FACULTY SENATE MEETING

Tuesday, September 8, 1987
3:00 p.m.
Atchafalaya Room, LSU Union

AGENDA

1. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting of May 5, 1987

2. President's Report

3. Appointment of members to Special Committees
   a. Recruitment, Tenure and Promotion Guidelines Revision
   b. "Ombudsman" position proposal
   c. Faculty Awards

4. Election of Executive Committee member from new members of the Senate. Nominees: Ralph Kinney (Engineering)
   Charles Wilson (Wetland Resources)
   Nominations are open for 1990 Senators from units other than Agriculture, Arts & Sciences, Business Administration, Library, and Veterinary Medicine.

5. Old Business
   a. Progress Reports:
      1) Committee on Status of Women--Martha Collins and Dan Fogel, Co-Chairmen
      2) University Commission on General Education--Peter Soderbergh, Chairman
   b. Appointment of Committee to Evaluate General Education (Response to Faculty Senate Resolution 86-7)

6. New Business

If you are unable to attend this meeting of the Faculty Senate, please refer to Article VI, Appendix b, page 36 of the Faculty Handbook (1986 edition) for alternate representation (alternate representation at Senate meetings should be a faculty member or another Senator from the same college as you are).
President Purtle called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and welcomed Martha Collins, Glenn Danelle, Cormuth McGeorge, Peter Soderbargh, Dan Vannitall and press representatives Jeff Opdyke and Carl Redman.

Parliamentarian for the meeting was Gary Moore.

President Purtle welcomed the following new Senators: Agriculture—Seth Johnson, Gary Moore; Arts & Sciences—Panthea Broughton, Irene DiMaio, Susann Dorman, Wade Dorman, Gresda Doty, Michelle Masse, Malcolm Richardson, Selma Zebouni; Basic Sciences—Russell Chapman, Barun Sen Gupta; Business—William Lane; Education—Thomas Hosie; Engineering—Ralph Kinney; General College—Roy Roberts; Library—Ethelyn Stott; Library Information Science—Bert Boyce; Nuclear Science—Adnan Yucel; Veterinary Medicine—Grace Amborski, Carol Fowl; Wetland Resources—Charles Wilson.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting of May 5, 1987 There being no additions or corrections, the Minutes were approved as distributed.

2. President’s Report

Business of Senate during summer Because President O’Connell and Vice-President Hotvedt were out of town much of the summer, out-going and in-coming members of the Executive Committee acted collectively in handling Faculty Senate business. President O’Connell requested that Dr. Purtle represent him at the Executive Council meetings and at the Board of Supervisors’ meetings.

Special meeting with Chancellor Wharton on July 14 Anticipating budget problems for the 1987-88 year, the members of the Executive Committee met before the budget was known to discuss what action the Faculty Senate should take in the event of substantial budget shortfalls. As an outcome of that meeting, the Executive Committee asked Chancellor Wharton to meet with the Senate if LSU had a budget shortfall, which it did. When Chancellor Wharton received news of the budget, he scheduled an informational meeting with the Senate for Tuesday, July 14.

The Governor had first reported that LSU would be included in the across-the-board cuts. He later reported that higher education was excluded from these cuts. Even so, the LSU budget was approximately $11.8 million dollars short of the standstill budget of the previous year because of budget cuts the previous year, decreased revenues, and increased fixed costs. At the time of the Senate meeting with the Chancellor, LSU was unsure about the additional cut of approximately 5 million dollars. The Chancellor reported at that time that the Vice-Chancellors had come up with substantial administrative cuts of about 7.5 million dollars, which left about 4 million to be cut from the colleges. Thus, faculty on contracts would not have to be terminated. However, if LSU were to be included in the across-the-board cuts of other state agencies, the future was less clear for the faculty. Numerous questions relating to LSU policies and practices and AAUP guidelines were asked of the Chancellor.
Because of the uncertainty of the situation at that time, the Executive Committee met informally with the Senators to discuss the need for a special meeting of the Senate. The Senate members reached an informal agreement on a specified meeting time in the event that LSU would receive the additional cut. The purpose of this proposed meeting was to discuss how LSU policies and practices meshed with AAUP guidelines for financial exigency. Since LSU did not receive the cut, the meeting was cancelled.

The Senate thanks Chancellor Wharton for meeting with Senate members at that time. His talk was covered by the press, and it helped to relieve much of the tension throughout the university. President Purtle also thanked the Vice-Chancellors who relinquished substantial portions of their budgets to accommodate the cuts. LSU is likely to receive additional cuts before the end of the budget year. Deans are now being asked to prepare proposals for long-term savings.

