FACULTY SENATE MEETING

Wednesday, February 17, 1988
3:00 p.m.
Atchafalaya Room, LSU Union

AGENDA

1. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting of January 20, 1988

2. President’s Report

3. Old Business

4. New Business:
   a. Appointment of Nominations Committee
   b. Appointment of Committee on Status of Black Faculty
   c. Appointment of Search Committee for Ombudsman
   d. Distribution and brief discussion of revised PS-36 draft
   e. Other New Business

If you are unable to attend this meeting of the Faculty Senate, please refer to Article VI, Appendix b, page 36, of the Faculty Handbook (1986 edition) for alternate representation.
MINUTES OF THE FACULTY SENATE MEETING FEBRUARY 17, 1988

ATTENDANCE:  ( ✓ present)  ( * proxy)

Grace Amborski
✓ Bert Boyce
✓ Jill Brody
Panthea Broughton
John Caprio
Frank Cartridge
✓ Frank Chaffin
✓ Russell Chapman
✓ Robert Courter
✓ Adrian Delcario
Irene DiMaio
*Suzann Dorman
* Wade Dorman
* Gresden Doty
* James Farr
* Carol Foil
* Gaines Foster

✓ Michael Grimes
* Robert Grodner
* Milton Hallman
* Abner Hammond
* Richard Haymaker
* Thomas Hosie
* James Hotvedt
* Ben Jackson
✓ Barbara Jamison
* David Johnson
* Lamar Jones
*Ralph Kinney
* Bonnie Konopak
* Roger Laine
* William Lane
* Patricia Lawrence
* Richard Lomax

Ronald Malone
* Michelle Masse
* Teresa Monger
* Gary Moore
* Robert Newman
* Richard Norem
* Wayne Parent
* Anna Perrault
* Jack Poplin
* Scott Powers
* Virginia Purcell
* Malcolm Richardson
* Roy Robert
* Edgar Roberts
* Milton Rush
* Douglas Rossman
* George Roundtree

*Lela Schroeder
* Barun SenGupta
* Jonathon Shapiro
* Ethelyn Stott
* George Strain
* Teresa Summers
* Paul Temple
* Lonnie Vandevere
* Julian White
* Charles Wilson
* Vernon Wright
* Adnan Yücel
* Selma Zebouni
* Edward Zganjar

PROXIES:
Senator Grimes for Senator Parent
Senator Vandevere for Senator Summers
Senator Hotvedt for Senator Jackson
J. V. Pemson for Senator Rossman
Senator Lomax for Senator Shapiro

D. Baltz for Senator Wilson
Senator Haymaker for Senator Zganjar
Senator W. Dorman for Senator S. Dorman
Senator Chapman for Senator SenGupta
Senator Richardson for Senator Masse

President Purcell called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. and welcomed Dean Carruth McGhee, new Senator Milton Rush (replaces Seth Johnson who is on official leave) and press representatives Karen Didier and Jamie Petty.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting of January 26, 1988

There being no additions or corrections, the Minutes were approved as distributed.

2. President's Report

At the February 18 meeting of the Legislative Oversight Committee the rate increase for the State Health Insurance was again tabled. If no action is taken by February 29, the rate increase will take effect May 1, 1988. It is still not known if the state will contribute their share, or if LSU can pick up the state share if the state does not do so.

At a meeting of the State Board of Trustees for State Employees Insurance on February 18, a resolution to grandfather in current HMOs and to limit HMOs to two was on the agenda.

President Purcell met with Bo Ackal (Chair of the Legislative Oversight Committee) and other representatives of state employee groups to discuss possible changes in laws that affect the governing boards of the retirement and insurance plans.

The insurance consultant is scheduled to be on campus March, 7, 1988 and will meet with President Purcell, representatives from the State Board of Trustees for Insurance; personnel officers from throughout the system; administrators from all campuses; members of the Faculty Senate Personnel Policies Committee; campus representatives to the Board of Supervisors; and faculty.

A meeting has been scheduled with the Faculty Advisory Council of the State Board of Trustees (Colleges and Universities) to discuss Faculty Senate Resolution 87-6 (concerning 5 year vesting in the Retirement System)

3. Old Business  There was no old business
4. New Business

a. Appointment of Nominations Committee (to nominate Senators to the 1988-89 Executive Committee). Members are: Adrian DelCaro (Chair), Ben Jackson, Pat Lawrence, and Edward Zganjar.

b. Committee on Status of Black Faculty members are: Thomas Durant (Chair), Rual Cook, Cecil Eubanks, Mitchel Rice, Gloria Saseks, Peter Soderbergh, and Benjamin Wright.

c. Search Committee for Ombudsman members are: Abner Hammond (Chair), Michael Grimes, Teresa Monger, Jack Jones. One additional appointment will be made to the committee.

d. Distribution and brief discussion of revised PS-36 draft

President Purrtle (Chair of the PS-36 Revision Committee) stated that the goals of the Committee were to review current policies and practices; to make changes where needed in existing policy or practices; to document practices not formerly documented, and to develop policy where needed. For each of five personnel actions covered by the document, the committee attempted to answer two sets of questions:

1. What are the university responsibilities? a) Who does what by position? b) What procedures are followed at each position? and
2. What is the faculty member's situation? a) Responsibilities? b) Criteria? and c) Rights of the faculty member? Also, the Committee attempted to maximize the sometimes conflicting goals of equity and flexibility. The Senators were asked to study the report and to send questions and concerns to President Purrtle by February 26, 1988. A special meeting of the Faculty Senate is called for March 1, 1988, at 3:00 p.m. in the Atchafalaya Room of the LSU Union to discuss the draft of the revised PS-36. As with all Senate meetings, the meeting is open to all faculty.

e. Other New Business

Senator Richardson offered Faculty Senate Resolution 87-8 (formerly 86-5 amended)

FACULTY SENATE RESOLUTION 87-8

WHEREAS, a grading system should be discriminating enough to distinguish among significantly different levels of performance, and

WHEREAS, the range of performance represented by a single letter grade may be very wide (e.g., from a high B that is nearly an A to a low B that is nearly a C),

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the grading system of the University be amended to allow the assignment of the following grades, with their numerical equivalents in parentheses: A+ (4.0), A (4.0), A- (3.7), B+ (3.3), B (3.0), B- (2.7), C+ (2.3), C (2.0), C- (1.7), D+ (1.3), D (1.0), D- (0.7), F (0.0),

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this change be reflected on instructors' forms for reporting mid-term and final grades, on grade reports to students, on all official University transcripts, and in the computation of grade-point averages,

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these changes be implemented with all deliberate speed.

There was a discussion. Senator Richardson stated that the Resolution proposes the grades and numerical equivalents used at the University of California, Berkeley. The Resolution could be amended to strike the A+ to leave a system used by the University of Chicago, the University of Rochester, and Vanderbilt University. The University of Connecticut and Cornell assign the A+ a numerical value of 4.3 an option that Senator Richardson thought unwise as it would devalue the A grade. A motion to accept Faculty Senate Resolution 87-8 for a final vote at the March 18, 1988, Senate meeting was made, seconded, and passed.

There being no further business, President Purrtle adjourned the meeting at 3:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Abner Hammond, Secretary