LSU Faculty Senate Meeting
3:00 P.M., September 8, 2005, Atchafalaya Room, LSU Union Building

Attendance

**Faculty Senate Executive Committee members present:**

1. William H. Daly (Senate President) 5. Randall Hall (Member-at-Large)
2. D. Larry Crumbley (Vice-President) 6. Claire Advokat (Ex Officio, Immed. Past Pres.)
3. Paul W. Wilson (Secretary) 7. Member-at-Large (to be elected at meeting)
4. Judith Schiebout (Member-at-Large)

Parliamentarian: Andrew King (*present*).

**Senators present:**


**Proxies for absent Senators:**

1. Kathy Lee O'Reilly for Bruce Mark Olcott
2. D. Larry Crumbley for Robert Tague, Nicholas G. Apostolou
4. Jeffrey M. Gillespie for Witoon Prinyawiwatkul
5. Pratul Ajmera for Charles Delzell
6. Joseph Skillen for Robert Peck
7. Lois Jeanne Kuyper-Rushing for Lisl Zach

**Senators absent without proxies + (# of absences without proxies):**

Highlights
Of the LSU Faculty Senate Meeting
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- Introduction of new FS executive committee
- Introduction of newly elected senators
- Discussion of minutes for past meetings
- Current status of PS-36 versions
- Discussion of PM-35 senate subcommittee
- Current status of administrative searches
- Recommendations concerning the Graduate Dean and Council
- Announcement of faculty discussion board
- Chancellor O’Keefe’s remarks on LSU’s response to hurricane Katrina
- Scholarship changes approved by Academic Affairs Committee of the BOS
- Revisions in university calendar for this semester
- Discussion of review to support indirect costs negotiations
- Announcement of library usage surveys
- Election of third member-at-large

Minutes
President Daly opened the meeting at 3:00 P.M. with a reading of the proxies and named Bruce Olcott as replacement for departing senator Glen Pettifer.

Election of seven members for the LSU Faculty Senate is still ongoing to bring membership up to required number. As of this meeting there are 64 elected senators yielding a quorum of 32 which was met.

President Daly introduced the new Faculty Senate Executive Committee consisting of:
Larry Crumbley, Vice President
Paul Wilson, Secretary
Judith Schiebout and Randall Hall, Members at Large
Clair Advocate, Ex-President,
Andrew King, Parliamentarian

Guests present included:
Chancellor O’Keefe,
Provost Palm
Brenda Macon, Staff Senate President
Michelle Gieg, Student Gov. President

President Daly introduced the newly elected senators:
Maud Maureen Walsh Suzanne Marchand W. Douglas McMillin William W. Armstrong
Jeffrey M. Gillespie Steven C. Hand Dan B. Rinks Rebecca Saunders
Kenneth W. McMillin Vincent J. LiCata Yiping Lou James L. Murphy
Dorothy Prowell Kevin M. Smith Patsy Scates Dennis W. Duffield
Cathy S. Marshall D. Larry Crumbley James H. Gill, Jr. Bruce Mark Olcott
Amulfo G. Ramirez Nicholas G. Apostolou Lois Jeanne Kuyper-Rushing

President Daly recommended that consideration of the Faculty Senate February 17, 2005 meeting minutes be postponed as the latest written version had not been posted for senators to consider. He suggested that the corrected version be considered at the next monthly meeting after senators had time to read it.
The current version of the April 11, 2005 Faculty Senate meeting minutes were distributed and considered next. With no additions or corrections, it was moved by Michael Wascom and seconded by George Stanley. Minutes were approved by voice vote.

President Daly reported on the status of PS-36 and PM-35. PS-36T and PS-36I are in the hands of the Deans’ review committee chaired by Dean Ross. When that report is received, Vice-Provost Wilson has agreed to have members of both committees meet to resolve any differences. The final versions will then be sent to the university lawyers for final review.

The PM-35 subcommittee, headed by Pratul Ajmera, met several times this summer and drafted a new version of PM-35 which is mounted on the faculty senate website. Vice-Provost Cartledge is reviewing this document. President Daly has provided a copy of the document to the Faculty Advisory Committee of the Board of Supervisors for their consideration. This will be on the agenda for the next FAC meeting on September 22.

President Daly made note of the comments by Mr. Charles Weems, member of the Board of Supervisors who stated at the July 7-8 board meeting “a review of the termination matter for the meeting left me with many questions as to the efficacy of PM 35 and PS 104 process. Those matters appear to me not flawed but, perhaps, not as well screened as they might be or not as clear. I ask that Mr Lamonica and the President work on updating those and making that process a little more streamlined and understandable.” [Minutes-Regular Board meeting July 7-8, 2005, p 11]

President Daly mentioned the on-going and recently completed administrative searches which include:
1. Vice Chancellor for Research and & Economic Development - Dean Kevin Carmen is chair of the search committee
2. Dean of Students
3. Dean of Enrollment
4. Ombudsperson with 23 applicants so far
5. Michael Ruffner has been appointed Vice Chancellor of Communications & University Relations
6. Brian Voss has been appointed Chief Information Officer

A committee chaired by Professor Jimmie Lawson has reviewed the options for Graduate Dean position. The review included questionnaires submitted by 23 peer universities and 33 responses from department chairs/graduate advisors on campus. Recommendations of this committee include:
1. There should be a graduate dean who is a member of the Deans’ Council and reports to the Provost.
2. The Graduate Council should be expanded to include a member from each college/unit offering graduate programs along with 3 at large members [going from 10 to 15-16].
3. Graduate faculty membership should be continued but there should be a relaxation of reporting requirements after tenure and full membership achieved.