Continuing projects for the Senate

Some progress was made on continuing projects of the Senate during the summer.

(a) As noted in the May 5 Minutes, the Commencement Exercises Committee submitted a report in response to Faculty Senate Resolution 82-6 which recommended changes in procedures for commencement exercises. These changes were related to both the functioning of the Commencement Exercises Committee and to proposals for gaining more decorum at commencement exercises. These changes focus on reducing routine duties of the faculty by assigning them to administrative personnel. The faculty will retain certain responsibilities as well as a policy-making role for commencement. Some of these changes need to be sent to the by-laws committee. Others are simply matters of custom and can be changed easily.

Dr. Corsvet, who had chaired the Commencement Exercises Committee, and President Purtle were asked to serve on an ad hoc committee appointed by Vice-Chancellor Hargrove to review and take action on the recommendations. In regard to decorum at commencement exercises, recommendations of the committee were implemented and new ones added for the summer commencement. Both graduates and parents were mailed letters requesting appropriate behavior. In an attempt to reduce the feeling of anonymity, faculty from each department were asked to walk with their graduates and to come early and visit with the graduates prior to the exercises. Graduates were organized by departments within colleges. Each college was led by a faculty member carrying a sign designating the college. The change in the behavior of both the graduates and the guests from other recent graduations exceeded expectations. This ad hoc committee will continue to implement and monitor changes at the fall and spring commencements.

(b) The following statement, which is a response to Faculty Senate Resolution 86-6, will appear in the 1988 LSU catalog:

Students who fail to attend the first class meeting without prior arrangement with the department may be required to drop the course to make space available to other students. Students have the responsibility to assure that they have been dropped; otherwise they are liable for a grade of “F” in the course.

Concerns for 1987-88

At the May meeting, Dr. Purtle expressed some concerns that she wanted to focus on this year. The Faculty Senate has already received responses from the administration with respect to most of these.

(c) LSU Benefits Package

One concern to every employee of the University is the benefits package. Faculty Senate Resolution 86-5 asked the administration to do something about improving the benefits package. The Faculty Personnel Policies Committee is focusing on this issue this year. President Purtle has discussed this problem with Chancellor Wharton, with the Executive Council, and with President Copping. All have assured her of their concern.

Some progress is being made in that Vice-Chancellor Baudin is now a member of the Teacher’s Retirement Board and James Piasance from the System Office is now the higher education representative on the State Board of Trustees for the State Employees Group Benefits Program. Chancellor Wharton is learning how the insurance industry functions and is going to meet with the Faculty Personnel Policies Committee to determine how they can best help the case. President Copping is appointing a System committee to present a plan to upgrade the benefits package. President Purtle has been invited to sit on that committee. This is an issue that the Faculty Senate will certainly continue to pursue.

(b) In a related matter, the Executive Committee sent a letter to Mr. Piasance this summer objecting to the proposal to limit the number of HMOs in one area (two for Baton Rouge) and to select the HMOs from the lowest bidders. This proposal was not adopted by the Board of Trustees.

(c) At the August Board of Supervisors meeting, President Copping stated quite strongly that increases in faculty salaries must be the top priority of the Board and the administration for next year. He told President Purtle that he meant both across-the-board raises and merit raises.

(d) In response to President Purtle’s concern about PS-36 and other tenure and promotion guidelines, Vice-Chancellor Hargrove has requested that she chair a joint committee of deans and faculty to revise the guidelines. The Faculty Senate Executive Committee stipulated that a joint committee should be chaired by a faculty member and should have a majority of faculty on the committee. The recommendations of that committee will be presented to the Faculty Senate for approval. From the Senate, the guidelines will be sent to Academic Affairs where they will have to be approved by the Council of Deans and other administrators. Faculty members who have concerns about the current PS-36 or other tenure and promotion procedures should contact President Purtle by memo outlining concerns and suggested remedies by September 25, 1987. President Purtle emphasized that this committee will be concerned only with procedures. Criteria for promotions and tenure will be dealt with only in an attempt to insure that the procedures allow for maximum presentation of relevant criteria.
(e) There is concern about the lack of a policy on unethical behavior, including sexual harassment. President Purtle has been informed that the original draft of this policy has been divided into two policies: one on unethical professional behavior and another on sexual harassment. They are both under review by the university attorney and should be out within a couple of months.

