LSU Faculty Senate Meeting  
3:00 P.M., Wednesday, January 23rd, 2008  
Atchafalaya Room, LSU Union

Attendance  
Faculty Senate Executive Committee members present:

1. Kevin L. Cope (Senate President)  
2. Andrew Christie (Vice-President)  
3. James R. Stoner Jr. (Secretary)  
4. Pratul K. Ajmera (Member-at-Large)  
5. Judith Schiebout (Member-at-Large)  
6. George Stanley (Member-at-Large)  
7. William H. Daly (Past President)  
Parliamentarian: (absent)

Senators present:

1. Fred Aghazadeh  
2. Pratul K. Ajmera  
3. Linda Allen  
4. Priscilla D. Allen  
5. William W. Armstrong  
6. Jacqueline Bach  
7. Sue G Bartlett  
8. Henry D. Bellamy  
9. Kevin L. Cope  
10. D. Larry Crumbley  
11. Dennis W. Duffield  
12. Bruce E Eilts  
13. Emily Elliott  
14. Juhan Frank  
15. Jeffrey Gillespie  
16. Steve Hand  
17. Wanda Hargroder  
18. Scott W. Harris  
19. Paul L. Hrycay  
20. P Lynn Kennedy  
21. Jeremy King  
22. Joan M. King  
23. Jeff S. Kuehny  
24. Richard L. Kurtz  
25. Paul A. Larock  
26. Vincent J. Licata  
27. Ronald F. Malone  
28. Suzanne Marchand  
29. Patrick McGee  
30. Heather McKillop  
31. Jorge F. Morales  
32. Carol E. O’Neil  
33. Bruce Mark Olcott  
34. Frederick G. Ortner  
35. Dorothy Prowell  
36. Dan B. Rinks  
37. Steve Ross  
38. Adelaide Russo  
39. Patsy Scates  
40. Frederick Sheldon  
41. Edward Song  
42. George Stanley  
43. James R. Stoner Jr.  
44. Jeffrey Tiger  
45. Dottie Vaughn  
46. Muhammad Wahab  
47. Maud Maureen Walsh  
48. Richard Warga  
49. Michael Wascom  
50. Richard White  
51. Paul Wilson

Proxies for absent Senators:

Fred Aghazadeh for Pratul Ajmera (until 3:45PM)  
Andrew Christie for Nicholas G. Apostolou, Douglas McMillin  
Dennis W. Duffield for Hollis Utah Cox  
D. Larry Crumbley for Charles N Delzell  
Laura Stewart for Lisa Johnson  
Jacqueline Bach for Jennifer L. Jolly, Beth N. Tope  
William W. Armstrong for Boryung Ju  
Jeffrey Gillespie for Kenneth W. McMillin  
John Fletcher for James L. Murphy  
Muhammad Wahab for Su-Seng Pang  
Linda Allen for Erwin D. Poliakoff  
George Stanley for Kelly Rusch

Senators absent without proxies + (# of absences without proxies):

1. Brittan A. Barker (3)  
2. Robert K. Goidel (3)  
3. Katia Madsen (3)  
4. Cathy S. Marshall (22)  
5. Keith Robinson (5)  
6. Kevin Smith (5)  
7. James Sullivan (14)
Introduction of Guests
Guests were introduced and urged to sign in on the attendance sheet. Guests attending the January meeting included:
John Lombardi, President, LSU System
William Jenkins, Acting Chancellor
Astrid Merget, Provost, Academic Affairs
Stacia Haynie, Academic Affairs
Robert Doolos, University Registrar
Tim Fields, President, Staff Senate
Hongyu He, Department of Mathematics
Ravi Rau, Department of Physics & Astronomy
Jordan Blum, The Advocate

The minutes from the previous meeting not having been circulated sufficiently before the meeting to allow time for review, their consideration was postponed. President Cope then introduced the two principal guest speakers, Interim Chancellor William Jenkins and LSU System President John Lombardi.

Remarks of William Jenkins, Acting Chancellor

William Jenkins took the podium briefly, remarking that in his upcoming time as Acting Chancellor, he plans to spend the first few months visiting the various schools, colleges, and units on the Baton Rouge campus, in order to get a sense of the new issues on campus. He thanked the Senate for welcoming him back.

