Faculty Senate Meeting
Oct. 11, 1994

PROXIES:

Jayme Marler (Reveille).

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Neal Cronin for Malcolm Richardson.

The meeting was called to order by President Strain at 3:05 pm. Visitors included Provost William Jenkins, M. Pitts (Gen. Ed. Comm.), M. Boudreault (Staff Senate), P. Cumberbatch (Athletic Council), Greg Hussey (assoc. Dean, Basic Sci), S. Hubbard (LSU Today), and Jayme Marler (Reveille).

President Strain asked for a volunteer for parliamentarian. Senator Waggenerask moved to approve the minutes of the Aug., 1994 meeting; R. Kinney seconded the motion, which was approved. Senator Ajmera moved to approve the minutes of the Sept. 1994 meeting; Senator Waggenerask seconded the motion, which was approved.

Visitor Presentation

Provost William Jenkins addressed the Faculty Senate on "The State of the Academy" -- the issues confronting LSU; developments at the university, and Jenkins' personal concerns. He stated the creed of Academic Affairs as a "student centered, faculty supportive research institution." LSU's resources are its students, faculty and staff. Although the university had budgeted for a decrease in the student population, enrollments have increased to where they were last year. The university strives to recruit and retain students. The quality of the LSU student has improved, and the goal is an average ACT 24. There has been an increase in minority students. The university has lost 120 faculty. A hundred and forty new faculty have arrived; most are junior faculty; there has been an increase in minority faculty. The staff is excellent, but classified and unclassified positions have been lost.

LSU is examining three phases of a student's relationship with the university: recruitment, retention, alumni. Student recruitment is a top priority. Jenkins has spoken with the recruiting team. He stressed that faculty can play a critical role in graduate and undergraduate recruitment. Pre-college programs also play a vital role since 40% of the participants will return to enroll in the university. Progress still needs to be made in student retention. Student retention requires attention to unmet demands for required courses. Progress has been made, and the commission on Gen. Ed. has done an outstanding job. As a part of student retention, counselling and advising must be improved. Initially, closing JD seemed the logical solution. However, such an action would be counter to national trends in higher education. JD is part of larger continuum. The final phase of a student's relation with LSU is as an alumnus. Less than 9% of LSU's alumni contribute. To address these problems a task force will be formed which looks at the continuum of a student's relationship with the university. The task force is focussing now on recruiting. Next it will examine orientation, physical and psychological needs of students and financial aid.

The Committee's recommendations included the naming of a Director for Summer School; meeting the needs of faculty and students; restructuring the school. A Committee has also been established to consider Evening School. The program has been very helpful. However, problems have appeared as more and more regular LSU students enroll in it. The Committee has been charged to examine the organization and management of Evening School. The SACS site visit team will be campus Oct. 24-26. The Steering Committee and the faculty involved in the Self Study document are to be commended for their excellent work. It is expected that there will be recommendations which will be a part of assessment and evaluation. In November, the NCAA will be on campus for recertification. Pat Culbertson is chairing the Steering Committee for this visit. Jenkins reported on the Repeat/Delete Policy. The proposal had been sent to ASH which is the correct procedure. If there is a change in the current policy, it would be necessary to reconsider the policy on withdrawal date. It is now a concern that the number of hours for graduation has begun to grow. This is especially problematic since few students carry a full load and could result in most students taking six years to graduate. The desegregation plan is with the Board and attorney, and it is impossible to give an update. There is now work to establish a transfer credit articulation agreement for the transfer of courses among state schools. The library is an important concern. LSU library holdings were ranked 37 among research libraries in 1989; its ranking is now 81. It is necessary to look at remedies. The Faculty Senate Library Committee has done good work to alleviate the problem. Dean Cargil is looking into innovative ways

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to address this problem which would allow for new subscriptions to journals. Overnight document delivery is a possibility. This is not a
problem currently because many faculty use multi-modal approaches which would address this. The problem is that a band-aid solution
might be needed, but there might be some longer-term solutions. Study of faculty workload and accountability has shown that
the LSU faculty work hard and are productive. LSU needs publicity.