(f) President Purtle mentioned concern over the lack of faculty rewards for activities other than research. Related to this concern, Associate Vice-Chancellor Dommert had requested that the Faculty Senate appoint an ad hoc committee to look at all the awards currently available to faculty and to make recommendations for additional awards. The Senate is gladly following through on this request, but President Purtle's concerns include salary and promotion considerations as well as awards.

(g) The Executive Committee has approved an ad hoc committee that will prepare a proposal for the creation of an "ombudsman" position. A tentative concept of this person would be a faculty member who is knowledgeable of the inner workings of the university, who would assist faculty with university-related problems such as grievances, not knowing who to contact about a specific problem, and possibly negotiating between two disagreeing parties. This person should be respected by the administration, but appointed by the Senate.

3. Appointment of members to Special Committees

(a) Recruitment, Tenure and Promotion Guidelines Revision
   Professor Virginia Purtle, Chair (Arts & Sciences); Professor Ted Bourgoyne (Engineering); Professor Joseph Bova (Design); Dean William Cooper (Graduate School); Professor Robert Dodke (Agriculture); Dean James Henry (Business); Dean Ronald Henry (Basic Sciences); Vice-Chancellor Roland Dommert, consultant (Academic Affairs); and Nancy Brueck, recording secretary (Associate, Academic Affairs).

(b) "Ombudsman" position proposal
   Michael Grimes, Chair, (Arts and Sciences); Ajaye Bloomstone (Library); Daniel Earle (Design); Abner Hammond (Agriculture); and Larry Mann (Engineering)

(c) Faculty Awards
   Sam Hilliard, Chair (Arts and Sciences); Jim Burke (Design); Pat Culbertson (Business); Dan Hillman (Veterinary Medicine); and Amelia Lee (Education)

4. Election of Executive Committee member from new members of the Senate
   The Executive Committee nominated Ralph Kinney (Engineering) and Charles Wilson (Wetland Resources). Their being no nominations from the floor, a motion to close the nominations was made by Senator Strain, seconded by Senator Brodner, and passed. Ralph Kinney was elected by written ballot.

5. Old Business

   (a) Progress Reports:

   1) Committee on Status of Women, Martha Collins and Dan Fogel, Co-Chairman. The Committee has four broad goals: (1) to help the University in its pursuit of excellence by making possible greater contributions to the University by women; (2) to help the University in the further enhancement of an attitude of fairness among all the members of the campus community; (3) to enrich the educational world of which LSU is a part; and (4) to contribute to the increased development of talent for Louisiana and for society at large.

      The Committee has established the following as initial tasks: (1) conduct a study of salary equity between 1980 and 1987; (2) determine the representation of women in academic units as compared to the national marked; (3) develop a questionnaire to assess faculty opinion regarding equity on campus; (4) determine the number of women in administrative positions between 1980 and 1987; (5) provide detailed recommendations based on the finds of the Committee and to propose a plan of action for the University.
Although the data base which will be used in the initial phase of this study does contain salary information, the Committee wishes to assure the faculty that it is committed to confidentiality and no names are associated with the data—only members. After the initial analysis of data and further review of reports from other institutions, the Committee anticipates some refinement and possible expansion of their initial goals. They hope to distribute the questionnaire to faculty in late fall or early spring.

Don Fogel said the Committee will need the help of the faculty as LSU does not have resources comparable to other universities that have conducted similar studies.

2) University Commission on General Education  Peter Soderbergh, Chairman. In August the Commission, because of circumstances it could not anticipate, with the consent of Vice-Chancellor Hargrave, made several changes to the general education program to accommodate students. The Commission approved the idea of allowing a student who had been out of the University for two or more consecutive semesters to follow the current catalog or the proceeding year's. This rule applies to re-entry, second degree, and transfer students for 1987-88 only.

Presently the Commission is in the process of seeking outside funding to support the preparation of interdisciplinary courses, and trying to establish linkages with the Faculty Senate on evaluating General Education as the program unfolds. The Commission in initiating the second cycle of requests to depts that wish to have courses considered for the 1988-89 general education component. Negotiations with the Educational Testing Service are underway to initiate an assessment of our General Education program. The Commission is studying the feasibility of publishing a General Education bulletin.

In the spring the Commission may survey one thousand students going through the program.

(b) Appointment of Committee to Evaluate General Education Requirements  (response to Faculty Senate Resolution 86-7) The following people are members of this committee: Paul Lee, Chair (Basic Sciences); Jonathan Allen (Agriculture); Robert Courter (Engineering); Richard Cox (Design); Terry Geske (Education); Daniel Kyle (Business); and Anna Nardo (Arts and Sciences)

(c) Acceptance of Faculty Senate Report 86-15  (Improvement of Instruction) A motion to accept Faculty Senate Report 86-15 was made by Senator Perrault, seconded by Senator Strain, and passed.

