

**Faculty Senate Minutes**  
**August 2007**

President Bagby called the meeting to order at 3:40 p.m. in room 5252 on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of the Medical Education Building on Tuesday, August 14, 2007.

Those present included:

**Allied Health** – Kelly Alig, Larry Broussard, Kevin Lord, Scott Rubin, Jo Thompson, Erin Dugan;  
**Dentistry** – Dennis Paul;  
**Graduate School** – Angela Amedee;  
**Library** – Hanna Kwasik;  
**Medicine** – Gregory Bagby, Daniel Kapusta, Pamela Lucchesi, Julio Figueroa, Tonya Jagneaux;  
**Nursing** – Patricia Beare, Ann Byerly, Marjorie Kraus, Susan Rick;  
**Public Health** – Chih-Yang Hu, Sarah Moody-Thomas, Neal Simonsen, Julia Volaufova, and  
**Ex Officio** – Jennifer Lloyd, Michael Levitzky.

Those absent included:

**Dentistry** – Tom Lallier;  
**Graduate Studies** – Andrew Catling (excused);  
**Medicine** – Robin English (excused), Lolie Yu, Ann Tilton;  
**Nursing** – Christine Langer;  
**Public Health** – Edward Peters.

President Bagby introduced the members of the Executive committee: himself as the new Faculty Senate president, Patricia Beare as past president, Julia Volaufova as the new secretary, Pamela Lucchesi as the new president-elect, and Dennis Paul and Kelly Alig as Faculty Representatives. He also introduced Jennifer Lloyd and Michael Levitzky as the two ex officio members of the Faculty Senate.

The meeting proceeded according to the agenda.

*Agenda item 1.* The June minutes were approved after accepting editorial changes.

*Agenda item 2.* In the introductory remarks, president Bagby presented his professional background and his perspective about the importance of the faculty in executing the three missions of the Health Sciences Center, scholarship, teaching, and service. Because the faculty has vested interest in accomplishing the missions of the HSC, he stated his belief that the Faculty Senate should serve the faculty by focusing on issues that impacts the ability of the faculty to execute the missions of the HSC with excellence. He then identified some things that needed to be done to improve the operation of the Senate to include:

- a) Work more closely with Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs (Dr. Moerschbaecher).
- b) Address inconsistencies in the Bylaws and Constitution.
- c) Evaluate structure of the current standing committees
- d) Make greater use of Committees to work through issues
- e) Develop means for maintaining a history of Senate activities and accomplishments
- f) Review policies contained in Chancellor's Memoranda and elsewhere in order to make recommendations that would clarify and improve the ability of the faculty to perform the missions of the HSC.
- g) Work more closely with faculty assemblies.
- h) Develop a more effective way of communication with faculty.

*Agenda item 3. Old business*

a) *Faculty furlough*: No action was taken by the Professional Rights Committee regarding faculty furlough and the report of an AAUP special committee on Hurricane Katrina and New Orleans Universities. Dr. Bagby read a letter from Joseph Kurland, Associate General Secretary of AAUP sent to Chancellor Hollier on June 11, 2006. The letter indicated that no recommendations were made at this year's national meeting regarding the LSUHSC, but that the matter would be revisited at next year's meeting. He also stated that the Chancellor's Office is waiting for additional information from AAUP.

**Action item** – the Professional Rights Committee will take initiative in the follow up.

b) *Student security clearance*: Dr. Bagby stated that according to Dr. Moerschbaecher the policy on student security clearance is that the individual Schools are to handle it and that students need to pay the necessary fees. Senators from multiple Schools indicated that there were inequities in the current policy and that delays can impact student training. The discussants included: Pam Lucchesi, Greg Bagby, Mike Levitzky, Jo Thompson, Marjorie Kraus, Scott Rubin, Larry Broussard, Ann Byerly, Tonya Jagneaux, and Kevin Lord. The Senate agreed that it was a problem that transcended multiple Schools. It was suggested that an attempt should be made to standardize the security clearance and maybe now is the right time for doing so.

**Action item** – the Clinical Education Committee is charged to follow up on the issue.

c) *Ombudsman proposal*. In the issue of the ombudsman proposal, there was no new information presented. Since there are several new members of the Senate, the documents about activities and responsibilities of the ombudsman will be sent out again.

**Action item** - The documents describing the role of an ombudsman on a campus will be distributed to the senators and to all presidents of assemblies for directly obtaining a feedback from all faculty.

There was no other old business.

*Agenda item 4. New business*

A guest, Raymond Tsai, the Program and Finance Manager of the School Health Connection, gave a brief presentation of the upcoming Albert Schweitzer Fellowship for students in health related fields.

a) *Committee assignments*. President Bagby sent an e-mail to all new senators about serving on standing Senate committees. Each Senate member serves on one committee.

**Action item** – all new members should respond to Dr. Bagby by August 19 (end of the week) about their choice of the committee. The Executive Committee will assign senators to committees and identify chairs.

b) The Discussion of the Senate priorities during the 2007/2008 academic year is postponed for the September meeting.

c) *Other New business*.

i) Julio Figueroa proposed that the Senate look into the benefits package, particularly into the discrepancy between fixed base salary and the supplement.

ii) Pam Lucchesi recommended looking into the issue of nonexistent day care at the Center.

iii) Julia Volaufova suggested looking into the CM-51 Policy on Weather Related Emergency Procedures for LSUHSC-New Orleans, particularly the wording in the section “Personnel Policy Guidelines” paragraph “During the emergency...”.

iv) Jo Thompson brought to the attention of the Senate a concern raised by several faculty members, students, and families about working prisoners being in view.

v) Pam Lucchesi raised the issue of different perceptions and lack of communication between the administration and faculty, particularly at School of Medicine.

vi) Greg Bagby recommended that the Senate consider means of developing a faculty based strategic plan that addressed impediments for the faculty in executing the teaching, research and service missions of the HSC.

*Agenda item 5. Reports.*

a) *Faculty Senate committees.* There were no reports from the standing committees.

b) *Assemblies*

i) *Allied Health* – It was brought to the attention of the Senate that related to remodeling, surplus furniture in the hallways has become a safety issue at the School.

ii) *Dentistry* – the school is moving back to New Orleans soon.

iii) *Graduate Studies* – no report

iv) *Library* – no report

v) *Medicine* – Tonya Jagneaux reported that a survey is conducted at the School of Medicine, with about 35% response rate. The individuals were asked to identify 3 problems and recommend a solution.

vi) *Nursing* – The Assembly tried to meet in July but did not meet the quorum requirement.

vii) *Public Health* – Neal Simonsen reported that the revision of the Bylaws for their Faculty Assembly will start soon. There is hope that the School will move to the Freeport McMoRan building on Poydras next semester.

c) *Faculty advisory committee representatives* – Kelly Alig attended the July BoS meeting and reported that Governor Blanco and the newly appointed president Lombardi were present at the meeting. The Faculty Senate at LSU sent a letter to Commissioner Savoie indicating that the faculty needs to be more involved in offering input for developing emergency, such as in case of financial exigency.

Greg Bagby reported from a different meeting with President Lombardi present, sharing his impressions of the new President.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Submitted by  
Julia Volaufova  
Faculty Senate Secretary