

**Minutes of Faculty Senate Meeting**  
**Thursday, November 17, 2011**  
**Rm 3-84, Walker Hall, ULM Campus**  
**12:30-1:50 p.m.**

- \* indicates excused absence;
- Name/Name indicates Moved/Seconded

**Senators Present:** Andrews, Anderson, Arrant, Eisenstadt, Feldhaus, Frye, Hill, Hutto, Junk, Niemla, Owens, Rhorer, Frye, Strunk, Sutton, Towns, Wiggins

**Senators Absent:** Casey\*, Lanham, Steckline\*, Stockley\*, Sylvester\*, Walker\*

Note: due to the excused absence of Secretary Steckline, there is no record of who called the roll, or who wrote the minutes for this meeting.

**Invited Guest:** President Nick Bruno

President Rhorer **called the meeting to order**, at 12:30 p.m. and began with an update from President Bruno.

Items discussed included the following:

- The State of Louisiana reported a 4% increase in revenue during the first quarter which is good news regarding rumors of a mid-year cut for higher education. If the reported revenue increase is correct, we should not see this cut.
- Fall enrollment was down approximately 220 students (mainly due to the number of part-time students increasing, the number of full-time students decreasing). However there was an increase in fulltime and graduate student numbers. President Bruno has placed a large emphasis on recruitment. Scholarships have already been issued, which is much sooner than they were previously. Standards for scholarships have also been revised to include students with a minimum ACT score of 24 and 3.75 GPA. Browse on the Bayou was very successful this Fall bringing in around 300 students. He is personally calling students with an ACT score of 28 or better.
- Marketing is also being heavily emphasized. Movie trailers will include the ULM video in Louisiana as well as some of the surrounding states (East Texas, Mississippi, and Arkansas). A survey was completed to assess people's awareness of ULM. This survey reported that there is only 13% awareness in south Louisiana of ULM. There will be follow-up survey work done in February after the marketing push.
- A cooperative research endeavor was signed with Pennington Biomedical Center and the College of Pharmacy. Another cooperative with the LSU Agriculture Center is in the works regarding natural products research.
- The College of Education is considering expanding their graduate program by partnering with local business.
- Student credit hour (SCH) production is currently being monitored to see which programs are losing SCH's and why.
- Dr. Bruno feels that more than anything else, we need to build advocacy, and we can all be a part of this endeavor.

After Dr. Bruno's interaction with the FS, the roll was called and minutes of the October 20<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved. (Frye/Feldhaus)

**Committee Reports and/or Issues Referred to Committees were presented:**

**A. Executive Board:** Dr. Bruno covered most of the topics discussed in the FSEB (Faculty Senate Executive Board) meeting on November 10, 2011. Rhorer provided a report on items he did not cover which included the following:

- Promotion and Tenure Committee Concerns: There are people serving on these committees that are not tenured. The Deans reported that this is an unusual occurrence. Rhorer met with Dean Cass regarding this issue. He wants someone from every department in his College to have representation on the promotion and tenure committee. There is only one department in his College that has no tenured faculty. They do have representation on the committee but cannot vote. Most colleges use all faculty that are eligible on these committees. Senator Junk agreed to look at this concern more closely, and the Senate was asked to discuss this topic with their constituents.
- STAP Meeting: The discussion centered on whether or not STAP funds can be used to match grant funds. The committee agreed that they could. Now they have to find out if ULM can use the money this way; if so, it will be allowed.
- Dean Lemoine (College of Education) is working on a policy to bank hours for those working with graduate students on these committees.
- The FSEB met with Dr. Richters concerning OSPR on November 8<sup>th</sup>. He was receptive to what was asked. A task force has been created, chaired by Dr. Karen Briski, to review OSPR's policy and procedures as well as service.
- The Faculty Club account currently has a balance of \$3603.64.
- GRAD Act targets are being reconfigured.

**B. Faculty Advisory Council (FAC).** Anna Hill reported that the FAC is considering drafting a resolution to oppose increased premiums for the Office of Group Benefits; that ULL passed a resolution urging their president to lobby for a 3% pay increase for all faculty due to losing a number of faculty members to higher paying jobs. They are asking us to do the same. The December meeting of the FAC will be held on the 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup>. A Faculty Senate Summit meeting (all systems FS representatives meet) was scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on Saturday November 19, in Alexandria.

**C.** There were no reports from most other committees except **Faculty Welfare and the Ad Hoc Committee on Advising.**

- FW indicated that a workshop on professional behavior will be held in the Spring by Larry Estess, and the FS will sponsor the meeting.
- The Ad Hoc Committee on Advising agreed that Josh Stockley will be the Faculty Senate representative nominee on the University Advising Committee. Motion was made and the affirmative vote was unanimous. (Hill/Owens)

**Unfinished Business:** There was no unfinished business.

**New Business:**

- Dr. Bruno sent Rhorer an article discussing the use of pluses and minuses in the grading system that the LSU Faculty Senate is considering. There will be further discussion and exploration of this topic in January.
- The LSU Faculty Senate approved a resolution in support of Southern University Faculty in their call for a budget audit. Our Faculty Senate discussed this and supports the Southern Faculty as well. Eisenstadt agreed to draft a resolution and will send it by email for a vote.
- Dr. Bruno gave the FSEB a copy of the job description of the Vice President of Academic Affairs position and asked that they review/revise it. There were no suggestions made by the FSEB. The description was approved and will be posted soon.

- Louisiana Statewide Colleagues' Collaborative to meet at LSU-A on Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Purcell is the featured speaker.

The meeting was adjourned.