said that this would be the first meeting Mr. Shea would serve as chair of and Dr. Lombardi as president. He also said that Dr. Jenkins and Mr. Marty Chabert would both be honored at the Board meeting Friday morning. LSU Eunice will provide the students and faculty to speak to the Board on Friday. Dr. Rasmussen gave the following highlights that the committees would address;

Health Care-first report from Dr. Fred Cerise as System Vice President for Health care and Medical Education; approve capital outlay budget for Health Care Services Division
Academic and Student Affairs- approve new programs at LSU Shreveport(MS in environmental Biology) and two at LSU A&M(MS and PhD in coastal and Ecological Engineering); discuss recommendation for Freshman Residency requirements to go in affect in 2009; support of Honors College Capital Outlay project being moved up in priority.
Finance and Infrastructure- consideration of the 2007-2008 LSU System Operating Budget and recommendation to modify the LSU System Investment policy.
Property and Facilities- conceptual design drawings for the LSU Wildlife Hospital of Louisiana.
Flagship Committee- reports from LSU Law Center, Ag Center and Baton Rouge Campus.
Athletic Committee- Recommendation to raise season baseball tickets for the 2009 season.
Audit Committee- consideration of amendments to Audit Charter.
Presidents Report- change in board meeting dates for January 2008 from the 24-25 to 17-18.

Kevin then asked for nominations for vice president of the Council since we had not filled that spot. Bernard Gallagher moved to nominate Jim Robinson, seconded by Jerry Whatley. Unanimous vote in favor.

He then informed the Council of a series of meetings being conducted by the Board of Regents stated as “Public Meetings: Statewide Research Commercialization Plan”. The informational letter was sent by the Regents to System and Campus Heads on September 27th stating “the participation of faculty and staff of the State’s colleges and universities is critical to the development of this plan.” The Council was concerned about the limited ability to notify staff and faculty of the public meetings and the fact that there were no meetings scheduled for northeast, southwest or central Louisiana. The Council also questioned why technology (teleconference) could not be used to make the meetings more accessible. The Council asked Kevin to write a letter to the Board of Regents expressing these concerns.

Bernard shared a report from the AAUP regarding the censorship by the AAUP of three universities in Louisiana. UNO was one from the LSU System. The Council discussed the implications of this to the LSU System and the efforts of UNO to re-establish it’s educational
and research programs. Bernard was asked to write a letter to the Board of Supervisors to ask what is being done to bring UNO out of censorship and what could be done to facilitate improved relations between the AAUP and the LSU System. Bernard also expressed frustration at being solicited by the LSU Baton Rouge campus for donations when there are so many needs at his campus. He felt that it was inappropriate for a Chancellor from another campus to solicit faculty from other campuses. The Council concurred with Bernard. Kevin said that he would discuss this with Michael Ruffner (vice Chancellor for Communication and community Relations).

The Council then discussed how to handle minutes. They decided that minutes would be e-mailed to Council members asking for approval or corrections by a set time. Council members would be notified that no response would not count and the secretary would use due diligence within the time frame stated to solicit responses. Upon receiving majority favorable response the minutes would then be emailed to the Chancellors. If corrections are received then the minutes would be corrected and e-mailed again using the same procedure. The Council agreed to try this with the goal of improving communication between the Council, System Faculty and Chancellors. Paula moved to approve this procedure and Jim seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Kevin then brought up the matter of arranging a meeting of the Council with President Lombardi. A suggestion was made to try and arrange a meeting with him prior to the Council’s meeting on December 6, 2007. Kevin will pursue that request. The Council decided on the following items to be placed on the agenda to discuss with Dr. Lombardi:
- Communications between the Council, Board of supervisors and the LSU System office
- Operating procedures and policy of the various Faculty Senates
- Priorities of the Council of Faculty Advisors for 2007-2008.

With no other business the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully,

Jerry G. Whatley, Secretary
LSU Council of Faculty Advisors