HIGHLIGHTS FROM FACULTY SENATE MEETING
November 6, 1996

President's Report
- The special investigating committee found improprieties but no outright violations except with the Chancellor’s Incentive Award Scholarships.

Committee Reports
- Special investigating committee’s report, which included recommendations to prevent further irregularities in awarding scholarships, was accepted by the senate.

New Business
- Senate Resolution 96-02 passed, calling for a revision of the student financial aid system and for a national search for a new Chancellor.
- Senate Resolution 96-03, asking that the Faculty Club be removed from Food Services negotiation, was given its first reading.

Faculty Senate Minutes
November 6, 1996

Meeting called to order: 3:04pm. Invited guests included Laura Lindsay, Bob Kuhn, Daniel Fogel, Eric Reid, Paul Estes, and others. Numerous visitors were also present, including representatives from the Advocate and two television stations. Minutes of the October 4 meeting were amended to read in Laura Lindsey’s report “Act 459” instead of “Act 453.” Minutes approved by voice vote.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT.

a. Investigating Committee Report. President Collier discussed at length the events of the last month, including the improprieties regarding the Chancellor’s Incentive Awards, the resignation of David “Sonny” DeVillier, and the resignation of Chancellor Davis. He spoke in the context of the upcoming presentation to the senate of the report of the special investigating committee chaired by Ralph Kinney. President Collier noted that the committee has two chief charges, 1) to investigate the influence of the Chancellor’s Office on scholarships, and 2) to make recommendations based on what it found (SR 96-01). The Executive Committee will look at the recommendations and direct them to the proper senate committees. The investigating committee found new improprieties but no further outright violations of the scholarship criteria. The committee also looked at graduate tuition awards, 10% of which were at the discretion of the Chancellor’s Office, the remaining 90% of which were found to be administered properly and met the stated criteria. The only outright violations were in the Incentive Awards. The Internal Auditors had performed their jobs in an exemplary way, and he cited particularly Jack Kellogg and Craig Holden. The investigating committee heard a number of rumors, but did not follow up when the parties implicated resigned. A Faculty Forum was called on Monday to allow the faculty to openly discuss the search for a new Chancellor and to put several possible scenarios forth. Meetings have also been held with the Boyd professors, department heads, the Staff Senate, and many students. The result of such meetings is Senate Resolution 96-02, to be presented today. The Board of Supervisors meets on Friday and needs to hear the will of the faculty.

B. Food Service. A resolution will be presented to the Supervisors on Friday allowing PFM-Compass to draw up plans, but the disposition of the Faculty Club will not be decided until the December 13 meeting. At the next senate meeting various group representatives will be present who could not make today’s meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Special Investigating Committee. Senator Kinney presented the report, which was distributed at the meeting. The committee found no evidence of wrong-doing outside the Chancellor’s Office, and, after the resignations of the Chancellor and his Special Assistant, felt that its job was not to “take fingerprints” but help in the healing
process and recommend ways to prevent future irregularities of this type. Senator Yannitell asked about the procedures in recommendation 5, and was told that this was to assure that resolutions going to the Board from the Administration are reviewed by as many upper administrators as is practical. Senator Stoner asked several questions relating to the committee’s consideration of recent judicial rulings on affirmative action and the presence of an affirmative action officer on campus at the time of the Incentive Award violations. Senator Kinney said that the committee did not consider affirmative action rulings. Senator Yannitell moved that the report be accepted (2nd Windhauser). Passed unanimously by voice vote. President Collier thanked the committee, which is now dissolved.

NEW BUSINESS

a. SR 96-02, read by President Collier. Senator Rossman commented that the senate should not endorse a candidate, as the last part of the resolution appears to do, and moved that the final section beginning with “and further” be cut (second Yannitell). Senator Yannitell then argued that the presence of a strong internal candidate discourages good candidates elsewhere from applying. Senator Moore moved that a written ballot be taken on this amendment. Voting by hands showed 32 for the amendment, 11 against. Written ballots were therefore distributed and the amendment passed, 45 for, 11 against. Senator Yannitell then ask that the resolution assure that the Interim Chancellor be from the Baton Rouge campus, and moved to change in the last paragraph the phrase “the ranks of the University” to “the ranks of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College” (2nd Moore). Passed by a voice vote. Senator Moore moved that the word “non-candidate” be removed since such a stipulation may preclude a good candidate. Senator Yannitell commented again about a strong internal candidate being a disincentive to good outside applications, a comment seconded by student Bobby Weil, who also asked if the Executive Committee had met with the Boyd Professors and agreed to push Dr. Jenkins’ candidacy. President Collier said that two members of the Executive Committee had met with the Boyd professors, and that while at that time he thought to recommend Dr. Jenkins’ immediate appointment, he has since had second thoughts. Senator Moore said that the amendment is not specific to Dr. Jenkins. Student body president Paul Estes noted that the Student Senate had recommended a national search. A voice vote was taken and the amendment was defeated. Senator Hornberger asked what levels above the department chair SR 93.02 refers to; President Collier commented that Associate Deans and similar positions are a dean’s staff and are not included. Prof. Poliakoff moved that President Copping’s name be dropped from the resolution, but the motion failed for lack of a second. Senator Kinney moved to suspend the rules and vote on the resolution this meeting (2nd Voyiadjis); the motion passed by voice vote. The resolution as amended passed unanimously by a voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS

