HIGHLIGHTS FROM FACULTY SENATE MEETING
January 26, 1998

Resolutions 98-05, 97-04, 97-01, and 96-08

- Resolution 98-05, honoring Dean Billy Seay, was read and passed unanimously.
- Resolution 97-04 which pertains to the creation of an Ombuds Office at LSU was discussed.
- The ASH Committee recommendations and Resolution 97-01 for enhancing undergraduate admissions standards were discussed.
- The Improvement of Instruction Committee recommendations and Resolution 96-08 for evaluation of teaching was discussed.

MINUTES
Faculty Senate Meeting
January 26, 1998

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 pm. Invited guests included: Lisa Harris (Undergraduate Admissions), Robert Doolas (Registrar), Mary Jones (LSU Public Relations), Art Crowley (Center for Faculty Development), Robin Ethridge (Staff Senate), Michelle Masse, and George Strain. Minutes for the December meeting were approved with corrections.

Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost’s Report
1) Provost Fogel commented on the ASH committee report and Resolution 97-01, which pertains to changes in admission policy. He noted that the Chancellor supports enhancing undergraduate admissions standards for the year 2000. A subcommittee of the Board of Supervisors, ASH, and other F/S senators will meet to discuss further the process of enhancing admissions standards. The Provost noted that Dean Lisa Harris has written a letter to high school counselors to announce that: a) the ACCESS program has been discontinued and replaced with a 6-hour summer program (3 hours in English or mathematics with a 2.5 GPA), b) the admissions deadlines will be strictly enforced, and c) F/S is engaged in discussion regarding the enhanced admissions requirements for the year 2000.
2) Provost Fogel commented on the UPC Strategic Initiatives document (Release 1.1) and the planning process. He noted that questions have been posed to the deans to help determine the essential needs of the campus for 1998. The deans are to reply by mid-March. The deans and their departments (with faculty input) will then articulate college and departmental plans by mid-July.
3) Provost Fogel introduced Neil Mathews, Dean of the College of Education, as the new Vice Provost for Academic Affairs. He also noted that Dean Billy Seay is recovering from injuries sustained in a recent automobile accident and is doing better.

Resolution 98-05 (see below for complete text). Senator Richardson commented on Dean Billy Seay’s long-standing contributions to F/S, the Honors College, and the Athletic Program at LSU. In recognition of Dean Seay’s many contributions to the university and in the spirit of wishing him well as he recovers from his accident, Senator Richardson read Resolution 98-05 which he then moved (seconded, Draayer). The resolution to honor Dean Seay was unanimously approved.
President’s Report

1) President Collier mentioned that two members of the Board of Supervisors are willing to work with F/S and ASH on the process of strengthening undergraduate admissions standards. He noted that the proposed changes to admissions requirements for 2000 will have to be approved by the Board of Supervisors.

2) The Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSEC) reviewed a report from the Collateral Faculty Committee having to do with the status of non-tenure track faculty. FSEC has referred the report to the F/S Personnel Policies Committee for review and further input. FSEC is also working with Bob Kuhn and Sandra Walker of the Office of Budget and Planning to determine the number of persons who will be affected by the proposed changes in Collateral Faculty status.

3) FSEC has also received a draft revision of PS-69 (which pertains to misconduct in research). FSEC has referred the draft report to the F/S Personnel Policies Committee for review and further input.

4) FSEC has responded to Provost Fogel’s memo on hiring and promotion. A committee has been formed to look at faculty evaluation and to make recommendations for how post-tenure review should be handled. The committee consists of three faculty members (Ralph Kinney, Ravi Rau, Michelle Masse) and three deans (Roider, Hamilton, and Rabideau). He reiterated that post-tenure review is conceptualized as a method for improvement of all tenured faculty (including those in administration), and it is not intended to be punitive.

5) President Collier noted that a committee for the state legislature has been studying health insurance, and that he was called to testify before this committee a few months ago. He also noted that they seem to be ready to put forward a bill that has a good chance of being passed at a special session has been called for the end of March.

