HIGHLIGHTS FROM FACULTY SENATE MEETING

April 10, 2001

Comments by Chancellor Mark Emmert

• "Access to Excellence": proposed plan to get LSU to Southern Regional Average in funding, with enrollments reduced to 25,000 over next 5-6 years.

President’s Report

• Updates on SR 01-10 and 01-11 concerning the Board of Regents Master Plan.

• Thanks to AAUP and Ron Snider for symposium on post-tenure review March 23.

• Legislative bills concerning DROP and State Employees Group Benefits Program.

• LSU Campus Master Plan and Information Technology Master Plan updates.

• Need new members for Faculty Senate standing committees.

• Diamond Jubilee April 30 at 2:30.

Old Business

• Second reading of SR 01-08, for the formation of an ad hoc committee to review collective bargaining, by Faculty Senator Pat McGee. Two revisions approved and revised resolution passed.

• Presentation on post-tenure review by Linda Carroll, Tulane University.

• Second reading of SR 01-09, for the creation of a Chancellor’s Honor Roll, by Richard Bengtson. Two revisions approved and revised resolution passed.

Comments by Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Daniel Fogel

• Campus visits by consultants for the Information Technology Master Plan and Communication across the Curriculum committee.
• Status of Searches for Vice Chancellor for Research and College of Design Dean.

• Support of both SR 01-13 (establish and distribute policy for graduate faculty status) and 01-14 (revise policies for review of administrators).

• Provost Seminar on Executive Leadership.

**New Business**

• Faculty Senate Officers for 2001-02: Neil Kestner, President; Laurie Anderson, Vice President; Sarah Liggett, Secretary; Fran Lawrence and Carruth McGehee, Members-at-Large.

• First reading of SR 01-14, requesting that Provost form a committee to revise policy on review of administrators, by Faculty Senator Carol Barry.

• First reading of SR 01-13, requesting Graduate Council present policies on Graduate Faculty, by Faculty Senator Patrick McGee.

**Faculty Senate Minutes**

April 10, 2001

Meeting called to order at 3:05 p.m. Invited guests included Chancellor Mark Emmert; Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Daniel Fogel; Vice Chancellor for Student Life and Academic Services F. Neil Mathews; Karen Denby (Dean of Enrollment Management, Office of Academic Affairs); Robert Doolos (Office of the University Registrar); Linda Carroll and Henry Mason (Tulane University); Bill Archambeault (Chair, Council of Policy Committees); Richard Bengtson (Biological Engineering); Dominique Homberger (Biological Sciences); Kate Jensen and Nathaniel Wing (French Studies), Michelle Massé (English and WGS), and Tracy Simoneaux (The Reveille). Proxies were announced. March 7 minutes were approved as read.

**Chancellor's Comments.** Chancellor Emmert outlined a model, called "Access to Excellence," to limit LSU enrollment and bring its funding to the Southern Regional Average. The Chancellor views the recently approved Board of Regents Master Plan as a step in the right direction, but that the Plan does not go far enough. In addition, the Board of Regents funding formula is problematic for LSU. Given LSU's mission as the State's flagship university, it needs the resources to be competitive nationally and internationally. Currently LSU ranks 54th (i.e., last) in the amount of tuition and state support per student ($7,500) for the 54 public flagship universities nationwide. The SEC school with the next lowest funding is Mississippi State, which receives $2,100 more per student than LSU. The Chancellor's plan is to get LSU to the Southern Regional Average over
the next 5 to 6 years. The plan would decrease the student body to 25,000 students and get the State to agree to invest in LSU at the Southern Regional Average rate for 25,000 students ($13 million per year increase). Chancellor Emmert sees advantages for all higher education players, not just LSU. As community colleges grow, four-year colleges are experiencing decreased enrollments, and would probably will be very willing to accept those students not attending LSU.

**President’s Comments.** President Kestner thanked AAUP and Ron Snider for the March 23 symposium on post-tenure review. He also noted that SR 01-10 (concerning the implementation of admissions criteria in the Board of Regents Mater Plan) and SR 01-11 (concerning LSU's role as the flagship university) were submitted to the Board of Regents by email and personal letter. The Master Plan was adopted, however, without addressing the concerns stated in SR 01-11.

