Faculty Senate Meeting
8 October 1993

Actions, expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to serve the University, and challenged the senate to continue and not falter. Vice Chancellor Haden then introduced Interim Vice Chancellor and Provost William Jenkins, describing his ability and positive leadership while dean of Veterinary Medicine since 1988 and summarizing his academic credentials. Senate President Collier thanked Vice Chancellor Haden for his contributions while at LSU.

Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost William Jenkins addressed the senate, recalling that he was a charter member of the Faculty Senate at Texas A & M University. The past 5 weeks have been spent as an "itinerant" meeting the rest of campus. His philosophy is that "I work for you" and that his goal is to "create a milieu for you to walkabout" the rest of campus. The boundaries for Coivid-19 for those with whom he works still exist. His ability as long as asked to do so: "we're going to control our own destiny." He feels very positive about the future.

President's Report

The Board of Supervisors has appointed a committee to study the issue of faculty workload (Cauthen, chair, Ogden, and Collier). The first meeting was to gather information; the second was to present a draft to the Board by 1/29/94. The Faculty Personnel Policies Committee is also addressing the issue. The Board is to report back to the Board by 1/29/94.

The Positive Campaign for Renewal through its first rally, which was not very successful. The structure of the committees in the campaign is being re-evaluated. President Collier is on the Steering Committee.
Academic Events Committee and Daryl McKee chairs the Marketing/Public Relations Committee. The latter will consider such activities as Adopt an Oak, Paint a Classroom, Adopt a Part of Campus, and possibly some form of rally days.

Vice President Catano reported on the status of the planning effort/document. A copy of a memo from Vice Chancellor Haden postponing the initiation of the planning process was distributed. Some campus units have already begun working on the process in anticipation of notification to do so. Senators are asked to poll their faculty on their perspectives of the entire concept.

Old Business

A revision of the previously-considered Dead Week Policy and Request For Exception Form were distributed. This version resulted from discussions between Vice Chancellors Haden and Jenkins, President Collier, and Student Senate President Moret, and includes emphasis on major exams and inclusion of a section on exceptions. Senator Muller asked if exceptions were to be allowed for student activities also. Senator Frankie pointed out that a deadline date for requesting exceptions to the policy should be included. Senator Strain moved that the revised Policy, with modifications to exclude exceptions for student activities and to include a deadline for exception requests, be accepted as Faculty Senate Resolution 93-01. Senator Kinney moved to suspend rules to permit voting on the policy at this meeting, which Senator Hammond seconded. The Senate voted 19-15 in favor, failing to meet the necessary 2/3 majority.

SENATE RESOLUTION 93-01

The purposes of a concentrated study period and of final examinations are to enhance the learning experiences of the students and to gauge their level of achievement. Accomplishment of these purposes requires that students and faculty proceed with these activities in an orderly fashion which can be anticipated by both. Disturbance of the concentrated study period by outside activities, social events or otherwise, detracts from the student's opportunity to prepare. Similarly, extracurricular activities must not be permitted to distract students during final examinations.

Concentrated Study Period

The five-day period (Wednesday-Sunday) immediately preceding the week of final examinations will be set aside as a concentrated study period.

During this time, no extracurricular student activities, such as social and athletic events, will be held on or off campus, and there shall be no required major examinations in academic courses. An exception to this policy is that laboratory courses may be examined on laboratory material.

Final Examinations

Six days (Monday-Saturday) will comprise the final examination period. Final examinations are required in all courses and must be given during the published dates for the final examination period. During this time, no extracurricular student activities, such as social and athletic events, will be held on or off campus.

A final examination is defined as the last in a series of major tests called for in the course syllabus. It is not required that the examination be comprehensive. If the course syllabus does not call for a final exam, the last major exam is to be considered the final exam and must be given in the final examination period. When a series of major tests is scheduled in addition to the final examination, the last of the major tests may not be given during the concentrated study period.

Final exams and performances in laboratory-type course may be given or required during the concentrated study period.

Exceptions

Exceptions to the policies governing final examinations and examinations during the concentrated study period may be requested. A form for requesting exceptions may be obtained from the department, the college/school, or the Office of Academic Affairs. A brief justification for the requested exception, i.e., sound academic reasons or exceptional circumstances, must be provided on the form. Approvals by the appropriate department chair, dean/director, and the Office of Academic Affairs are required.

These policies will become effective with the spring semester of 1994.

New Business

Election was held to fill a vacant position on the Grievance Committee. Nominees included John Collier (Chem Eng), Norimoto Murai (Plant Path), and Robert Lyon (Art). John Collier was elected.

On a motion by Senator Kinney, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:00 pm.

George Strain
Secretary