a. SR-96-03, on the status of the Faculty Club, was brought to the floor and read by Sen. Stockbauer (2nd Kinney). Sen Stockbauer said that since many of the key people are not at this meeting and since the Board will not act until after the December senate meeting, debate should be held in December. Prof. Lipscomb, vice-president of the Faculty Club, expressed concern that PFM considers the Faculty Club to be an important part of their contract and may not wish to let it be removed; he noted that Edith Babin’s survey of such arrangements shows that quality slips, and the Faculty Club could become more like what the Plantation Room is now. Patrick Hampton, a student, reminded the senate that student fees were raised to improve overall food service and the faculty should look at the overall benefits to the university as a whole. President Collier said that according to what he has been told, exclusion of the Faculty Club will not jeopardize negotiations; a high quality of service may even be developed through PFM. Senator LaRock stated that the Faculty Club belongs to the faculty, and he has seen standards decline through privatization. Sally Kuszenski observed that the Faculty Club is the only place on campus where faculty can bring guests and not be ashamed; chasing after profits will cause a decline. President Collier noted that PFM has promised to keep the same management.

Senate Resolution 96-03

Whereas the Faculty Club is an integral part of the University community, serving as an important meeting place for faculty, staff, students, and guests and is a very visible interface to the outside world;

Whereas privatization will almost certainly result in lower standards of service and food quality and a change in the ambiance of the Faculty Club;

Be it resolved:

that the Faculty Senate recommends that the Faculty Club be removed from the Food Service contract, and its operations remain under direct control of the university.
b. Replacement of Engineering Senator. Senator Kinney pointed out that President Collier’s senate seat needs to be filled [etc., as in minutes of 10/4/96] and the Engineering College would prefer not to have an election. Kinney moved to allow Thomas Ray, the most recent runner-up in an election, to fill the vacancy (2nd LaRock). A motion was made an passed to suspend the by-laws and allow a vote at this meeting. Pratul Ajmera noted that he wrote the current by-law regarding elections and what is proposed is in the spirit of the by-laws. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Malcolm Richardson
Secretary

FACULTY SENATE MEETING ATTENDANCE

Date: November 6, 1996

[✓ = Present, ∗ = Proxy]

✔ Anderson, Nels

✔ Beck, Stephen

✔ Blouin, David

✔ Boethel, David

✔ Brown, Mitchell

∗ Carney, Robert

✔ Cassidy, Jane

✔ Cherry, Katie

✔ Cherry, Mike

✔ Collier, John

✔ Cox, Van

✔ Draughn, Peggy

✔ Draayer, Jerry

✔ Durway, Flo

✔ Elliott, Gregory

✔ Freiberg, Darbara

✔ Hargrave, Carolyn

✔ Harris, Steven

✔ Hegsted, Maren

✔ Hoffman, Paul

✔ Homberger, Dominique

✔ Hudson, Amelia

✔ Johnson, Seth

✔ Jordan, Rosan

∗ Kahn, Judy

✔ Kappel, Leonard

✔ Kinney, Ralph

✔ Lam, Nina

✔ LaRock, Paul

✔ Lawson, Jimmie

∗ Lewis, James

✔ Luzzar, Jane

✔ Martin, John

✔ Mohan, Brij

✔ Moore, Jeff

✔ Moroney, James

✔ Nelson, Arnold

∗ Oliver, Julian

✔ O'Reilly, Kathy

✔ Paxton, Ken

✔ Reans, Margaret

✔ Richardson, Malcolm

✔ Rossman, Doug

✔ Rosso, Leslie

✔ Sanchez, Rosa

✔ Schilling, Paul

✔ Spruill, David

∗ Stanton, Leonard

✔ Stone, Greg

✔ Stoner, James

✔ Strain, George

✔ Tang, Kwei

✔ Tolbert, Charles

✔ Voyiadjis, George

∗ Waggenspack, Warren

✔ Watson, Dana

∗ Wharton, James

* Wilson, Elizabeth

* Wilson, Paul

✔ Windhauser, John

* Wing, Nathaniel

* Worthy, Terry

* Yannitel, Daniel

* Zagacki, Kenneth

PROXIES: (i.e., Joe Smith for Peter Brown)

Malcolm Richardson for Judy Kahn Erwin Poliakoff for Mary Barkley

George Voyiadjis for Elizabeth Wilson Charles Shindo for James Lewis

David Boethel for Ken Paxton George Voyiadjis for Dan Yannitel (after 4:07)

R.E. Turner for Robert Carney Jeff More for Carolyn Hargrave (after 4:15)

Irene Di Maio for Leonard Stanton (on leave 1996-97)

Roger Stockbauer for James Wharton John Collier for John Windhauser

John Martin for Julian Oliver George Voyiadjis for Warren Waggenspack