Highlights

1. No quorum appeared at this meeting. The Senate Bylaws require Budget and Planning Advisory Committee and Educational Policy Committee elections, and Faculty Senate Executive Committee nominations, in March. Due to lack of a quorum, the above required actions could not be done today. And no other business could be conducted today (e.g., no consideration of minutes or resolutions). However, the two guests invited for today could still make their presentations for the benefit of those who were here:

2. Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Risa Palm distributed a six-page handout to the senators, entitled “Advancing the Flagship Agenda: Some thoughts, March 15, 2005” (see http://senate01.lib.lsu.edu/facsen, and click on “Other Reports”). This report reviewed the advances made in the past year or so toward achieving the goals of the National Flagship Agenda:
   - Increased number of non-resident students.
   - Large number of National Merit Scholars (in 2004).
   - Freshman Summer Reading Program.
   - Tiger Bus Tour.

The report then listed some immediate goals of the National Flagship Agenda:
   - Faculty size needs to be increased.
   - Faculty quality needs continuous improvement.
   - The faculty should have an “esprit of excellence.”
   - Diversity.
   - Resources that enable our aspirations.
   - Revision of the 12 “pillars.”
   - Need to improve the undergraduate experience.

3. LSU Faculty Issues Study Results: Richard Vlosky, Director and Professor, Louisiana Forest Products Development Center, presented his analysis of the results of the LSU Faculty Issues Study (see http://senate01.lib.lsu.edu/facsen; click on “Collective Bargaining”).
   - Most important issue for LSU Faculty Senate to address: post-tenure review.
   - “Would you entertain the thought of joining a union?” 44% yes, 35% no, and 21% not sure.
   - “There should be a mechanism to dismiss non-performing faculty from their employment; agree or disagree?” Senator Delzell pointed out that LSU has had such a mechanism at least since 1945; he called the question “propaganda” and “push-polling.”

4. Announcement of current slate of nominees for the FSEC:
   - President: Paul Wilson.
   - Vice President: Larry Crumbley.
   - Secretary: Witoon Prinyawiwatkul.
   - Members-at-Large: Randall Hall, Steven Hall, Irvin Peckham, John Pizer, Judith Schiebout.