Remarks of John V. Lombardi, LSU System President

John V. Lombardi addressed the Senate for the first time since becoming LSU System President the previous fall. He noted that ours was rhetorically the flagship campus in the state, but asked us to think about where we fit in a national frame of reference. Recognizing that LSU would not be the biggest or richest university nationwide, he reminded us that one-on-one our faculty can be as good as faculty elsewhere. He argued that for a university to succeed, it must spend money: it must invest in high-level undergraduate instruction, and it must fund research. He said his mantra is: money matters, performance counts, and time is the enemy, explaining by the latter phrase the intense competition that characterizes the search for resources and results in the modern academic environment. We ought to measure ourselves discipline-by-discipline against comparable schools, picking five or ten peers, most of them better; after five to eight years of comparison, units internalize the ways of success and the bureaucratic apparatus of comparison won’t be necessary. Concerning the search for a new Chancellor, President Lombardi promised a search committee broadly representative of faculty, staff, alumni, donors, and the community. Once the list was narrowed, he expected the last phase of the search to be an open one, commenting that one who wants to do this job has to be able to take the heat of public exposure.

In answer to a question about how he assesses LSU today, President Lombardi responded that the first question is what counts as LSU: even taking only the campus in Baton Rouge, should the Ag Center and the Law School be included? Counting them for comparative purposes, he said that LSU ranks in the 80s among 160 research universities in federal research grants, in the 40s if one included private grants. We’re doing “okay,” he concluded, but to be more competitive LSU needs first of all to increase the number of students overall—he mentioned the figure of 32,000—and second to recruit more graduate students. To a concern raised by a Senator that the campus was built to accommodate only 25,000 students, President Lombardi replied that creating demand and pressure from increases to the student body would trigger the allocation of additional resources; one ought not to expect anyone to build empty buildings. Likewise, he responded to a question about teaching loads by saying that people are more apt to be granted time off teaching after proving they can do brilliant work, than to be given more time off on the mere promise they will be brilliant. A series of questions followed about newspaper reports of several recent high-level administrative appointments alleged to have been awarded as political patronage. President Lombardi responded by making reference to a recent review at the system level that indicated a need for additional administrative staff relative to operations. In response to a question about relations of the University with the Board of Supervisors, President Lombardi noted that every public university must be responsive to the constituencies that support it, but while recognizing that it is legitimate for each constituency to think and speak for what they are, the university system as a whole needs to tell its story and articulate its mission. Asked whether the mission of LSU is found in the Flagship Agenda, he replied that that symbolizes our intention to compete with first-rate research
universities, both public and private. Recruiting high-quality, highly motivated undergraduates is part of this competition, he added, mentioning in response to another question that these are sometimes found among community college transfer students.

President’s Report

Senate President Kevin Cope delivered his monthly report, outlining activities of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSEC) and some additional matters. He began by mentioning that the survey concerning internationalization of the campus, promised at the last meeting by Professors Li Li and Patricia O’Neill, has been developed. Second, an initiative suggested by Professor Cecil Eubanks and welcomed by Provost Astrid Merget and Vice-Provost Chuck Wilson to commemorate the achievements of deceased faculty is now under way, with Professor Malcolm Richardson and Senator Judith Schiebout serving on a committee to oversee this. He noted that concerns had been raised about the Student Technology Fee, which would be addressed in a future meeting. As a result of an earlier meeting, gated parking for faculty teaching night courses is now available in the old Geology parking lot, with ten additional spaces at Taylor Hall (CEBA), thanks to Gary Graham. The Faculty Senate webpage has been down for about ten days due to a failed computer, but should be restored soon. He praised a briefing for the FSEC by Jim McCoy about recruiting the new class of students, who look to be better and stronger than the previous class. A letter of clarification has been promised by Provost Merget concerning sabbaticals, after some controversy in the fall semester. Faculty Athletic Rep Dydia DeLyser introduced to the FSEC the question of whether to join the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA), and a subcommittee has been formed to investigate. Finally, Jason Droddy has brought to our attention that the Board of Regents, at the initiative of students, may impose restrictions on the price of textbooks that can be ordered. In the course of discussion of this last matter, the question was raised whether professors who assign their own books are obliged to turn royalties earned over to LSU; Provost Merget promised to inquire of Jerry Baudin on behalf of the Senate.

Old Business:

1) Consideration of Faculty Senate Resolution 07-09, “Streamlining the Senate Committee System”

This resolution had been introduced at the meeting of November 6, 2007, and was postponed because of the shortage of time at the meeting of December 7.

Faculty Senate Resolution 07–09:
STREAMLINING THE SENATE COMMITTEE SYSTEM

Sponsored by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee

Whereas the Constitution of the LSU Faculty Senate grants general responsibility for establishing and managing committees to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee (Article VI, para. 4);

Whereas the committee system is intended to promote efficient representation of the faculty by delegating authority for the supervision of the many and various aspects of University life to small and nimble ensembles of colleagues;

Whereas the tasks and structures of the committee system should track and respond to changes in the activities and administration of the University;

Whereas the long-term tasks of some standing committees have, in the fullness of time, been completed while other, now urgent tasks have been sporadically assigned to ad hoc committees;

Whereas the staffing of committees by a strictly “democratic” procedure in which many colleges or programs are represented on many if not all committees has produced an untenable situation in which an overtaxed faculty is scarcely able to fill all available committee seats;

Whereas there are other means of insuring fair representation of all the colleges and programs without imposing onerous staffing requirements;
And whereas smaller committees can often complete their assignments more quickly and efficiently than large ones;

Therefore be it resolved that the LSU Faculty Senate commissions the Executive Committee to (i) examine the present committee system and to identify standing committees that, having fulfilled their purposes, may be removed from the slate of committees; and (ii) develop new, more efficient models for representative committee staffing.

