

**Faculty Senate Minutes  
September 2006**

President Beare called the meeting to order 3:32 p.m. in the Chancellor’s Conference Room on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor of the Resource Center building on Tuesday, September 12, 2006.

Those present included:

- Allied Health** – Larry Broussard, Kevin Lord, Scott Rubin, Jo Thompson;
- Dentistry** –Dennis Paul, Johnny Porter;
- Graduate School** – Jeff Hobden (substituting for Angela Amedee), Andy Catling;
- Library** – Jennifer Lloyd;
- Medicine** – Dan Kapusta, Pamela Lucchesi;
- Nursing** – Pat Beare, Ann Byerly, Susan Rick;
- Public Health** – Ed Peters, Neal Simonsen; and
- Ex-Officio** – Mike Levitzky.

Those absent included:

- Allied Health** – Sarintha Stricklin;
- Dentistry** – Tom Lallier, Carrie Mason; Alan Ripps; and
- Medicine** – Greg Bagby, Robin English, Paula Gregory, Robert Richards, Lolie Yu; and
- Nursing** – Christine Langer, Sally Ruel.

Guests for this meeting included Associate Vice Chancellor John Ball and AAUP Local Chapter President Gloria Giarratano.

As our guest speakers were running a few minutes late, President Beare jumped ahead to Agenda Item 2.

**Agenda Item 2: Approval of Minutes from August 2006 meeting**

The minutes were approved unanimously.

**Agenda Item 3a: Old Business – Increasing the number of Public Health Senators**

Larry Broussard, Bylaws Committee, reported that he contacted human resource management to get a breakdown of full-time faculty in each of the schools. The numbers he received were as follows:

<b>School</b>	<b>100% Count</b>	<b>&lt;75% Count</b>	<b>75% - 99% Count</b>	<b>Overall Total</b>
Allied Health	57	12	2	71
Dentistry	80	84	0	164
Medicine	549	84	51	684
Nursing	70	10	6	86
Public Health	39	9	1	49
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>817</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>1077</b>

Since the numbers do not seem to correspond to the current percentage of senators from each school, the senate unanimously voted to increase the number of senators for the School of Public Health. A motion was made for the Bylaws committee to draft a revision that will be voted on at the next meeting.

**Agenda Item 3b: Old Business – Uniform policy of service recognition**

Ann Byerly, Faculty Welfare, reported that human resources furloughed 40% of its staff. They have no resources to pursue service recognition. Furthermore it was stated that recognition of retirees is the departmental or school responsibility. It was agreed by many members of the senate that service recognition is a morale booster. Which services levels should be recognized was discussed. It was suggested that this could be brought up to the Chancellor as a way to improve staff and faculty morale. The committee recommended that the Chancellor's office investigate service recognition. This was met with unanimous approval. Michael Levitzky added that the same problem exists for emeritus faculty; there is no recognition or certificate.

Our first invited guest arrived, so we jumped back to Agenda Item 1a.

**Agenda Item 1a: Facilities Services Update – Associate Vice Chancellor John Ball**

Ball stated that there is progress in all areas. On the Downtown campus the 1<sup>st</sup> floors will continue to be an issue for a long time. There is still no agreement with FEMA about what is damaged and the previously agreed upon work has been re-evaluated. The only exception is in the CSRB. Animal care has permission from the state and FEMA to occupy the 1<sup>st</sup> floor. A/C units will take a couple of months to arrive, so occupancy is tentatively set for January 2007. Be sure to continue reading the daily updates, or at least the bi-weekly updates which are easier to read.

Johnny Porter stated that grants are being signed off on and state that we have the animal research infrastructure when we don't. Pamela Lucchesi added that NIH grant extension requires a statement about the ability to do research. Ball responded that the university is arranging for temporary use and then working on how to prevent damage in the future. The choices are dry proofing vs. moving critical functions; the university has to prove to FEMA which will be more effective. Engineering studies are being conducted to determine which is more cost effective, flood proofing or moving things to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. A new FEMA team is now in place. A new building for animal care is the most expensive option, but maybe an addition can be added to the back of the CSRB.

As for the Dental School, the solutions are a little easier because of the availability of land. The preferred option is to build a new building which would cost about \$12 million. Adding more floors to the administration building, is actually more expensive. A wall around the dental school is being considered and FEMA likes this idea. It will cost \$4-5 million so much less than a new building. It will essentially be a levee around the campus less than 10 feet tall. Because the Dental School has so much land, the earthen works will not need a flood gate; a road would just lead over the top. Sheet piling would be driven beneath it to prevent undermining. This plan would also include a revised drainage plan for the campus with a pump system. The cracked slabs with percolation from below are still an issue.

Scott Rubin stated that patients are having a hard time getting to the Allied Health clinics in their building because there are no working elevators in the parking garage. Ball responded that he hopes to have one garage elevator working within a month. This matter was referred to the Facilities committee for follow up.

Porter asked about hiring more staff for facilities services and if the civil service rules could be stretched. Ball responded that some rules have already been stretched, but the workers can make more in the private sector.