President Daly mentioned the recently introduced Faculty Discussion Board which appears in the Paws Page under Campus Community Heading. This forum was instigated after several surveys indicated that faculty wanted access to a forum for discussions of current topics. The Board is an opportunity to create a discussion on any topic of concern with the proviso that your identity cannot be hidden.

There were some questions raised concerning whether anyone would look at the discussions. President Daly indicated that, at the very least, the FSEC would look at the Board.

Chancellor O’Keefe arrived and began by discussing the current LSU response to hurricane Katrina. A special needs center was set up in Maddox and a triage center in PMAC. At least 5000 people were treated. Volunteerism of faculty, staff and students was significant. University of Illinois and Columbia University sent medical teams to help. As of this date, numbers of people at the staging areas in New Orleans have decreased and these centers have been closing down with new evacuations sent directly to hospitals. The creation of the evacuation centers is now being documented so that agencies can decide what worked and what did not.
The chancellor mentioned that the evacuation has brought 2800 new students [as of this date] to LSU. Students are having trouble getting classes and some arrived with nothing more than student ID and no other documentation. This has revealed a need to arrange reciprocity agreements with other universities. Students are also having financial problems and LSU Foundation and TAF are arranging a Katrina Student Relief Fund. Provost Palm is also looking at ways to add assistance. Other universities [Georgia, Arizona] are offering assistance to Louisiana students.

The chancellor also mentioned the Bush/Clinton fund for aid to those suffering losses from Katrina.

Several questions were asked concerning the research proposals that could be submitted including how to organize and submit proposals in a concentrated effort.

The Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Supervisors recently authorized an increase in scholarships. The Board has approved an increase in value of two undergraduate scholarships:
- LSU Alumni Top 100 Scholars raised from $1000 to 2000/yr
- LSU Centennial Award cash award raised from $500 to $1000

The Board also introduced a new scholarship for entering freshman called the Freshman Merit Award with scholarships up to $2000, $1000 for first year
They also authorized supplements for Graduate Fellowships ~ $5000/yr

Revisions of the Fall 2005 calendar were discussed. Finals will be one week later. Graduation will be on December 19 but grades will not be due until December 20, 21 so students will receive diploma covers only. The university will mail diplomas to the students. There will be no change for the Spring semester calendar.

A question was asked whether the graduate fellowship was opened to all departments.

President Daly reported on some upcoming events. There is an ongoing review to support indirect costs negotiations.
There is also a space inventory review for teaching and research which must be completed by end of fiscal year. This will include account numbers if outside funding is supporting research in a laboratory.

The library will be conducting usage surveys. They wish to determine what proportion of usage is instructional and research. Random surveys conducted over 2 hr. periods with short questionnaire as you enter library. On-line searches will also see a pop-up questionnaire. Completing the survey can help channel more funds to the library.

President Daly thanked all the faculty and staff who worked the entire Labor Day Weekend to register and accommodate displaced students.

There was a problem mentioned concerning the revised calendar which may impact long range travel plans for international students. These students are advised to contact the instructors of their classes.

A suggestion was made to use the new Faculty Discussion board to develop ideas for rebuilding New Orleans.

A recent Board of Regents report concerning displaced faculty in Louisiana containing contact numbers for help was distributed. A copy is mounted on the Senate web page.

The election of the third Member At Large was conducted. The FSEC nominee was Lois Jeanne Kuyper-Rushing from Library. There were no nominations from the floor. George Stanley moved that nominations be closed which was seconded by Larry Crumbley. Lois Jeanne Kuyper-Rushing was invited to address the senate and was elected by acclamation.
Old Business
The second reading of Resolution 05-11 was presented by Andrew Christie. Christie reported that the ASH study of grade inflation found that grades were mostly steady after accounting for normal factors. Only Basic Science and Agriculture had slight increases over the last ten years. He recommended that the continued study be stopped since additional information would not be helpful. He also indicated that GPA and ACT scores were not very good predictors of success but high class drop rate was a significant predictor. Approval of report was proposed by Andrew Christie and seconded by Larry Crumbley. Voice vote was taken with approval.

New Business
Names for speakers to address the senate were solicited. Ray Nagin and Kip Holden were suggested as well as someone from the governor’s office.

A question was asked concerning inviting displaced colleagues conducting research to come to Baton Rouge. Apparently other universities are inviting Louisiana researchers to leave the state.

Other suggested topics included the recent announcement of increased parking fees and the raising of fringe benefits to 28% both without any faculty input.

There was a topic suggestion concerning the rebuilding of New Orleans and how much input Louisiana should have in FEMA policies.

The adequacy of health insurance for graduate students remains a topic.

President Daly requested a move to adjourn which was so moved by George Stanley. The meeting adjourned at approximately 5 PM.