HIGHLIGHTS FROM FACULTY SENATE MEETING
November 6, 1998

Provost Fogel, Chancellor Jenkins, ASH Report and Resolution

- Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Daniel M. Fogel addressed the Senate
- Chancellor William L. Jenkins addressed the Senate
- Mike Cherry reported on the work of the Admissions, Standards, and Honors (ASH) Committee
- Resolution 99-07 was presented and discussed

MINUTES
Faculty Senate Meeting
November 6, 1998

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 pm. Invited guests included Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Daniel M. Fogel, Chancellor William L. Jenkins, Laura Lindsay, Neil Matthews (Academic Affairs), Mike Cherry (ASH), Michelle Forbes (Admissions), and Carrie Pagley (Reveille). Minutes for the October meeting were approved.

Remarks by Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Fogel

The Provost discussed the planning process for LSU-BR and described it as "succeeding." There has been communications with representative deans and directors and the October 15 broadcast e-mail resulted in a productive dialog. A time line of activities was also provided for the planning activities that will occur over the next two years.

Information about the Chancellor's Distinguished Lecture Series was communicated via broadcast e-mail. The program, sponsored by private funds, should enhance the intellectual climate of the campus; all faculty are invited to nominate potential participants.

The Provost reported on the rising perception of LSU based on exit interviews with persons involved in the recent accreditation process for the School of Music.
The Provost responded to questions about Chancellor Jenkins' approval by the Board of Supervisors to become the LSU System President and the search process for a new Chancellor for LSU-BR.

President's Report

Alan Fletcher reported on the Board of Supervisors meeting and their resolution regarding faculty/staff raises.

A request for proposals on privatizing the campus bookstore has been written but a decision has not been made regarding this issue.

Ralph Kinney, Chair of the Commission on the Status of Academic Ranks, has submitted a report to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee on collateral faculty.

Remarks by Chancellor William L. Jenkins

The Chancellor stated that the general situation for LSU-BR is very positive with "momentum on many fronts." As an example, he cited the situation with the TOPS program in that many of the implementation obstacles have been overcome. While LSU-BR may not have quite as good a fiscal year as anticipated, faculty/staff raises are a top priority for the LSU Board of Supervisors.

The Chancellor reported on the situation regarding the LSU System Presidency. Jenkins intends to be involved with the search for a new chancellor for LSU-BR and if that process is not finished by March 1 (when he takes over as LSU System President), he may do both jobs for a short while until a permanent chancellor is in place. Jenkins confirmed that if there is an interim chancellor is appointed, that person would not be a candidate for the permanent position.

ASH Report

Mike Cherry, ASH Committee Chair, reminded the Senate that the ASH Committee was charged to review admissions standards (specifically alternatives/equivalent standards to the 2.5/20 criteria) after SR 98-07 was passed last May. Cherry provided a handout with statistical information on enrollments, retention rates, and analyses of equivalent combinations of high school GPA and ACT. Cherry noted that the TOPS requirement of an ACT score of 20 will go into effect this year.

Much discussion ensued. Topics discussed were the sliding scale of GPA and ACT score combinations, the message this sends about LSU-BR in terms of public relations issues, minority admission issues, the idea that a 17% success rate is not really "success," the idea of taking additional action after the Board of Supervisors already passed a resolution on equivalents, to name a few.
Senator Bengtson introduced SR 99-07 (see attached). More discussion ensued. Bengtson emphasized that SR 99-07 highlights the desire of the LSU faculty for higher standards for automatic admission of students.

SR 99-07 was amended by Senators James Lewis and Richard Bengtson, voted, and passed.

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth J. Wilson, Secretary
LSU Faculty Senate Resolution 99-07

(Original)

Whereas the Admissions Standards and Honors (ASH) Committee was directed in Senate Resolution 98-07 to examine student performance data related to the incoming grade-point average and ACT score; and

Whereas the Committee has carried out this duty and the Chair has made a report to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee on this matter;

Therefore be it resolved that the Faculty Senate

1. Recommends that automatic admission be granted to students meeting the standards listed in Senate Resolution 98-07 and approved by the LSU Board of Supervisors in July 1998, and

2. Recommends raising admissions standards within the next two years to a higher level, with the approval of the Board of Supervisors, and

3. Directs the ASH Committee to examine the impact on minority and total enrollment if the automatic admissions standards are set at the current median level of GPA and ACT scores for the current freshman class.
LSU Faculty Senate Resolution 99-07
(Amended)

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3. Directs the ASH Committee to examine the impact on minority and total enrollment if the automatic admissions standards are set at the current median level of GPA and ACT scores for the current freshman class with the understanding that these equivalents will have no lower than a 19 GPA with an equivalent predictor and a GPA no lower than 2.3 with an equivalent predictor. Specifically, the equivalents are:

GPA  ACT
2.3/23  
2.4/21  
2.5/20  
2.6/19.