6) President Collier commented on the Board of Regents reorganization, noting that approval for CEO’s for different campuses is being challenged. President Collier is the LSU representative on the Faculty Advisory Committee to the Board of Regents, and he encouraged more LSU faculty involvement.

7) The Board of Supervisors recently met and LSU-A (Alexandria) has been approved to become a 4-year institution. LSU-A also has plans to build a childcare center (a 5,000 square ft. facility) which is larger than the childcare facility at UNO.

Questions and discussion followed. Provost Fogel noted that a capital outlay request of $2.0 million for a childcare center at LSU has been approved by the Board of Supervisors and has since been sent to the Board of Regents (note: the proposed childcare center must be self-supporting).

Ombuds Recommendation

Presented by Dr. Michelle Masse. She noted that F/S approved a resolution in January of 1988 to establish an Ombuds position at LSU. Last spring, she and Senator Ralph Kinney were charged by then acting Provost Carolyn Hargrave to explore the creation of an Ombuds position at LSU. She and Senator Kinney have since written an extensive report for the creation of an Ombuds Office at LSU. The executive summary of this report has been made available to F/S. In brief, Drs. Masse and Kinney offer two specific recommendations: a) the original charge for faculty only should be expanded to include all constituencies (students, staff, etc); and b) the percent effort proposed for the Ombuds person (a course release) should be larger. Dr. Masse also noted that some issues associated with the creation of an Ombuds Office are still under consideration, such as the scope of the position, the criteria for a qualified Ombuds person, and issues of confidentiality which are being debated by HRM. Questions and discussion followed. Dr. Masse noted that there are still questions regarding the position description and financial commitment to support an Ombuds office.

President Collier then read Resolution 97-04 (see below for complete text) which was introduced at the December 4th F/S meeting. Questions and discussion followed. Senator Kinney noted that there would be no connection between the Ombuds Office and the F/S Grievance Committee. He also noted that the length
of the initial term to serve faculty only had not yet been determined, but that the Ombuds executive report calls for an annual review of the program. Senator Mike Cherry raised questions about the Staff Senate’s position on the creation of an Ombuds office for faculty. President Collier noted that he has spoken about this on an informal basis with some Staff Senate members. Provost Fogel then thanked Drs. Masse and Kinney for writing such a thoughtful and comprehensive Ombuds draft report. He mentioned that a number of issues still remain to be resolved, and that the Council of Deans and Directors are opposed to the Ombuds recommendation. Provost Fogel suggested that representatives from the Council of Deans and Directors should meet with FSEC, perhaps before F/S proceeds on Resolution 97-04. President Collier agreed with the suggestion, but noted that it was appropriate for F/S to adopt this resolution insofar as the resolution gives broad suggestions, and not details as to the implementation of an the Ombuds Office. He also noted that the resolution was open to amendment. Senator Yannitell offered suggestions that were incorporated into a revised Resolution 97-04 (see below for complete text). A motion was made to amend the resolution. F/S voted to substitute the amended resolution, which was passed unanimously.

ASH Committee Report and Resolution
Senator Jim Wharton commented on the ASH committees’ recommendations for enhancing undergraduate admission standards. He suggested that ASH further revise the recommendations to include specific numbers and greater detail, and more information on the proposed summer program. Questions and discussion followed. Senator Mike Cherry noted that ASH has looked at establishing automatic admissions levels based on the median GPA of the last entering class. Provost Fogel noted that we will probably not adjust the admissions standards every year and that it will take a long time to observe 6-year graduation rates over multiple years. F/S voted unanimously to refer Resolution 97-01 back to the ASH committee.

Resolution 96-08 (see below for complete text). Senator Richardson described Resolution 96-08 which pertains to the evaluation of teaching. Questions and discussion followed. Senator Richardson noted that how Academic Affairs will monitor methods of teaching assessment will be worked out later. President Collier noted that Resolution 96-08 does not need a second reading. Senator Richardson motioned to postpone definitely (until the February F/S meeting) which was seconded.

