

**LSUHSC Faculty Senate Meeting  
September 14, 2004**

President Jean Jacob called the meeting to order at 3:35 PM in the Chancellor's conference room.

**Members present:** **Allied Health** – Sarintha Stricklin, David Pariser, Robert Rowe: **Dental** – Don Layman: **Graduate School** – Jay Hunt, Kurt Varner: **Library** – Jennifer Lloyd; **Medicine** – Jeffery Green, Michael Levitzky, Jean Jacob, Greg Bagby, Thomas Wolf; **Nursing** – Sally Ruel, Ann Byerly, Charlene Coco.

**Members Absent:** Andy Pellet, Larry Broussard, Cathy Springstead, Johnny Porter, Carrie Mason, Jim Cade, Brian Barkemeyer, Bob Richards, Paula Gregory, Dan Kapusta, Tom Houston, Susan Rick, Patricia Beare.

1. The August minutes were unanimously approved by voice vote.
2. Welcome to new Senators and to their assignment to committees.
3. **Old Business:**

**Constitution and Bylaws update:** Previously discussed changes were unanimously approved by voice vote. In a separate issue the discussion turned to the number of committees that a senator can be a member. It was felt that a senator should be on at least one committee. The committee will report back to the senate on wording of Bylaws concerning senator membership in committees.

4. **New Business:**

**Research Committee** – Several months ago in a Senate Executive meeting, Dr. Rock had asked the Senate to investigate whether the existing grants administration could handle the current workload due the significant increase in grants and contracts. The Senate Research Committee was then asked to investigate and identify weaknesses and potential problems with grants administration. The committee found areas of concern in Sponsored Projects, Office of Research, and Accounting. The committee met with Dr. Rock to discuss the results of their inquiries and the recommendations for addressing the issues.

5. **Committee Reports:**

**Faculty Welfare Committee:** Ann Byerly wanted input as to whether employees representing the HSC needed some sort of guidelines from the administration when using the LSUHSC logo for particular events or fundraisers at the school or in the community. A discussion followed concerning use of the logo by students, staff, and faculty. Since specific CMs already exist regarding the use of the logo, most of the Senate felt that no action was necessary. It was resolved to leave matter in committee.

**Closure of the HSC due to Ivan:** A spirited discussion ensued about the lack of a timely closure of the HSC. The HSC was officially closed around 11:30 PM by the Chancellor. All deans were called by 1 AM. Apparently there was a massive breakdown in communication because the system that was setup by the last hurricane crisis did not function. Phone trees did not reach intended faculty, security was not immediately notified, local TV stations did not announce the school's closure, and nothing was posted

on the HSC website. Staff, students, faculty, and patients came to the HSC only to be turned away by security at 8-9 AM. If Ivan had actually hit New Orleans there would have been total chaos. All other schools in the area were closed by 4-5 PM, fully 5 – 6 hours before the HSC. The Senate felt that 1) it took too long for the administration to make a decision to close the HSC; 2) local TV stations were not notified in a timely manner; 3) the electronic notification (website and email) was poorly handled; and 4) the administration needs to update and maintain phone trees.

It was proposed by the Senate that President Jacob draft a letter to Dr. Rock dealing with the concerns of the faculty about the evacuation policy and closure of the HSC.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Don Layman, Secretary