LSU Faculty Senate Meeting
3:00 P.M., Tuesday, February 27th, 2007
Atchafalaya Room, LSU Union

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

Parliamentarian: Andrew King (present)

Senators present:

Proxies for absent Senators:
Jeff S. Kuehny for Edward W. Bush, Cathleen Williams
Warren Waggenspack for Kerry M. Dooley, Gerald Knapp
Su-Seng Pang for Ronald F. Malone
Mary J Sirridge for Suzanne Marchand
Robert Perlis for Jorge F. Morales
Judith Sciebout for William W. Armstrong, Lois J. Kuyper-Rushing and Lisl Zach
Carol O’Neil for Maud Maureen Walsh
Patsy Scates for Scott W. Harris

Senators absent without proxies + (# of absences without proxies):
4. Yiping Lou(5) 8. James L. Murphy(3)
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Highlights
-Introduction of Guests
-Moment of Silence
-Consideration of the Minutes
-Comments from Stephen Moret, CEO, Chamber of Greater Baton Rouge
-Old Business—Vote on Faculty Senate Resolution 07-02
-New Business—Introduction of Nominating Committee for 2007-2008 Faculty Senate officers

Minutes

President Daly opened the meeting at 3:00 P.M. with a reading of the proxies.

Introduction of Guests
Guests were introduced and urged to sign in on the attendance sheet. Guests attending the February meeting included:
- Matthew K. Butler, Student
- Deris Collins, Student Life & Academic Services Associate VC
- Jacqueline Delery, Student Senate
- David Dessanel, Undergraduate student and Residence Hall Association President
- Donald Hodge, Graduate student
- Calder Lynch, Student Government Senate
- Kristy Miller, Campus-Community Coalition for Change

A moment of silence was observed in memory of Jim Bourke, Senator and Professor in English who died recently.

Consideration of the minutes—President Daly asked if there were any comments or corrections for the minutes of January 24, 2007. After minor corrections were noted, Senator Andrew Christie moved for approval and Senator George Stanley seconded. Minutes were accepted by voice vote.

Comments from Stephen Moret, CEO of the Chamber of Greater Baton Rouge
Stephen Moret began by describing his affiliations with Louisiana State University and the Baton Rouge Chamber, and its perspective on LSU. The Chamber wants Baton Rouge to be the creative capitol of the south and a great research university is necessary for this. The approach must be “up-market”—Baton Rouge must not rely on low-paying jobs, and LSU can contribute to this through the education of the discussed workforce. This University must help with the development of “intellectual capital” or “intellectual talent” in Baton Rouge. The Chamber wants to help state leaders appreciate the importance of research. LSU educates teachers, which is vital, and LSU plays a big role in improving the “brand” of our state.

The Chamber would like to see LSU join the top 50 public research universities. To help make this happen, LSU needs increased funding for deferred maintenance, for new libraries, new laboratories and teaching facilities, and the renovation of those that are currently in disrepair. LSU must hire intellectual “stars,” it needs incentive grants, more diversity among its student body and faculty, and larger scholarships and salaries for students, faculty and staff.

If we do this, LSU can become an employer of choice among American universities. The Chamber’s hope is that LSU can become a shining star of higher education in this century, and the Chamber can help by encouraging the business community to fund research at LSU, encouraging the return of tuition decisions to the university and by supporting a flagship fee for LSU. A new Political Action Committee will support the flagship agenda.

Moret explained the Chamber’s Campaign for a Greater Baton Rouge. Any individual can join the investors in this program. Money goes to staffing and marketing the seven elements outlined in his handout, from a business retention expansion program to a public policy group to a learning community initiative. See www.brac.org for
more details.

Senator Wayne Gauthier asked how the academic "Tiger Athletic Fund" would rival the Chamber’s TAF. Moret replied that funding for LSU should come from three sources: tuition, fund-raising, and state support. While the Chamber will support the first two, it will work hardest to put pressure on the state legislators and governor to support LSU.

