

Faculty Senate Minutes
January 2008

President Bagby called the meeting to order at 3:40 p.m. in Room 563 of the CSRB on Tuesday, January 15, 2008.

Those present included:

Allied Health – Kelly Alig, Scott Rubin, Erin Dugan, Kevin Lord, Jo Thompson;
Dentistry – Dennis Paul, Thomas Spranley;
Graduate School – Angela Amedee, Andrew Catling;
Library – Hanna Kwasik;
Medicine – Gregory Bagby, Julio Figueroa, Tonya Jagneaux, Pamela Lucchesi;
Nursing – Ann Byerly, Marjorie Kraus, Christine Langer;
Public Health – Chih-Yang Hu, Neal Simonsen, Julia Volaufova; and
Ex Officio – Michael Levitzky.

Those absent included:

Dentistry – Thomas Lallier;
Medicine – Robyn English (excused), Daniel Kapusta, Ann Tilton, Lolie Yu;
Nursing – Susan Rick (excused);
Public Health – Sarah Moody-Thomas (excused), Edward Peters (excused), and
Ex Officio – Jennifer Lloyd.

The meeting proceeded according to the agenda.

Agenda item 1. The December minutes were approved.

Agenda item 2. President's report included:

- a) President Bagby brought to the Senate a set of informative fliers about the LSU Hospital. The purpose is to publicize and spread the word on facts about the proposed hospital.
- b) Resolution 07-01 (Recommendation to Revise CM-51) was submitted to the Chancellor and his office is going through the process of considering it. Right now it is with the lawyers. President Bagby also sent it to Presidents of the Faculty Assemblies and it has been posted on the Senate website.
- c) President Bagby reported from the meeting he had with Chancellor Hollier and Vice Chancellor Moerschbaecher to provide an update. He told them that attendance at Senate meetings has been excellent, but that we have been hampered by loss of the Past-President and the President-Elect to retirement and resignation, respectively as well as lack of a chair to a key committee. They briefly discussed Resolution 07-01. President Bagby identified the following items as being under consideration at this and future meetings:
 - i. AAUP recommendations dealing with the Faculty Handbook;
 - ii. Development of force majeure guidelines as part of financial exigency, which could be adopted in the future; Regarding force majeure, Chancellor Hollier stated that he would increase faculty involvement if such an event was to occur in the future to which Dr. Bagby replied that we hoped this would not occur while he is a Chancellor. We need the assurance of stronger faculty involvement through documented

guidelines regardless of who the Chancellor is. Chancellor Hollier also stated that the state legislature mandated cuts be made commensurate with reduced revenue for the LSUHSC and that 3 guiding principles determined the fate of faculty: job to do, source of funding, and maintain teaching and residency programs.

- iii. Day care facility for children of faculty/staff;
 - iv. Discrepancy between base and supplemental salaries;
 - v. Ombudsman.
 - vi. Finally, President Bagby suggested that the faculty in general and the senators in particular serve as members of standing and ad hoc committees of the Center so that among other things the Senate could be informed of important developments;
- d) Ed Peters – accepted a challenge to serve as a chair of Professional Rights Responsibilities and Faculty Welfare.

Agenda item 3. Old business

- a) *Constitution and bylaws changes* – Senator Simonsen presented the summary of suggested changes in the Bylaws, which have been distributed to Senators prior to the meeting in electronic form. Since changes in the Constitution require a two thirds passing vote of the total of voting senators, it is noted that 20 out of 28 voting senators were present at the meeting and the changes were approved unanimously by those present.
- b) *Financial exigency and force majeure* – President Bagby presented the Resolution 08-01 supporting the recommendations of AAUP to the Faculty Handbook. The text of the resolution was distributed to the Senators in electronic form prior to the meeting. The present senators approved Resolution 08-01 unanimously.
- c) *Day care* – the item to be discussed at the February meeting
- d) Student Security Clearances
- e) Discrepancy between base salary and supplemental salary

Both above issues are under consideration, Senator Figueroa will report at some future meeting.

- f) Ombudsman – the issue is under investigation of a committee.
- g) President-elect nominee – Senator Simonsen presented Dr. Dennis Paul as the only nominee for the vacant president-elect office. Dr. Dennis Paul was unanimously elected.

There was no other old business.

Agenda item 4. New business.

- a) Student conduct and plagiarism – the issue from the December meeting will be discussed at the February meeting.

There was no other new business.

Agenda item 6. Reports

a) *Faculty Senate committees* – no reports.

b) *Assemblies*

a. Allied Health – Senator Kevin Lord reported from the Faculty Assembly.

i) The issue of a concealed weapon came up. Senator Lord proposed that the Senate deals with the issue of reposting the reminder signs about not bringing firearms onto the premises of a state institution, which at present is illegal. Participants in the discussion included Ann Byerly, Pam Lucchesi, Erin Dugan, Dennis Paul, Jo Thompson, and Kelly Alig.

Action – Senator Scott Rubin, the chair of the Facility, Safety, and Security committee will deal with the issue and report at the February Senate meeting about the outcome.

ii) Parking at the Roman Street garage. At present, students are allowed to park in the garage without any limitations. Faculty and staff raised questions about the disproportionate fee the students as opposed to faculty and staff pay for parking in the same garage. The proposed suggestion is to limit the students' parking to upper floors.

Action - Senator Scott Rubin, the chair of the Facility, Safety, and Security committee will verify information obtained by Senator Lord and will report at the February Senate meeting about the possibilities of resolving the issue.

b. Dentistry – Dr. Spranley reported about the meeting they had with Drs Hollier and Moerschbaecher. One of the main issues is the process of the Dean selection.

c. Graduate School – no report.

d. Library – no report.

e. Medicine – The final report from the faculty survey is available. Dr. Bagby plans to have the findings presented at a future meeting of the Senate, possibly at the February meeting.

f. Nursing – The Faculty Assembly meeting is scheduled for January 28. They plan to identify and possibly elect replacing Senators for retired and vacant positions..

g. Public Health – Since the previous Senate meeting there was no Assembly meeting. The move of the School to Poydras is scheduled for the second half of February 2008.

c) *Faculty Advisory Committee Representatives* – No meeting since the December Senate meeting. The minutes from the FAC meetings are posted at the Senate website. The Senators are encouraged to get the information there.

Additional discussion:

- a) Senator Rubin asked about the relation between Senate committees and LSUHSC standing committees. It was stated that Senate and HSC committees are separate entities. President Bagby proposed that the work of the Senate would be helped by better communication and even associations between standing committees of the Senate and HSC as well as by increased participation of the faculty on these committees.
- b) There was a brief discussion initiated by Senator Jo Thompson about the controversy around LSU Chancellor O'Keefe. The topic was not pursued further since it does not relate directly to LSUHSC affairs.

There was no more new business.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35pm

Submitted by
Julia Volaufova
Faculty Senate Secretary