Faculty Senate Meeting
3:00 P.M., Tuesday, December 5, 2006
Atchafalaya Room, LSU Union

Attendance
Faculty Senate Executive Committee members present:
1. William H. Daly (Senate President)
2. Kevin L. Cope (Vice President)
3. Lois J. Kuyper-Rushing (Secretary)
4. Michael Wascom (Member-at-Large)
5. Claire Advokat (Ex Officio, Immed. Past Pres.)

Parliamentarian: Andrew King (present)

Senators present:
1. Nicholas G. Apostolou
2. William W. Armstrong
3. Juan J. Barthelemy
4. Henry D. Bellamy
5. Ruth L. Bowman
6. Hugh W. Buckingham
7. Edward W. Bush
8. Andrew Christie
9. Kevin L. Cope
10. D. Larry Crumbley
11. Emily Elliot
12. Wayne Gauthier
13. Randall Hall
14. Jeff S. Kuehny
15. Lois J. Kuyper-Rushing
16. Paul A. Larock
17. Vincent J. LiCata
18. Katia Madsen
19. Ronald F. Malone
20. Douglas McMillin
21. Kenneth W. McMillin
22. Jorge F. Morales
23. James L. Murphy
24. Carol E. O’Neil
25. Bruce Mark Olcott
26. Frederick G. Ortner
27. Su-Seng Pang
28. Robert Peck
29. Robert Perlis
30. Erwin D. Poliakoff
31. Dorothy Prowell
32. Kevin Smith
33. George Stanley
34. James R. Stoner Jr.
35. Beth N. Tope
36. Ann Trousdale
37. Warren Waggenspack
38. Michael Wascom
39. Rick Weil
40. Denis Wu
41. Lisl Zach

Proxies for absent Senators:
Bruce Mark Olcott for Hollis Utah Cox, Dennis W. Duffield, Jeremy Hubert
Warren Waggenspack for Kerry M. Dooley, Gerald Knapp
William H. Daly for Steve Hand
Kenneth W. McMillin for Joan M. King, Maud Maureen Walsh
Erwin D. Poliakoff for Richard L. Kurtz, Cathleen Williams
Douglas McMillin for Dan B. Rinks
Lois J. Kuyper-Rushing for Judith Schiebout, Frederick Sheldon

Senators absent without proxies + (# of absences without proxies):
1. Helene Afeman(3)
2. Kenneth Bankston(13)
3. Jim S Borck(9)
4. Mark A. Caruso(13)
5. James H. Gill(13)
6. Scott W. Harris(1)
7. Yiping Lou(3)
8. Suzanne Marchand(5)
10. Heather McKillop(2)
11. Marcia E. Newcomer(3)
12. Arnulfo G. Ramirez(5)
13. Adelaide M Russo(6)
14. Patsy Scates(3)
15. Mary J Sirridge(2)
Call to Order
  a. Announcement of proxies and alternate representatives.
  b. The roll will be taken by means of a sign-up sheet.

Introduction of Guests

Guest Speaker Jim McCoy, Vice Provost, Enrollment Services
Presentation on Enrollment Management

McCoy first explained the concepts of enrollment management. He stated that it is not really possible to manage a school’s enrollment, rather it is a process of influencing enrollment trends from recruitment through graduation. He stated that admission is only one part of the process. Recruitment management includes enrolling the “right” student, the student an institution wants (to enhance the academic enterprise) and the student an institution needs (to enhance revenue). He works in recruitment, admission, registration, advising and student services. He must assess how we currently recruit, retain and graduate students, then he will make changes as needed.

Then he discussed the process of enrollment management. It includes these components:
- Recruiting and outreach
- Credential review
- Academic advising
- Student services (registration, student aid, etc.)
- Student enrollment
- Enrollment mix (out-of-state, in-state, diversity, etc.)
- Financial aid
- Orientation

McCoy stated that LSU has gone from open admissions to managed admission very quickly, with completely open admissions in 1987, to rigorous standards in 2005. He noted that five years ago, the freshman enrollment number was rising but in the last two years there has been a dramatic decline. The two reasons for this are the hurricanes last year and the fact that in 2004 the national championship prompted an increase in enrollment for that year causing a decrease in the following two years. The percentage of out-of-state students compared to in-state students has been stable at about ten percent, and LSU would like to increase this number. Freshman grade point average (GPA) has risen, ACT scores have risen and minority percentages have risen. McCoy noted that, contrary to what one might think, every time LSU raises its admission standards, the number of applicants increases as well. First-year retention has declined, the reason for this is unknown, and that needs to change. The six-year graduation rate has risen, but only slightly. The transfer enrollment has declined, and, like the undergraduate enrollment, the graduate enrollment figures have declined. The flagship agenda calls for an increase in the transfer and graduate enrollment, LSU’s Executive Council for Enrollment Management will address these issues.