Other Committee Reports. None

Old Business. None

New Business. Senator Yannitell requested that FSEC consider developing a F/S position on the proposal of LSU becoming a 4-year degree granting institution.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:00 pm

Respectfully submitted

Katie Cherry
Secretary
(Original) Senate Resolution 97-04, Creation of Ombuds Office

Whereas the Faculty Senate by SR 87-07 recommended the creation of an ombuds office; and

Whereas a report researching the parameters of implementing an ombuds program at LSU has been submitted, dated September 15, 1997, by Michelle A. Masse and Ralph Kinney;

Therefore be it resolved that the LSU Faculty Senate:

1. Recommends that this office initially serve faculty only; and

2. Specifically recommends that the ombuds office be staffed by two persons with faculty status so that the entire faculty can be served appropriately.

(Revised) Senate Resolution 97-04, Creation of Ombuds Office

Whereas the Faculty Senate by SR 87-07 recommended the creation of an ombuds office; and

Whereas a report researching the parameters of implementing an ombuds program at LSU has been submitted, dated September 15, 1997, by Michelle A. Masse and Ralph Kinney;

Therefore be it resolved that the LSU Faculty Senate:

1. Endorses in principle the report by Michelle A. Masse and Ralph Kinney (dated September 15, 1997) for the establishment of an Ombuds Office at LSU & AM and requests the administration continued dialogue and meetings with various constituencies involved.
FACULTY SENATE MEETING ATTENDANCE

Date January 26, 1998
[✓ = Present, * = Proxy]

✓ ______ Ajmera, Pratul
✓ ______ Anderson, Nels
✓ ______ Anderson, Laurie
✓ ______ Austin, Stephen
✓ ______ Bengston, Richard
✓ ______ Blouin, David
✓ ______ Boethel, David
✓ ______ Brown, Mitchell
✓ ______ Carney, Robert
✓ ______ Chandler, Timothy
✓ ______ Cherry, Katie
✓ ______ Cherry, Mike
* ______ Cummins, Catherine
* ______ Delzell, Charles
✓ ______ Draughn, Peggy
✓ ______ Draayer, Jerry
✓ ______ Durway, Flo
✓ ______ Elliott, Gregory
✓ ______ Fletcher, Alan D.
✓ ______ Garand, James
✓ ______ Hargrave, Carolyn
✓ ______ Harris, Steven
✓ ______ Harrison, Douglas
✓ ______ Hegsted, Maren
✓ ______ Hoffman, Paul
✓ ______ Homberger, Dominique
✓ ______ Hudson, Ameli
✓ ______ Jackson, Mary
✓ ______ Johnson, Seth
✓ ______ Jordan, Rosan
✓ ______ Kahn, Judy
✓ ______ Kinney, Ralph
✓ ______ Koptcho, Leslie
✓ ______ Lam, Nina
✓ ______ Lewis, James
✓ ______ Martin, John
* ______ McNeil, Roger
* ______ Mohan, Brij
✓ ______ Moore, Jeff
✓ ______ Motsenbocker, Carl
✓ ______ Murray, Stephen
* ______ Oliver, Julian
✓ ______ Paccamonti, Dale
✓ ______ Poliakoff, Erwin
* ______ Reams, Margaret
✓ ______ Richardson, Malcolm
✓ ______ Rinks, Dan (Elizabeth Wilson)
✓ ______ Rossman, Doug
✓ ______ Rosso, Leslie
✓ ______ Schilling, Paul
✓ ______ Spruill, David
✓ ______ Stanton, Leonard
✓ ______ Stine, Mike
✓ ______ Summers, Teresa
✓ ______ Tang, Kwei
✓ ______ Theis, Chris

✓ ______ Thune, Ronald
✓ ______ Tolbert, Charles
✓ ______ Voyiadjis, George
✓ ______ Watson, Dana
✓ ______ Wharton, James
✓ ______ Windhauser, John
✓ ______ Wing, Nathaniel
✓ ______ Worthy, Terry
✓ ______ Yannitell, Daniel
✓ ______ Zagacki, Kenneth

PROXIES:
Flo Durway for Catherine Cummins
Paul Britt for Chip Delzell
John Martin for Julian Oliver
Stephen Murray for Margaret Reams
Stephen Murray for Paul LaRock
Charles Grenier for Brij Mohan