President Kestner announced that State Employees Group Benefits Program (SEGBP) has changed benefits and increased rates by 18.5%. Each State agency may have to shoulder the entire cost of the increase, without increased allocations from the State. There is currently legislation in the House and Senate to restructure the Group Benefits Board so that the power to set rates and benefits, as well as other major decisions, will be transferred to the Commissioner of Administration office. Bills to eliminate DROP have also been introduced, but it appears that these bills are not meant to pass, but rather will allow legislators to conduct hearings.

The LSU Master Planning firm will be holding public hearings on campus April 25. Two consultants were on campus to work with the Information Technology Master Plan Task Force. The Task Force should have their report out shortly and may have a presentation for the Faculty Senate in May or early in the fall semester. The administration has promised that improvements in campus computing will result from this report. The Committee on Committees is looking for faculty to fill open positions on Faculty Senate standing committees. President Kestner also reminded senators about the Diamond Jubilee ceremony to be held on the Parade Grounds on Monday, April 30 at 2:30 p.m.

**Old Business.** Elections of 2001-02 Faculty Senate Officers. Neil Kestner (Chemistry) was reelected as President, Laurie Anderson (Geology & Geophysics) became Vice President, Sarah Liggett (English) was elected as Secretary, and Fran Lawrence (Human Ecology) and Carruth McGehee (Mathematics) will be two of next year's Members-at-Large.

SR 01-08, for the formation of an ad hoc committee to review collective bargaining (second reading, complete revised text attached). Presented by Faculty Senator Pat McGee. Senator Irene DiMaio proposed an amendment, which passed, to add faculty rights to the list of issues to be reviewed. Senator
Steven Harrison proposed an amendment, which passed, to request staff support for data gathering. The revised amendment passed.

Linda Carroll (Tulane University) spoke about post-tenure review to the Faculty Senate. Dr. Carroll has written a recent article in *Academe* on tenure and is active in the American Association of University Professors both regionally and national (serving on its National Council). Dr. Carroll stated that post-tenure review promotes the production of small, safe projects rather than more time-intensive, large-scale research. She also stated that post-tenure review intensifies institutional politics. Further, she noted that faculty are already reviewed regularly, and she advised that being very serious about tenure decisions eliminates the need for post-tenure review.

SR 01-09, for the creation of a Chancellor's Honor Roll (second reading, complete revised text attached). Presented by Richard Bengtson. Dr. Bengtson introduced a revised amendment, primarily to provide a new statement for the Dean's List to accompany the statement outlining criteria for the Chancellor's Honor Roll. The amendment was approved, as was an amendment, proposed by Fred Aghazadeh, to slightly modify the GPA criterion for the Dean's List. The revised amendment passed.

**Comments by Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Fogel.** Provost Fogel apologized for being late to the Senate meeting because he was delayed at a Tech Fee Committee meeting. The Provost praised the Information Technology Task Force consultants for their acute and perceptive comments. He noted that two consultants are visiting campus in April for the Communication Across the Curriculum Committee. Provost Fogel announced that off campus interviews were held for Vice Chancellor of Research candidates early in April. The search committee has recommended that four candidates be brought to campus. The advertisement for the College of Design Dean was published in February, and the Provost feels that it is important to take the time to build a good national pool of candidates. If necessary an interim dean will be appointed. Provost Fogel expressed his support for both SR 01-13 (concerning policies governing graduate faculty status) and SR 01-14 (asking that policies pertaining to review of administrators be revised). He also announced that a Provost's Seminar on the Executive Leadership Program will be held April 11.

**New Business.** SR 01-14, requesting that the Provost form a committee to revise policy on review of administrators (first reading, complete text attached). Presented by Faculty Senator Carol Barry. Bill Archambeault, chair of the Council of Policy Committees, stated that the Council went through several iterations of the recommendations in their report on the current status of administrator reviews. Included in the report are both majority and minority positions.

SR 01-15, requesting Graduate Council present policies on Graduate Faculty (first reading, complete text attached). Presented by Faculty Senator Pat McGee.
Malcolm Richardson (Chair of English), who wrote the resolution, stated that he was encouraged to do so by several chairs, faculty members, and at least one director. Michelle Massé, who served as a member of the Ongoing Academic Review Commission, expressed concern that written processes and options for an appeal are absent. President Kestner stated that some policies exist but are incomplete, and Senator Kurtz added that Graduate Council policy is not widely disseminated.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Anderson, Secretary

Faculty Senate Meeting minutes and transcripts are available at: