FACULTY SENATE MEETING
Tuesday, October 9, 1990
3:00 p.m.
Royal Ballroom, LSU Union

AGENDA

1. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting of September 12, 1990

2. President's Report

3. Address by Vice-Chancellor Hargrave, "State of the University"

4. Old Business
   Final action on Faculty Senate Resolution 90-1 (recommends to the graduate faculty that policies governing the general examination be amended to allow the advisory committee authority to schedule the general examination with up to 6 credit hours of required course work remaining to be taken in subsequent semesters)

   Open Forum -- PS-36

5. New Business

If you are unable to attend this meeting of the Faculty Senate, please refer to the Faculty Handbook (1990 edition) for alternate representation. Alternate representation at Senate meetings should be a faculty member or another Senator from your college.
President Kinney called the meeting to order at 3:05 and welcomed Vice-Chancellor Hargrave, Joe Dean (athletic director), Billy Seay (Chairman of the athletic council), Carruth McGehee, and press representatives Erleke Alexes Prewel and Clamie Solleau.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting of September 12, 1990: There being no additions or corrections, Minutes were approved as distributed.

2. Address by Billy Seay (Athletic Council Chairman) and Joe Dean (Athletic Director): Dr. Seay spoke on the composition of the Athletic Council stating that there were 5 faculty members, 2 from the administration (Dr. Carolynn Hargrave who serves per Board of Supervisors' Bylaws) and Dr. Huel Perkins (who serves at the pleasure of the Chancellor), 2 alumni, 1 "LM Club" member, 1 staff member, 2 students which includes the SGA President. The Athletic Council acts in an advisory function to the athletic director and the Chancellor and helps with the NCAA schedules, approves awards and scholarships. The Faculty Representative chairs the council and has additional responsibilities including certification of players. The graduation rate for athletes from 1975 through 1984 were football - 42%, basketball - 22%, all other sports - 47% with a range of 65% - 37%. Athletics receive tutoring, scholarships and other help to encourage them to get their degrees. They do take longer to graduate than other students, but new NCAA legislation may require them to have at least 50% completion of their degree requirements by the end of their 3rd year. Some of the major changes to be considered at the January NCAA meeting include summer school financial aid limits, scholarship limitations in basketball (maximum 4/year, 7/2 year, no upper limit), and scholarship limitations in football (5/2/year, 4/2/year, no upper limit).

Athletic Director Joe Dean spoke on the progress the athletic department has made in graduating athletes. The department oversees 18 sports, 9 female sports and 9 male sports. Only football and basketball make money and the athletic department is financially self-supporting.

3. Address by Vice-Chancellor Hargrave: "State of the University": Vice-Chancellor Hargrave's remarks focused on the University: Then, now, and in the future.

LSU in the 90's differs vastly from the LSU of the 80's. Enrollment has declined from approximately 27,500 to 25,300. The quality of the student body, both undergraduates and graduates, has risen. The average ACT of incoming freshmen has climbed from 19.5 to over 22 and GRE scores have risen from approximately 1038 to 1085. At the beginning of the '80s, grants and contracts brought in $17 million; the level is now over $55 million. Then our computing facilities relied on an IBM 3033 with a capacity of 5 MIPS; today our computing power is 140 MIPS. One negative aspect is the library's drop in national rankings. In 1980 the library ranked 48th in number of volumes added and 46th in library budget; today it ranks 53rd in volumes added. During the decade, LSU was recognized by the Carnegie Foundation as a Research University I, and thus joined the top two percent of the country's institutions of higher education.

The decade of the '80s was difficult for the University because of the state's financial condition that led to reduced appropriations. The positive changes that occurred at LSU can be attributed to the extraordinary commitment of the faculty and administration to preserve the heart of the University, to refuse to allow budget problems to weaken programs important to the University and the state.

In order to enhance, not simply maintain, the quality of LSU in the 90's, we must continue to upgrade the quality of the faculty. We must make certain that every decision concerning faculty, whether initial hiring, reappointment, or promotion/tenure, utilizes the highest standards. We cannot settle for second best. Our procedures must be fair and equitable. PS-36 has undergone major revision, a collaborative effort of the Faculty Senate, the Council of Academic Deans and Directors, and the Office of Academic Affairs. This year, we will work out the "bugs" and implement it next year.

We must continue aggressive recruitment of the highest quality graduate and undergraduate students through strengthened academic programs and enhanced scholarship programs. We must emphasize quality instructional and research programs.

We must continue to develop the resources necessary for the state's comprehensive university. We need additional funding simply to insure that LSU's libraries will provide the services necessary for our extensive research and instructional programs. Our support funds are inadequate and must be increased.

We must work collaboratively across department, college, and even university lines. The (b) proposals are excellent examples of the type of collaboration that is needed. Solutions to problems are becoming increasingly complex and require knowledge from many disciplines. We must not think so much about protecting our turf.

And as we prepare for reaffirmation of our SACS institutional accreditation, we must assess the effectiveness of our programs, which means that we must answer some hard questions. What is the University's contribution to students' learning? How do we measure what we student? What do we do about that contribution? Can our students do what the degree implies? How do we measure the quality of our students? How do we measure the quality of our programs? How do we measure the quality of our faculty? How do we measure the quality of our support staff?

The important agenda for this year is to identify where we want to be in the year 2000. We must set goals and priorities. LSU cannot do all things to all people. In the 80's we tried very hard to protect the heart of the University in the face of severe budget cuts. Now we must make certain that every dollar we receive is allocated to a top-priority.

4. President's Report: The Executive Committee has formed a Network Group to assure distribution of information, implement activities, etc., especially when time constraints are present. There was a short network meeting after the Senate adjourned to discuss PS-36.

The Personnel Policy Committee is involved in the propriety of a professor charging for a book he wrote and requiring it to be used in his class.

The Staff Senate is trying again to change the educational policies of staff members at LSU by reformation that would include: revision of eligibility for tuition waiver/reimbursement for 3 years to 1 year; tuition waiver for staff, faculty, and their dependents; no restrictions on type of course taken; no job related criteria; extension of tuition waiver/reimbursement for up to 9 hours of undergraduate and/or 8 hours of graduate credit per semester as long as only one course taken during regular work hours; and an educational flextime policy to allow employees course flexibility while still meeting responsibilities and requirements.

The Staff Senate is working with other sponsors for a Christmas Party again this year for the children of the University Community. If the Faculty Senate would like to join in as co-sponsors, they would be very welcome. Anyone wishing to help out, the committee is meeting on Monday, October 15 at 2:00 or 2:30 in the Union. For more information, call Catherine Hol (43-5721).
5. Old Business  Final action on Faculty Senate Resolution 90-1 (recommends to the graduate faculty that policies governing the general examination be amended to allow the advisory committee authority to schedule the general examination with up to 6 credit hours of required course work remaining to be taken in subsequent semesters). Senator Kirshner, the author of the resolution, reported that written policy does not specify that the doctoral student must be in the last semester of coursework in order to take the general examination; however, the practice of the graduate school is to reject application of the general examination in prior semesters. He argued that the readiness of the student to take the examination is properly the responsibility of the doctoral committee, and that for certain fields such as education, which are traditionally interdisciplinary, it might be useful for the student to realize at the start of their program of studies that considerable work, including post- general-examination coursework, might be required to find a credible dissertation topic. Resolution 90-1 was intended to allow the advisory committee the ability to set such expectations. The argument from another Senator, that the proposed policy could lead to unnecessary complications in the case where a student who passed the general examination fails subsequent required courses, proved persuasive. Senator Feagley called the question, and Faculty Senate Resolution 90-1 failed.

Open Forum -- PS-36  Copies of the latest PS-36 draft and a cover letter from Vice-Chancellor Hargrave were given to the Senators and there was a discussion concerning some of the changes that were made.

6. New Business Senator Grodner offered Faculty Senate Resolution 90-2

FACULTY SENATE RESOLUTION 90-2

"Elimination of the COMD 1051 Speech Requirement for International Students on Research Assistantships"

WHEREAS, the original intent of the aforementioned requirement, established in 1986, was mainly to insure English language proficiency among international teaching assistants, and

WHEREAS, there is great variance across the LSU campus in awareness and enforcement of this requirement,

WHEREAS, any communication problems among international research assistants should focus first and foremost on adequate communication of the student's research which is within the authority or domain of the individual department and Major Professor or Advisory Committee,

WHEREAS, the designation "Communication Disorder" is an insulting term which in no way indicates the ability of the research assistant to properly communicate his/her research, who may in fact, be educated in an English-speaking country or use English as a second or third language, and

WHEREAS, such a requirement is arbitrary and does not allow academic flexibility by those most intimately involved with the research assistant's progress to properly evaluate such needs, and

WHEREAS, the requirement is faulted in its being all-exclusive regardless of the individual student's language ability and does not recognize the exceptional status of research assistants;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED; that it is proposed that the mandatory requirements of the international research assistants must enroll in COMD 1051 be rescinded, allowing the particular department and its faculty to evaluate the communication skills of their international research assistants on an individual basis and to make appropriate recommendations where necessary.

There was a discussion. It was decided to accept Faculty Senate Resolution 90-2 for a final vote at the November meeting.

There being no further business, President Kinney adjourned the meeting at 4:45 pm and asked the Senators who were interested to stay for a short meeting concerning networking and PS-36.

The next Faculty Senate meeting is Monday, November 12, 1990, in the Atchafalaya Room of the LSU Union

ATTENDANCE: (4) present (1) absent


PROXIES: Senator Hillman for Senator See-Youn Cho
Senator Helinger for Senator Campbell
A. Holmberg for Senator Bourgoyne

Senator Massey for Senator Helinger
Senator Massey for Senator Teddie
Senator Massey for Senator Dietz

 Signed
Faculty Senate Secretary