Minutes
Faculty Senate
5 April, 1993

President Culbertson opened the meeting at 3:07 P.M. and announced that the Faculty Council meeting
originally scheduled for today will be rescheduled.

Proxies announced were:
Pratul Ajmera for George Voyiadjis
Nick Apostolou for Larry Farh
Nick Apostolou for Bob Justis
Jim Catano for James Honeycutt
Van Cox for Sadik Artuno
Janet Koehnke for Prakash Dixit
Richard Inlay for Robert Svoboda
George Strain for Tom Hribernik
George Strain for Hollis Cox

Minutes of the January and February meetings of the Faculty Senate had been distributed at previous
meetings and were approved. Copies of a draft of the March meeting were available to be picked up by
Senators for their review and comments.

President's Report:

President Culbertson informed the Senate that the Board of Supervisors will be meeting on 16 April.
President Culbertson reviewed the formation and work of an ad hoc committee put together by the
Chancellor for the purpose of addressing short-term actions that could be taken to deal with the financial
problems of the University. The committee was reported to have met 4 to 5 times in recent days, and, it was
reported the committee's recommendations to the Chancellor are being put into report format by Vice
Chancellors Coleman and Haden. President Culbertson and Senator Collier, two of three faculty members on
the committee, indicated the work of this committee is finished and they do not anticipate another meeting.

Election of Senate Officers:

As had been announced at previous meetings, election of Senate officers was scheduled for the 5
April meeting. The nominating committee had presented its report at the March meeting and a nomination was
received from the floor. Also, as was the case at the March meeting, it was announced nominations would be
received from the floor at this meeting. There was a call for nominations from the floor for President,
Vice-President, and Secretary. No additional nominations were received, and a motion to close the
nominations and vote on those persons recommended by the Nominating Committee was made and unanimously
approved.

A motion was made to elect Billie Collier President by acclamation and was approved.
A motion was made to elect Jim Catano Vice-President by acclamation and was approved.
A motion was made to elect George Strain Secretary by acclamation and was approved.

Two at-large members of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee are elected during the spring
elections. Names on the ballot from the nominating committee and from a nomination made from the floor at
the March meeting were: Ralph Kinney, Bill Metcalf, and Connie Van Fleet. Senator Malcolm Richardson was
nominated from the floor by Senator Normand at this time, and Senators were instructed to write in the name
of Senator Richardson on the ballots. The ballots were distributed by Senators Gambrell and McGehee, then
collected and counted by Senators Gambrell, McGehee, and Hebert. Upon receipt of the count, President
Culbertson announced that Senators Kinney and Van Fleet were elected members-at-large to the Executive
Committee.

President Culbertson asked Senator Poliakoff, Chair of the Crisis Response Committee, to review the
work of that committee. He said after paying for newspaper ads that have already appeared, they have about
$800 in reserve that will probably be used to purchase another newspaper ad. He indicated they are still
accepting donations.

President Culbertson reminded the Senate that there would be several elections at the May meeting
that will include: members for the Committee on Committees, the Faculty Senate Grievance Committee, the
Review and Long Range Planning Committee, the University Budget Committee, and delegates to the Louisiana
Conference on Colleges and Universities. He stated we would be receiving nominations for these positions
from the Committee on Committees prior to the May Senate meeting. Also, nominations can be made by any
Senator by contacting Culbertson, and, nominations can be made from the floor at the May meeting as well.
President Culbertson mentioned the Faculty Senate Executive Committee is meeting weekly with the
Provost and working on documents for procedures to be used should the campus go into financial exigency.

One document is a revision of a 1968 document that was never formally adopted. This document's intent is to
define and identify appropriate faculty involvement should exigency be declared. It was reported we are
close to having that document completed as the Provost is preparing comments on it at this time, and, it is
hoped it will be available to distribute to the Senate at the May meeting. It was suggested the Senate may want to take official action on the document or have additional input at that time. President Culbertson said upon request, he would make the draft available to any Senator assuming other members of the Executive Committee had no objections.

The other document is a companion to the exigency document, but is directed toward planning that would be useful in identifying priorities should it be necessary to make major budget cuts in the University. Progress is being made on this second document, but it is not as far along as the exigency document. The role of the college policy committees was said to be critical in this process should budget problems result in exigency or cuts under other scenarios because of budget constraints.

Discussion resumed about the ad hoc committee to consider short-term ways to address University budget problems. Senator Collier, a member of this ad hoc committee, also reviewed this committee's work, its role in relation to other committees, and also affirmed she understands the work of the ad hoc committee is finished. Additional questions and comments from Senators and visitors included:

-- another question concerning the role and life of the ad hoc committee, and the fact that to many faculty it sounded like an exigency committee,

-- concern by a visitor about the composition of the committee, in particular, concern about too few faculty members when to some it appeared to be an exigency committee at the time it was formed. The faculty members of this ad hoc committee present again indicated they believed the work of this committee was finished and that it would not meet again.

New Business:

President Culbertson opened the floor for discussion on Faculty Senate Resolution 92-11 that was introduced at the March meeting and given to Senator McGehee to work on the wording before being considered for a vote at this meeting. Senator McGehee said the word "everyone" on the version reproduced on the back of the agenda should be changed to "all persons." One Senator, a non-smoker, spoke against the resolution because of the additional stress a strict smoking ban would place on University employees who smoke at this time. Another Senator spoke in favor of the motion saying his school had a policy against smoking in the building and that faculty and staff smoked outside the building.

President Culbertson reminded the Senators of the complexity of this issue and that the resolution did not promote specific actions, just further work on a smoking policy.

Faculty Senate Resolution 92-11 passed with three "no" votes. This resolution is given below:

The Faculty Senate affirms that all persons should be free from unwilling exposure to tobacco smoke in their life and work on campus and favors the further development of University policy to that end.

Senator Collier introduced Faculty Senate Resolution 92-12, a proposal for the formation of a council of policy committees, and distributed a handout concerning this. The purpose of this is to formalize what has developed this year in the ad hoc University Policy Subcommittee. The proposed Council of Policy Committees would have a representative from the policy committee of each of the colleges and other units. Forming this Council of Policy Committees would necessitate changing the bylaws of the Senate because it would be a formal committee of the Senate. This proposal was distributed to the Senate as a handout with the comment by Senator Kinney that the omission of certain colleges and units on the handout was a mistake and a corrected version of the proposed resolution would be available for the May meeting.

Resolution 92-12 was moved by Senator Collier and seconded by Senator Kinney and will be considered for a vote at the May meeting. President Culbertson reported that the two resolutions that came from the Library Committee at the last meeting generated good discussion and comments that prompted the Library Committee to want to consider them further and possibly make revisions before coming back to the Senate with these.

A motion to adjourn was approved at 4:05 P.M.