And therefore be it further resolved that the results of the aforementioned shall be presented for Senate consideration, debate, and voting.

President Cope, who had originally introduced the motion, circulated an Addendum to specify the changes meant to be authorized. Senator Adelaide Russo noted that the Library Committee was in fact meeting, so it was moved to a different category; with that change, the Addendum was as follows:

Addendum to Faculty Senate Resolution 07-09

During its November meeting, the Faculty Senate authorized the Executive Committee to prepare a list of proposed changes to the Senate committee system. Senators asked for a list of concrete suggestions as to which committees might be scaled down, reconfigured, or eliminated. Below is a slate of proposed changes along with their rationales (all by way of background for the concluding debate on Resolution 07-09).

COMMITTEES TO REMAIN IN THEIR PRESENT CONFIGURATION:
Admissions, Standards, and Honors
Budget and Planning Committee
Committee on Committees
Courses and Curricula Committee
Faculty Grievance Committee
General Education Committee
International Education Committee
LSU Press Committee

Rationale for maintaining these committees in their present configuration: These committees deal with the core concerns of academic life. Making recommendations concerning the division of resources and responsibilities among colleges and programs, these committees acquire enhanced legitimacy when they include representatives from across the University.

COMMITTEES TO BE REDUCED IN SIZE:
Commencement Exercises Committee
Educational Policy Committee
Library Committee
Student Aid and Scholarships Appeals Committee

Rationale for reducing the number of members for these committees: Although these committees make important and sometimes controversial decisions, their actions are of a more administrative than policy-setting character. In recent years, these committees have often had trouble achieving a quorum for their meetings.

COMMITTEES TO BE STAFFED ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS:
Benefits and Advisory Committee
Faculty Personnel Policies Committee

Rationale for staffing these committees only when needed: While it is important to supervise the jurisdictions of these committees, it is also the case that those jurisdictions have become highly professionalized and that, in recent times, urgent business in these areas has been handled either by
the Executive Committee or by ad hoc committees.

COMMITTEES TO BE ELIMINATED:
Communications and Development Committee
Council of Policy Committees
Improvement of Instruction Committee
Information Technology and Services Committee

Rationale for elimination of these committees: The mandate of the Communications and Development Committee is mixed and unclear, with the result that it has not met for some years and with the consequence that its occasional tasks have been performed by ad hoc committees; the Council on Policy Committees has not met for several years and is redundant with respect to the Executive Committee; with the founding of CELT and other pedagogical enhancement centers, the Improvement of Instruction Committee has accomplished most of its purpose and would only become necessary in an emergency, which, in any case, would require the intervention of the Executive Committee; the Information Technology and Services Committee has been made redundant by other IT-related ad hoc committees which have been more able to respond quickly to fast-paced IT developments.

President Cope responded to a comment concerning the Council of Policy Committees by noting that the different colleges have very different modes of constituting these committees and that perhaps this explains why the Council has not met in recent years. He stressed that his aim in this resolution was not to get rid of faculty governance, but to make it less difficult to staff faculty committees. When a crisis arises, the FSEC is often the point of focus.

By a unanimous voice vote, the Senate approved Resolution 07-09 with the addendum.

2) Consideration of Faculty Senate Resolution 07-10, “Anonymous Hot-Line and/or Suggestion Boxes”

This resolution was also introduced on November 6, 2007, and postponed on December 7.

Faculty Senate Resolution 07–10:
ANONYMOUS HOT-LINE AND/OR SUGGESTION BOXES

Sponsored by Senator Larry Crumbley

Whereas fraud, abuse, and corruption may be as much as 5 percent of U.S. GDP ($652 billion)\(^1\) or as much as $1 trillion annually in the U.S. But whatever the figure or amount, fraud is pervasive and imposes enormous costs on organizations.

Whereas a survey indicates that public sector employees reported relatively higher rates of misconduct compared with private organizations.\(^2\) Another well-known survey indicates that government is the second highest fraud industry.\(^3\) Louisiana, itself, has a history of being a corrupt state.

