

**Faculty Senate Minutes
November 2006**

President Beare called the meeting to order 3:37 p.m. in the Chancellor's Conference Room on the 8th floor of the Resource Center building on Tuesday, November 14, 2006.

Those present included:

Allied Health – Larry Broussard, Scott Rubin;
Dentistry – Alan Ripps;
Graduate School – Andy Catling;
Library – Jennifer Lloyd;
Medicine – Robin English, Lolie Yu;
Nursing – Pat Beare, Ann Byerly, Christine Langer, Mikki Kite (substituting for Sally Ruel); and
Public Health – Chih-Yang Hu, Neal Simonsen, Julia Volaufova.

Those absent included:

Allied Health – Kevin Lord, Sarintha Stricklin, Jo Thompson;
Dentistry – Tom Lallier, Carrie Mason, Dennis Paul, Johnny Porter;
Graduate Studies – Angela Amedee;
Medicine – Greg Bagby, Paula Gregory, Dan Kapusta, Pamela Lucchesi, Robert Richards;
Nursing – Susan Rick;
Public Health – Sarah Moody-Thomas, Ed Peters; and
Ex-Officio – Mike Levitzky.

Agenda Items 1a and 1b were guest speakers; neither of whom attended the meeting.

Agenda Item 2: Approval of Minutes from October.
October minutes were approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 3: Introduction of new Public Health Senators
Two of the new Public Health Senators were introduced: Julia Volaufova from Biostatistics and Chih-Yang Hu from Environmental Health. The third senator will be introduced at the December meeting.

Agenda Item 4a: Old Business – Bylaws change
The one word change to the bylaws was unanimously approved. The new wording is “There will be eight senators from the LSUHSC-NO Faculty Assembly of the School of Medicine, the majority of whom should be from clinical departments.”

Agenda Item 4b: Old Business – Student Security Clearances
President Beare sent a letter to Vice Chancellor Moerschbaecher outlining the difficulties schools are having with student security clearances. The senate awaits a response.

Agenda Item 4c: Old Business – Patient Access
Alan Ripps, head of the Facilities Committee, stated that his committee felt that a letter or resolution from the senate to the head of parking was necessary to resolve the patient parking issue. The Walk to Wellness elevator is broken and so that work around is no longer possible. Other suggestions for providing parking included leaving the gate open from 9 to 5 each weekday. This issue may cause the loss of patients which would mean a loss of income.

Agenda Item 4d: Old Business – Other

Beare did receive a reply from Chancellor Hollier regarding the senate's request to have a senator on the School of Nursing Dean search committee. Neither Pat Beare nor Johnny Porter was included on the committee. Ann Byerly asked if it was a SACS requirement to have a member of the Faculty Senate on important interview committees. This question was to be referred to Mike Levitzky. Even if it is not a SACS requirement, it was suggested that another letter be sent requesting that any member of the faculty senate be included on the committee; all of the senators could be listed in the letter. The search is supposed to start in December or January. No interim dean has been announced.

Agenda Item 5a: New Business

The Facilities Committee met and suggested that a letter of appreciation or acknowledgement would be appropriate for all the university police officers who worked in Baton Rouge after the storm. Questions asked included: Who could give a list of officers? Human resources? Or the head of university police? Which is who?

In a related matter, the question of whether or not the Faculty Senate has a budget to spend came into question. Several members remembered Chancellor Rock stating that he had set aside some money for the use of the Faculty Senate. Does this fund still exist? If so perhaps, the senate could purchase some sort of Katrina Service Pin for the university police officers.

Agenda Item 6a: Committee Reports

Clinical Education, Service and Patient Care – no report

Constitution, Bylaws, Resolutions, Nominations, and Elections – report was given as agenda item 4a.

Electronic Communications – no report

Facilities, Safety, and Security – The question was asked what type of security is provided for the elevators near the Chinese restaurant (the Walk to Wellness elevators). The response was security cameras, but that the Walk to Wellness and its elevators are open to the public because they were partially built with Entergy's funding. Andy Catling asked if anyone had heard about an assault in the student parking area. It seems to have been a conflict between a contractor working in the area and a student. Andy understood that an email had been sent to all students regarding the matter.

Professional Rights, Responsibilities, and Faculty Welfare – no report

Research – written report, text follows:

This year's objective of the Research Committee of the Faculty Senate is to identify efforts within and between Schools regarding the promotion of research and other scholarly activity and to assess similarities and differences in perspective between faculty and those charged to promote and support research/scholarship. We believe this is an important objective in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. In addition, for the Senate to serve the faculty as a whole, it is important for this body to have a working understanding about what constitutes research and scholarly activity within the different Schools and disciplines. Through this, the Senate will be able to identify impediments in order to enhance this vital mission of the Health Sciences Center.

The Committee will be meeting within the next month to formulate a strategy to both refine our objective and to formulate our approach to achieve our stated objective. To this end, the committee members have conducted preliminary discussion of the issue with faculty and administrative leaders. The chair has met with 3 leaders within the Health Sciences Center. They are Dr. James Cairo, Dean of the School of Allied Health Professions, Dr. Demetrius Porche, Associate Dean of Nursing Research and Evaluation in the School of Nursing, and Dr. Wayne Backes, Associate Dean for Research in the School of Medicine. These sessions were exploratory in nature in order to get a sense of how they viewed research and scholarly activity and what the issues were for our committee to address. We believe such preliminary discussions will help the Committee in developing a strategy for meeting its objective to the betterment of the faculty and the Health Sciences Center.

Agenda Item 6b: Assembly Reports

Allied Health – no report

Dentistry – no report

Graduate Studies – no report

Library – no report; but the question was asked if there was any word on when the Dental Library would reopen. It is still scheduled for summer 2007.

Medicine – no report

Nursing – no report

Public Health – the school has been informed that they are moving back to their Canal Street offices in December.

Agenda Item 6c: Other Reports

Board of Supervisors – The Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC) was not successful in placing a faculty representative on the Academic Affairs Committee, but a faculty member will be able to give a formal report. There is still a fair amount of buzz from other universities regarding the AAUP and Force Majeure. It was announced that University Hospital will only have 60 beds available instead of 170 because of a shortage of personnel, especially nurses.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:42 p.m.

Submitted by
Jennifer K. Lloyd
Faculty Senate Secretary.