In the five months that McCoy has been at LSU, he has begun several initiatives. These include:
- Assessment of recruiting – there is little consistency in recruiting across campus

2
• Assessment of financial aid – TOPS is great, but we need flexibility with scholarship dollars
• Assessment of admissions review and credentials for admissions
• Development of enrollment targets – these targets will be set so that rather than taking what we get, we will target a certain number of certain types of students

McCoy ended by asking what Faculty Senators would like to see in terms of recruitment and enrollment. Hugh Buckingham noted that he would like to see bright undergraduates stay at LSU for a master’s degree. Currently he sees the majority of these students leave for other universities. George Stanley said that LSU’s previous chancellor Mark Emmert’s goal was to reduce the freshman class size by at least 20% and to increase the quality of that class. Stanley continued by saying that faculty thought that was intriguing, but the question is, how can we afford to do that, and has that been discussed? McCoy said that reducing the freshman class is a current goal. LSU hopes to keep the current 4600 students rather than a higher number like 5700 which LSU enrolled several years ago. He opined that Emmert believed LSU could continue to get the funding LSU had for the 5700 students when the enrollment was closer to 4600. Stanley feels that LSU is over-extended, the institution has more students than the current number of faculty can handle. McCoy says the Council on Enrollment Management is working on that as well. Wayne Gauthier believes that we should remain true to the Land Grant institution mission of serving the common man. McCoy assured him that it is being discussed in many arenas. Claire Advokat asked why people who are accepted into LSU end up going elsewhere. McCoy replied that, first of all, the application process is very confusing and difficult. It is all on-line, it is hard to find the application site, the student must wait to get a password, then he or she must pay the application fee with a credit card, the result is that casual applicants don’t bother. This costs LSU students every year. Andrew Christie responded by saying that his Information Technology Task Force will fix that problem. Richard Kurtz wondered why there isn’t much attention given to graduate enrollment in McCoy’s presentation. McCoy answered that LSU has to work on that as well, but much of the graduate recruitment has to come from the department level. The ways that the university can help the departments in graduate recruitment have to be discussed. LSU must also decide how many graduate students there should be. Provost Harold Silverman explained that Flagship Agenda dictates that the graduate population should be 20% of the total population, and until the target for the entire population is set, the university cannot set the target size for the graduate school. Buckingham asked McCoy whether there was a freshman residency component at other universities where he has worked. Yes, McCoy answered, all had a freshman residency requirement. The benefit of such a program can be seen most dramatically by looking at the University of Maryland at College Park. The residency requirement totally changed the academic dynamic of the undergraduate class. Jim Stoner wondered about the target ratio of faculty to students. Silverman explained that presently we’re at a ratio of 21 or 22 students to one faculty member, we’d like to be at 16 or 17 to one. If LSU can maintain current funding and reduce the number of students (and that is a big “if”), then the ratio will be better. Stoner continued by asking about graduate student to faculty ratios. Christie asked Silverman to explain the funding formula that the state has that is based on the number of students we have enrolled. Christie continued by saying that he’d like to see us have fewer students, but not if it means our funding will be cut. Silverman replied that Louisiana does have a funding formula, but our budget isn’t delivered based on the funding formula. However,
when there are extra monies available, this money is distributed by analyzing how much of an institution’s formula has been funded and distributing the funds accordingly. Last year, for example, LSU was funded at a formula rate of just over 80% and other schools were funded at a lower formula level (in the 70% range), so that entitled them to additional money from the Board of Regents when extra funds were made available. Christie commented that as the Admissions, Standards, and Honors Committee (ASH) raises standards, they are aware that this action has consequences across the university that the committee has no control over. Christie hopes that the Executive Council for Enrollment Management will help this situation. Silverman added that the state must realize that we need the funding before we can make changes in our enrollment methods. President Daly stated that we need to improve our retention rate. Now we have 82% retention rate for first-year students, and that percentage must increase.

Consideration of the minutes of November 10, 2006
After noting a few changes, Nicholas Apostolou motioned for approval, Andrew Christie seconded the motion and the minutes were accepted.

President’s report
The Provost search is moving slowly. Alberto Pimentel, the search firm consultant, will be back on campus next Tuesday December 12th, and he will give an update at an open forum. It is scheduled from 11 am to1 pm in the Bo Campbell Auditorium. All faculty staff and students are invited to attend. A website describing the search will be mounted at www.lsu.edu/provostsearch. The search is going slower than anticipated, this is caused by holidays.

Cluster hire proposals are being evaluated. The selection committee will meet next week. The effort to provide health insurance for graduate students looks promising. The plan will be set up for graduate students and it will be open for purchase to international students. Benefits for research associates must be paid from supporting grants. The plan must go out for bids but it is estimated that it will cost about $950 per student per year. The students may be asked to pay some percentage of the premiums. The Board of Regents has given the campus a $935,000 budget adjustment to compensate for the decrease in campus enrollment. These funds could be applied to the University’s share of the insurance costs. LSU hopes to have this benefit defined by April 15, 2007.

LSU hopes to receive additional funding in the special session beginning this Friday. The most promising avenue will be through an increase in our deferred maintenance budget since this is one of the Governor’s objectives. A number of options have been proposed.