Whereas a national survey indicates that 74 percent of employees had observed misconduct within the prior year (76 percent in the 2000 survey). Public sector employees were at a much higher 81 percent. Over a third (38 percent) of employees would call an ethics or compliance hotline to report misconduct. More than one-half (52 percent) of employees would prefer to report misconduct to an ethics or compliance hotline.\(^4\)

\(^1\) 2006 Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE) survey. The 2004 report stated that 25% of fraud incidents occurred in government agencies, with a $48,000 medium loss ($652 b x .25 = $162b).
\(^2\) KMPG Forensic Integrity Survey, 2005-2006.
\(^3\) 2006 ACFE survey. The internet site Ashcraft & Gerel indicates that 10% of the U.S. annual budget is paid to companies or persons who are defrauding the government.
\(^4\) KPMG Forensic Integrity Survey, 2005-2006.
Whereas nearly one-half (48 percent) of owners’/executives’ initial detection of occupational frauds is by tips and 34.2% of overall initial detections of frauds is by tips. In other words, tips are the number one method of catching fraud, abuse, and corruption.\(^5\)

Whereas one fraud organization indicates that a hotline would reduce fraud by almost 50 percent.\(^6\) As to effectiveness, an organization with a hotline had a medium loss of $100,000 per scheme and detected fraud within 15 months. Alternatively, organizations without hotlines experienced twice the medium loss ($200,000) and took 24 months to detect fraud.\(^7\)

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that LSU should install an anonymous hot-line system for inside and outside persons to report fraud, abuse, and corruption.\(^8\)

If a hotline is found to be too expensive initially, locked suggestion boxes should be placed in various convenient locations around campus (where there are no cameras). The boxes should be only opened by a designated person in the LSU internal audit department.\(^9\)

Be it further resolved, if the university has not put out suggestion boxes after six months, the Faculty Senate will buy the boxes and start the process.

Senator Russo proposed that the resolution be amended to remove the sentence in the second paragraph that read, “Louisiana, itself, has a history of being a corrupt state.” The amendment was seconded and passed.

Questions and debate ensued concerning whether the ombudsperson should be involved with suggestion boxes, what sort of hot-line was intended, whether there was extensive fraud at LSU, and whether the internal auditing department at present is able to monitor spending. Senator Crumbley noted that the obudsperson would not be involved, that fraud involving a vendor was recently caught at the LSU Bookstore, and that the internal auditing department had not been consulted concerning this resolution. The question was called on the amended motion, and it failed to pass.

New Business:

President Cope reported that LSU System President Lombardi had asked the Council of Faculty Advisors (the heads of Faculty Senates in the LSU System) in December whether there was interest in a tuition exemption as a benefit for LSU system faculty. Extensive discussion now ensued on several issues. Senator Paul LaRock mentioned that a number of universities had extended tuition waivers to returning veterans from Afghanistan and Iraq, occasioning inquiries, addressed by Registrar Robert Doolos, concerning various benefits already in place at LSU for members of the National Guard and others in the military. Senator Steve Ross asked about the importance of tuition waivers in the recruitment of faculty to LSU. Questions arose concerning whether the waiver ought to be only for LSU tuition or a subsidy for tuition elsewhere, whether it would apply only to faculty children or to other family members, whether it would apply for daycare and school tuition as well as college tuition, and whether it would apply in the case of domestic partnerships. At this point the suggestion was made that a motion be proposed, and one was formulated on the spot by President Cope, with Vice-President Andrew Christie seconding:

5 2006 ACFE survey.
6 2002 ACFE survey.
7 2006 ACFE survey. The Sarbanes-Oxley Act requires audit committees of public companies to establish procedures for the confidential, anonymous submission by employees of concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters.
8 The Business Roundtable (May 2002) believes that “a corporation should have a code of conduct with effective reporting and enforcement mechanisms. Employees should have a means of alerting management and the Board to potential misconduct without the fear of retribution, and violations of the code should be addressed promptly and effectively.”
9 The U.S. sentencing guidelines provide reduced penalties for entities that have an “effective program to prevent and detect violations of law.”
Faculty Senate Resolution 08-01
CREATION OF AN AD HOC COMMITTEE TO STUDY TUITION BENEFITS

Sponsors: Andrew Christie and Kevin L. Cope

The Faculty Senate authorizes the Faculty Senate Executive Committee to create an ad hoc committee to assess faculty opinion concerning and to study the options for tuition benefits (waivers, exchanges, subsidies, discounts, etcetera) for faculty and their dependents as well as to evaluate the granting of similar benefits to veterans returning from Iraq or Afghanistan.

Vice President Andrew Christie moved, and Senator George Stanley seconded, a motion to suspend the rules so that the resolution could be adopted immediately, without the usual delay to the next meeting, and this motion passed.

With the rules thus suspended, Resolution 08-01 passed.

Adjournment

at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

James R. Stoner, Jr.
Secretary