Moret meets with other former LSU student body leaders who feel that LSU should be less concerned with keeping it “free” and more concerned with the development of a high quality university.

Senator Gauthier noted that Moret had mentioned a new library. He asked if Moret thinks we need a library or a technology center. Moret answered that LSU still needs a library, one that will retain the historic elements of a library (i.e., books), while offering the best resources that technology can offer as well.

Senator Rick Weil mentioned that the corporate headquarters of many local businesses are located in other cities. Moret agreed that this is a problem, in fact, one of our region's biggest challenges is that most of our area's business leaders are in businesses with headquarters out of state. In the short term, we must market what we have, but realize we are not currently competitive for corporate headquarters. LSU does help us to compete. In the long term, we must emphasize LSU, improved air service, places like Pennington, and public education, if we do, then we can recruit corporate headquarters.

Senator Hugh Buckingham expressed concern as to whether the Baton Rouge Area Chamber (BRAC) could remain influential following a political change. Moret replied that the Chamber has been thought of historically as Republican, but it works toward being non-partisan. For example, the Chamber will not be involved in the governor's race, but will support legislative candidates of either party whose agenda advances the region. Sometime in the future, there will be a "Tiger Political Action Committee," targeting progress at LSU, and the Chamber would support this.

Senator Joan King wondered what other entities besides LSU and Pennington figured highly in Mr. Moret's regard. Mr. Moret commented that Pennington is tops in the world at what it does. Pennington could bring in much more federal funding if it had adequate clinical lab space, a need the Chamber supports. Currently, Pennington is a driver in the local economy, but the Chamber believes that LSU could have an even greater impact.

Senator George Stanley wondered if a medical school might move to Baton Rouge. Moret said that he supports the idea as part of the future for the Baton Rouge area as center of the state, both economically and politically. He sees one eventually in Baton Rouge, but does not want to endorse taking anything away from another area.

Senator Vince LiCata asked about the role of tourism in Baton Rouge. Moret feels it has more importance for New Orleans and will not drive the economy in Baton Rouge. What we need are permanent, high-paying jobs that are based on knowledge.

Senator Wayne Gautier mentioned that LSU is a Land Grant institution, which does teaching, research, and extension service. Extension plays a major role in rural development, which could win legislators to help LSU if their districts benefited.

Senator Adelaide Russo asked about plans to help Southern University achieve its potential. Mr. Moret commented that Southern is funded at 100% of its formula, while LSU is funded at less than full formula, and the formula for LSU also should be raised. LSU’s impact on the economy is clear, but Southern is important.

President’s report

E. J. Savoie, Commissioner of Higher Education has issued a call for a Master Plan National Advisory Panel to update the state’s master plan for post-secondary education. The plan should be more responsive to the State’s priority issues. The new Master Plan will be the result of a close review of post-secondary education in Louisiana, including institutional missions, state finance mechanisms, and approaches to accountability.
The Student Access and Success meeting organized by Dr. Sally Clausen, President of the University of Louisiana System, emphasized the limited student access to post-secondary education. Kati Haycock, Director of The Education Trust presented telling statistics on the access and performance of cohorts with different race/ethnicity and family income. Data is available at www.editrust.org. Data indicate that K-12 students do better in a challenging curriculum. Making the college preparatory curriculum the default curriculum in Louisiana is under consideration.

Carol Twigg, National Center for Academic Transformation discussed The Case for Course Redesign. LSU’s Math 1021 Roadmap to Redesign, directed by Phoebe Berry Rouse, was showcased, so LSU is in the forefront in this area.

Jim McCoy, Assistant Provost for Enrollment Planning, has placed two resolutions to improve student access to LSU on the agenda of the Board of Supervisors meeting to be held on March 8-9. The first, entitled “Pelican Promise,” is designed to supplement need-based programs. The second is designed to help recruit students who have achieved the 80th percentile on National Merit or National Achievement exams.