**Agenda Item 1b: LSUHSC chapter of the AAUP update – Gloria Giarratano**

Gloria Giarratano, the president of the LSUHSC chapter of the AAUP, said that the national team of investigators from the AAUP came to New Orleans in August and met with about a dozen furloughed faculty at Tulane. On August 29<sup>th</sup>, they met with a representative from each university; on the 30<sup>th</sup>, they met with chancellors and the Board of Supervisors. The special committee will process their results over the next two months.

**Agenda Item 4b: New Business – Other**

Ann Byerly requested that she be able to jump ahead in the agenda. She said that the School of Nursing Faculty Assembly had asked her to address the Senate to discuss the search committee for the new Dean in the School of Nursing. Byerly stated that the nursing assembly would like to formally request that a member of the senate be included on the search committee for the new dean. The senate unanimously passed a resolution to support the appointment of a senator to the search committee and Johnny Porter was asked to serve. Furthermore, Byerly said that Nursing Assembly would like a representative from their assembly on the committee; the senate voted to support the nursing assembly's request. Pat Beare was the nominee from that body. (A letter to this effect was sent Monday, September 25, 2006 to Dr. Hollier and copied to Dr. Moerschbaecher, the head of the search committee.)

**Agenda Item 3c: Old Business – Election of Pat Beare as LSUHSC representative to the BoS president search committee**

This vote was conducted via email between August 28<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> to comply with a faculty advisory committee deadline. Beare stated that current President Jenkins' term had been extended to April 2007. The faculty advisory committee wanted nominees from the major universities. This does not mean they will be accepted on the official search committee.

**Agenda Item 3d: Old Business – Other**

Committee appointments selected and/or assigned at the last meeting were approved.

Broussard reported that a Staff Council does not exist at LSUHSC at this time. Flora McCoy is the LSUHSC representative to the LSU System Council of Staff Advisors; perhaps this is where the confusion came in. Beare stated that at LSU-BR representatives from the staff council hold positions on the faculty senate. The matter of including staff in the faculty senate meetings was dropped.

**Agenda Item 4a: New Business – Committee Objectives for the coming year**

*Clinical Education, Service and Patient Care* – no report

*Constitution, Bylaws, Resolutions, Nominations and Elections* – Broussard stated that his report was given under old business.

*Electronic Communications* – Jennifer Lloyd recommended that this committee be dissolved and that instead of a committee what is really needed is a webmaster for the faculty senate. She further volunteered to act as webmaster indefinitely, as an ex-officio member after her term is finished in June.

*Facilities, Safety, and Security* – Alan Ripps emailed his report as he was unable to attend. It reads as follows:

Our charge is to consider, make recommendations on and report to the Senate on matters pertaining to the physical plant and safety and security of the LSU Health Sciences Center – New Orleans.

Our committee will:

1. Formulate and recommend actions and policies for approval by the Senate.
2. Be available to consult and advise the Chancellor and Administration of the LSUHSC-NO.
3. Study matters assigned to them by the Senate or the Executive Committee, and consider written requests of faculty.
4. Seek factual information and the opinions of interested parties prior to any final action on a matter, and
5. Report to the Senate at each regular meeting.

*Professional Rights, Responsibilities, and Faculty Welfare* – Ann Byerly reported for committee chair Carrie Mason. The committee feels that the best way to increase faculty welfare is to increase morale.

*Research* – Daniel Kapusta reported for committee chair Greg Bagby. The committee plans to conduct an assessment to the impediments to research which exist on campus. They will re-address old issues and identify areas in need of work. Their plan is to assess research viability, identify research faculty, identify research facilities, and promote collaboration. Porter asked them to look into money for lab losses. Byerly reminded them about the study conducted by the research committee with Jean Jacob/Kurt Varner.

### **Agenda Item 5a: Assembly reports**

*Allied Health* – The School of Allied Health Professions is using Blackboard for online courses and is looking for an expert to give workshops to its faculty. Faculty from other schools asked why AH was using Blackboard and not WebCT. Nursing faculty said that their webmaster was invaluable in assisting them with WebCT and suggested that Allied Health contact him.

*Dentistry* – The current plan is to move some departments back to New Orleans in late December and to re-open the faculty practice.

*Graduate Studies* – no report

*Library* – A major water leak occurred on the floor with the journal stacks in late August. The library staff moved over 25,000 items; facilities is cleaning up the mess, but it might be months before everything is put back in place.

*Medicine* – A resolution was sent to the Chancellor asking for better communication with the furloughed faculty.

*Nursing* – no further report, except for the Dean search.

*Public Health* – Faculty offices are expanding.

**Agenda Item 5b: BoS report**

Beare stated that according to the Board of Supervisors attorneys, Force Majeure is in place indefinitely. Additionally, raises were discussed at the meeting and the raises for HSC campus came through. Most faculty received about a 5% raise, but some administration received over 5%.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:16 p.m.

Submitted by  
Jennifer K. Lloyd  
Faculty Senate Secretary.