There have been important developments in the university. The Gen. Ed. Commission and Committee have made significant
impact on the logjam in students' getting needed classes. New classes are also evolving. M. Pitts who chaired both the committee and commission
on general education has done an excellent job. M. Landrum has been hired to head The Center for Faculty Development. There are work
stations available for faculty to make CD-ROMs. Two programs have been started to develop better service on campus: Connections is a
2-week program which trains staff to become more student friendly and responsive; Partners has been formed to train student workers
to deal better with the public. Johnell Hall will soon have records and registration so that all student concerns will be housed in one building.
At LSU-Alexandria the Education program is doing well, but Business and General Studies are having problems. At the moment these
are being run by their respective schools on the LSU campus. In regard to scholarships, the alumni have contributed $100,000 for 100
scholarships. These are leadership scholarships which are given in the freshman year, and the recipients must attend leadership lectures.
LSU has made efforts to attract Merit scholars. This year 18 or 19 Merit Scholarship semi-finalists have been attracted. There will be $35.
M. for deferred maintenance from the state. The Summer Access program was a success. The Program Abroad will now answer to Provost
Jenkins, no longer to continuing education. Provost Jenkins will meet with Chairs periodically and may encourage them to form a council.

Programmatic Planning has been well done. Provost Jenkins will publish a White Paper on Academic Programs and give it to the Faculty
Senate to review. There must be a clear articulation of academic goals, objectives and priorities. This White Paper should be completed by
the end of spring.

Provost Jenkins concluded with a list of his major concerns for LSU: 1. Faculty and Staff must receive raises. A fourth year without
raises would be catastrophic. 2. Budget: the university has $1.4M. in escrow which should be released, but there is no news yet from the
courts. 3. The computer network is beginning to degrade and is very vulnerable. The network on campus is almost at saturation. It has
become an important logistical problem. 4. Decline in libraries. 5. Equipment in undergraduate laboratories has reached a critical level. 6.
Upgrading physical facilities and classrooms to accommodate technology. 7. Competing for students. Higher education has become a
competitive business, and the facility can assist in this problem. Need to keep best students at LSU. There has been a modest increase in
enrollment, but this could grow substantially with increased efforts. 8. Impact of admissions. What will be the impact of an increase in 2.3 GPA next Fall have on admissions? 9. We need to continue to work on minority enrollment. 10. Duplicate
courses: the Board of Regents has already gone through a low-credit review. Before this review a number of low completer programs
have already been cut off. The last item on the agenda is the duplicate programs. Last year's Ph.D. program (Social Work) successfully went forward. Spanish and Anthropology are Ph.D. programs which are waiting for review. It is feasible to have only one doctoral program a year approved. There may come a time when to get a Ph.D. program approved it may be necessary to落户. 12. Assessment of individual programs. How good are our graduates? LSU has been asked to document what happens to its graduates, especially those who leave before graduation. 13. LSU has a large number of academic policies forming a large bureaucratic system. Now it is time to see if it is possible to simplify the system. It is time to get a small group together to address this problem and facilitate the academic process.

Provost Jenkins acknowledged questions from the Senate. Senator Sbroda asked about campus computers. Would all students have
access to e-mail as they do on other campuses? Jenkins answered that newly enrolled students have access, but access is a part of the
enrollment process. How does the university ensure that students are using their degrees? 13. LSU has a large number of
restrictions on how to use its grants. Provost Jenkins agreed that it was difficult and that new avenues were to have to be explored.

Presidents Report

President Strain announced that a list of all current senators was available. He welcomed the new senator from Math James
Lawson. When the membership of the CPC is finalized a list of membership in all Senate standing committees will be available. As was
requested in the Sept. meeting, a handout on background on the LSU Access Program was also available.

The last meeting President Strain reported that the Repeat/Delete issue had been resolved. However, the SGA has continued
to pursue this. Provost Jenkins called a meeting with President Strain, L. Lindsay, A. Fletcher (ASH), Mr. Triche (SGA President), and Ms.
Guiste (SGA Vice President). They met after M. Womack began to receive 4-5 calls a day from students on this issue. The history of the
proposed policy was reviewed: ASH had spent a year considering it and recommended to the Senate that no change be made. The Faculty
Senate agreed with this recommendation. If a change is made in repeat/delete it would be tied to an earlier drop date and a limit in the
number of drops. Mr. Triche still wishes to proceed and was informed that he must submit a proposal to President Strain which will be
forwarded to ASH which would make a recommendation to the full Senate. President Strain announced that all Senators were invited to a
viewing of the photographs of the Boyd Professors and to a coffee to be held in the Tower Quad on Friday, Oct. 14 at 8:30 A.M. The AUP
is inviting gubernatorial candidates to luncheons to discuss issues of higher education. The first candidate is M. Landrieu. Those who wish
to attend should contact F. deCaro (AUP President) or E. Poliakoff. The University Planning Committee, as a part of the SACS Self Study,
developed a Faculty Master Plan. The committee is promoting the development of a more pedestrian campus. These changes will not occur
soon since they are linked to purchasing property for additional parking and to the development of a shuttle system. A prioritization of
construction projects has been done. This process must be done annually and submitted to the Board of Regents.