6. New Business

(a) Daniel Yannitelli, chair of Admissions, Standards, and Honors Committee, presented Faculty Senate Resolution 87-1 and a catalog statement from the Committee on Admissions, Standards, and Honors. Dr. Yannitelli reported that Dr. Carruth McGehee will provide statistical information. The Committee found that this proposed policy will have no effect on the great majority of students who have not been violating this policy. After consulting with the Council of Associated Deans and Directors and Academic Services, the Committee feels that it is possible to administer and enforce this policy, but it may need some fine tuning. A motion to accept Faculty Senate Resolution 87-1 for a final vote at the October meeting was made by Senator Strain, seconded by Senator Broughton, and passed.

FACULTY SENATE RESOLUTION 87-1

WHEREAS, the University has implemented admission standards for 1988 and a General Education Component to improve educational excellence, and

WHEREAS, students have preregistration, registration, and late registration to supplement and modify their course schedules, and

WHEREAS, students may withdraw from courses without penalty of "W" grades through the fourteenth class day, and

WHEREAS, the courses required for each curriculum are described in the General Catalog, and

WHEREAS, at least one-eighth of all grades given to undergraduates are "W" grades,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the proposed catalog statement below be adopted as policy for undergraduate students entering LSU in the fall of 1988 or thereafter.
CATALOG STATEMENT

ADDITION OR DROPPING COURSES

A course may be added or dropped only in accordance with the dates indicated in the "Academic Calendar." The student will initiate the action by means of a form obtained from the office of the dean.

After the last day to drop courses without a "W," and until the final date for resigning as shown in the "Academic Calendar," students cannot drop courses except under one of the following provisions:

(a) A student may drop all courses by withdrawing from the University according to the guidelines in the section on "Resignation from the University."

(b) A student is allowed a limited number of uncontested (peremptory) course drops in accordance with the following schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Hours of Coursework Satisfactorily Completed at LSU</th>
<th>Number of Uncontested Course Drops Permitted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 - 30</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 - 60</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61 - 90</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>91 - 120</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>etc.</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A grade of "W" will be recorded for each uncontested (peremptory) drop.

From one 30-hour interval to the next, a student may carry forward up to two unused (peremptory) drops.

(c) A student may petition in writing to the Dean of his or her college to drop a course. Such a petition will be granted if, in the Dean's judgment, (1) the student is unable to complete the course in question due to a severe mental or physical disability, or (2) unusual and extenuating circumstances beyond the student's control justify the withdrawal from the course. A grade of "W" (Hardship Withdrawal) shall be entered on the transcript for all courses approved for drop by petition.

After the final date for resigning as shown in the "Academic Calendar," petitions to allow resignations from the University or to allow hardship withdrawals from courses may be considered by the Dean of each college.

Dr. Yannitell said this program is patterned very closely after the one used by the University of Washington and he feels this proposal is a conservative step in the right direction. There was discussion among several Senators concerning the Resolution. Generally the concerns were: a) that students were allowed to drop courses; b) that this statement would encourage students to register for courses with the intent of dropping some courses, some more than once; c) that the policy would be system wide; and d) that students be allowed to drop seven courses over the entire degree program.

There being no further business, President Purtle adjourned the meeting at 4:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Abner Hammond, Secretary
FACULTY SENATE REPORT NO. 86-15

Report of the Committee on Improvement of Instruction

Nikki Spencer served as chairperson of the Committee during the fall semester. Because of medical reasons she was replaced for the remainder of the year by Charles E. Adams, Jr.

During the year, the Committee continued its activities in support of the Office of Academic Development, whose mission broadly overlaps the charges of the Improvement of Instruction Committee. Because of this overlap and of a desire to see an expansion of OAD capabilities, a majority of the members recommend that the Improvement of Instruction Committee charge be modified to make it an advisory body, responding primarily to requests from OAD when that office finds advice of the faculty to be necessary and appropriate. Corollary to this recommendation is the need to encourage future development and expansion of OAD, including adequate financial support of its various activities.

Dr. David England was elected Chairman of the Improvement of Instruction Committee for the 1987 academic year.

Charles E. Adams, Jr.
Jim Chambers
Bob Chumbley
Doris Dantin
Robert Edling
David England
Lynn Garrett
Arthur Halbrook
Bill Lane
Jim Traynham
Mark Tullis

May 10, 1987