The Provost Search Committee is in the process of interviewing the semifinalists for the position. The search committee hopes to complete the process this week and announce the finalists next week. To keep the search moving, on-campus interviews are being scheduled, beginning on March 12th. LSU plans to interview four candidates in a ten-day period. An open forum will be scheduled for each candidate and faculty senators are strongly encouraged to attend each forum. It will be a very intense week, but faculty participation is extremely important. The committee will be soliciting comments on each candidate. The committee has worked very hard to identify a strong slate of candidates for the position and ask that you help recruit the best candidate. Notice of the forums will be sent on the broadcast e-mail soon.

Senator Adelaide Russo asked if the Faculty Senate would meet the Provost candidates, and President Daly replied that the Faculty Senate Executive Committee will meet them, but that Faculty Senate would have to meet too often to meet each candidate.

Senator Larry Crumbley asked about the status of post-tenure review. President Daly answered that the other institutions did not share LSU’s concerns, which hinders this effort.

Senator Crumbley asked about the status of review of higher administrators. President Daly answered that dean reviews are in progress. Crumbley clarified his question saying he meant administrators higher than the deans. Andrew Christie and Claire Advokat pointed out that PS 111 mandates such reviews, but the question remains concerning whether the reviews are being implemented.

Old Business -- Consideration and Vote on Faculty Senate Resolution 07-02 on First Year Residency, Andrew Christie, sponsor.

Senator Christie requested a title change for this resolution. It should read,

**FS Res. 07-02**
First Year Residency Requirement
Sponsored by Andrew Christie,
Introduced by Hector Zappata on behalf of the Educational Policy Committee.

Several minor changes were made to the document. Senator Gauthier wondered if a student transferring into LSU with 45 hours would be treated as a first-year student and President Daly indicated that only students with less than 30 hours are considered "first year" officially.

President Daly called for discussion of the Resolution.

Senator Robert Perlis suggested that the issue of first year residency requirement be decoupled from meal plan requirements and proposed this amendment: "Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate supports the implementation of a first-year residency requirement without a meal plan requirement." Senator George Stanley seconded the motion.

Discussion of the amendment followed.
Senator Buckingham commented that LSU has brought in a "for profit" outlook, upgrades to residence halls have been made, and he wonders if a business agenda is actually involved. Raleigh, Austin, and Nashville do not have
residency requirements at their flagship schools. He favors any amendment that decouples the meal plan from the residency requirement.

Senator Mary Sirridge reported that although she prefers the amended version, there will be many freshmen with no cooking facilities. Senator Ortner commented that the sense of community is lost if the students do not eat together. Eating and living together brings them together to talk. Senator Christie agreed with Senator Ortner. Senator Sirridge commented that the food will not be as good if there is a captive population, and no need for competition. Senator Jeff Kuehny wondered if LSU food is so bad that it can't compete with fast food.

President Daly read the proposed amendment, "Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate supports the implementation of a first-year residency requirement without a meal plan requirement" and called for a vote. The amendment passed 26-21.

Discussion of the resolution as amended followed. Senator Heather McKillop wondered if a clarification of allowed exceptions is necessary. President Daly indicated that the Faculty Senate will be able to review exemptions and will receive reports on exemptions. Senator Joan King suggested that concerns of the Senate be addressed prior to implementation. President Daly indicated that some of these matters are ongoing, and that Faculty Senate will receive an annual report on the program. Andrew Christie suggested that Residential Life will work out some of these details, without the Faculty Senate constraining every point.

The resolution as amended was endorsed 40-12.

New Business -- Announcement of Nominating Committee for 2007-8 officers
President Daly announced the nominating committee for new Faculty Senate officers. The Faculty Senate President, Vice President, Secretary and two members-at-large have to be elected. A nominating committee of four members from the retiring senators is required. Senator Mike Wascom is the Chair of the Committee, Senator Rick Weil, Senator George Stanley and Senator Kathleen Williams are all members. Those interested in running for an office should contact a member of the committee. If a Senator agrees to run, a statement must be prepared which will be published on the Faculty Senate website prior to the vote.

President Daly noted that new senators should be elected from the various colleges before the end of the school year. The meeting was adjourned before 5:00 pm.