The SACS Self Study recommended that students in all courses be provided with a written syllabus giving the bases for assigning
grades. This is covered in PS-44 (grades). The Executive Committee is drafting a revision of this document. ALFS will meet in Alexandria
on Oct. 15. There was an evaluation of final exam schedule done by L. Lindsay and R. Doodie. There was a request to hold night exams from
6-8 rather than 8-10. However, conflicts, especially with group exams, make this impossible. A committee has been formed to examine
textbook royalties and how the state ethics law affects faculty's benefits from assigning their own texts or course materials. The committee
is chaired by L. Pierce (Educ); its members are N. Apostolou (Acct), J. Glassock (Business), J. Hamilton (Mass Comm), D. Hornberger
(Zool), and P. Paikoff (Hist).
President Strain announced that student organizations are holding a campus wide blood drive, Nov. 8-10. The Staff Senate has asked for volunteers for their annual Holiday on Campus, a program for children to be held at the LSU Field House, Dec. 4, 3-5 P.M.

Old Business: none

New Business:

Senator Svoboda introduced Senate Resolution 94-01 to create a faculty liaison with the Board of Regents.

SENATE RESOLUTION 94-01

Whereas the Faculty of the public university system has no representation on the Board of Regents, and
Whereas the Board of Regents has no official Faculty spokesperson to refer to for advice on issues crucial to higher education in our state, and
Whereas the Faculty has a strong interest in hearing the views and advice of the Regents on matters of higher education and university administration,

Therefore, the President of the Louisiana State University Faculty Senate is directed to negotiate with the other Faculty Senate bodies in the other public universities of Louisiana for the regular election of a liaison to the State Board of Regents. The duties of such a representative should be:

1. To attend public meetings of the Board of Regents in order to be available to the Regents for advice and information
2. To be a contact person for the Regents to ensure that the views and policies of the Board of Regents are disseminated to the university faculties in a timely and accurate manner
3. To be a spokesperson for the faculties to the public concerning matters that come before the Regents

Negotiations should include (but not be limited to):

1. The manner of the election and the period of office
2. The method of funding for travel to Board of Regents meetings

Senator Svoboda moved the resolution; it was seconded by Senator Polaskoff. Since President Strain would be informing ALFS, meeting Oct. 15, that the LSU Faculty Senate was considering this resolution, Senator Svoboda moved to suspend the rules to allow for an immediate discussion and vote on Resolution 94-01; it was seconded by Senator Van Fleet and passed. In the discussion, Senator Honeycutt asked about the appropriateness of "liaison" and asked if this "liaison" would have voting privileges. Senator Svoboda responded that the word choice was intentional since faculty do not have official representation on the Board of Regents. President Strain added that the faculty could have a voting member on the Board of Regents only through a change in the state constitution. The resolution passed unanimously.

M. Pitts, chair of the Gen. Ed. Commission and Committee, introduced the senate resolution on the change in the science component in the Gen. Ed. requirement.

SENATE RESOLUTION 94-02

Whereas the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost and the Faculty Senate Executive Committee jointly appointed the Ad Hoc Commission on General Education in the Fall Semester of 1993 to study the General Education Requirements, and
Whereas the Commission recommended to the Faculty Senate General Education Committee changes in the Natural Sciences component of the General Education Requirements as described below, and
Whereas the Senate General Education Committee endorses those changes,

Therefore be it resolved that the Faculty Senate change the total credit hour requirements of the General Education Requirements from 39 hours to 38-39 hours, and change the Natural Sciences component of the General Education Requirements as follows:

1. Change the number of hours from "9" to "8 or 9"
2. Delete the following statement which currently is found on page 52, column 2 of the 1994-95 catalog:

   "Students are required to take course work in both the biological and the physical sciences, with a two-semester sequence in one area or the other"
3. Replace the above statement with: "To complete the natural science requirement a student must take at least eight semester hours, including one two-semester sequence from the following list, and the remaining credit hours may include (1) a laboratory associated with the chosen sequence, (2) an individual lecture course from the following list or (3) a lecture course from the two-semester list but in a science discipline different from the two-semester sequence."

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 P.M.  

Emily Batinski  
secretary.