The LSU Faculty Senate’s effort to update the financial exigency policy at the system level received a setback this week. At its meeting last Thursday, the University of New Orleans (UNO) University Senate failed to pass a motion of support for the proposed bylaws changes for the Board of Supervisors (BOS). Greg Seab, a UNO faculty member who spoke to the LSU Faculty Senate in October of this year, reported that the UNO Chancellor (who is a member of the University Senate) spoke against the motion, arguing against it on the grounds that 1) it supported ACLU (AAUP?) guidelines, and 2) the outside review would be difficult to do. The vote was 14 against to 11. There has been
no word concerning whether the other units in the system support this policy, but there will be a meeting of faculty senate presidents this Thursday prior to the BOS meeting and President Daly will query them at that time. Jim Stoner asked if UNO is still under exigency, President Daly answered yes, Stoner continued by stating that can hardly be a free vote of the faculty if they are under financial exigency. Claire Advokat asked if the proposal could be changed somehow so that UNO would support it. President Daly answered that it might be possible, but UNO seems to dislike the fundamental aspects of the document, the support of the AAUP and the use of an outside auditor.

President Daly spoke of other items of interest that will be heard at the BOS meeting. The Board will approve the degrees to be granted, and they are approving LSU’s Mission Statement modification to reflect our designation as a land-, sea- and space-grant institution. We are one of only eight universities in the nation that is a space-grant institution. There will be final approval of three endowed chairs and several professorships:

- The Shell Endowed Chair in Oceanography/Wetland Studies, School of the Coast and Environment, $1,200,000
- The Ourso Distinguished Chair of Management, E.J. Ourso College of Business, $600,000
- The Dr. Charles M. Smith Chair of Medical Physics in the College of Basic Sciences, $600,000
- Triple professorships, i.e., based upon $180,000 donations, in Colleges of Business, Engineering and Basic Sciences
- Three Professorships in Engineering, and professorships in Arts & Sciences, Education, Coast and Environment, Music and Dramatic Arts, and Agriculture

Lastly, the BOS approved a Sugar Bowl Budget.

Stanley asked for clarification about the statement that, because of declining enrollment, we got a budget increase. Provost Silverman said we did get such an increase. When monies were distributed to state universities, the allocations were based on four factors. The first factor was whether the school had an enrollment decrease (LSU was awarded money on that front), the second factor was based on the formula funding discussed earlier (LSU was awarded nothing for that because it had a high percentage of formula funding compared to other institutions), a third part of the money was an amount divided by the number of institutions in the state, and each institution received an equal amount from that, and the last piece of this money was given to the systems, and the systems will distribute that as they please, this hasn’t been done yet. George Stanley reiterated that President Daly mentioned that LSU is at 80% in the funding formula. Will this new money affect our formula funding level? Silverman answered that it will, that formula funding is based on our total funding level from the state regardless of when or how it is distributed.

Vince Licata wondered if it would be worthwhile to ask the chancellor of UNO to our Faculty Senate to respond to the Financial Exigency proposal. Daly replied that it is certainly a possibility. Robert Perlis noted it might be more productive if President Daly spoke to him more privately. Daly said that he will speak with him at the Board of
Supervisors meeting next week. Perlis asked about the president of the system search. There was an editorial about the lack of openness of the search, is there anything we can do to open it up? President Daly answered that it won’t be open until the end of the process, but we probably can’t change that.

Old Business. Consideration and vote on Faculty Senate Resolution 07-01, Reconsideration of Fall Academic Calendar

Senator Beth Tope

Tope reported that she met with Dr. Doolas and Dr. Cartledge. The calendar is very tight and there is no time when LSU isn’t “up and running.” Dr. Doolas told her that if the 2007 summer intersession registration isn’t high, then LSU can look at 2008 to eliminate the summer intersession which would accommodate the points in the resolution. Tope suggested that the Senate vote on and support the resolution to show solidarity on this issue. Dr. Cartledge wants to know how the Senate would react to having a presumptive (early) graduation, but without actual diplomas. Stanley noted that we did that last year, and wondered what the reaction was. Cartledge said he believes it worked, there were few complaints. Advokat asked if we really need a graduation in December, could everyone walk through graduation in the spring. Christie supported this possibility. Emily Elliot wondered whether the cost of mailing the diplomas would be prohibitive. President Daly responded that this cost can be paid for with of the graduation fee that each graduate is assessed. Another opinion raised was that only students who are eligible should be allowed the distinction of going through graduation. The idea of a January graduation was raised. Cartledge responded that it would be impractical because those responsible for organizing the graduation are the same people who are very busy with the start of school in January. Stanley would still like LSU to start earlier in the fall, since our SEC peers do that. Frederick Ortner replied by saying that he doesn’t want to start earlier because this will cut into the time for summer internships and research projects for graduate students. Kevin Cope and Jim Stoner suggested tabling the resolution to study the options. Cope motioned to table the resolution, Christie seconded. Robert Perlis said that passing the resolution still allows us to consider other options and he suggested the senate pass the resolution and still study the options. A vote on the motion was taken, the motion passed, so the resolution was tabled. Stanley stated that he recalls the Senate discussing the number of graduations in the past and that there were impassioned outcries against reducing the number of graduations. President Daly charged the issue to the Faculty Senate Commencement Committee for further discussion and study.

New Business.
There was no new business.

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 pm.