

**LSUHSC Faculty Senate
Minutes
Tuesday, April 13, 2010**

The meeting was called to order at 3:30pm

Those present include:

Allied Health – K. Allig, E. Dugan, G. Hebert, J. James

Dentistry – n/a

Graduate Studies – Angela Amedee, Andrew Catling

Library – Hanna Kwasik

Medicine – Stephen Brierre, Costa Dimitriades, Erich Richter, Johnny Porter, Joy Sturtevant, Gregory Bagby, M. Levitzky

Nursing – Leanne Fowler, Marjorie Kraus, R. Rosamond

Public Health – Neal Simonsen (proxy for Hu & Thames), Julia Volaufova,

Ex Officio – Jennifer K. Lloyd, Dennis Paul

At-Large (President) – Scott Rubin

Those absent included:

Allied Health – Theresa Nicholls

Dentistry – S. Brisco, M. Brindis, T. Lallier, G. Palmer, D. Foret

Graduate Studies – n/a

Library – n/a

Medicine – John Estrada

Nursing – Cynthia Langford, Randy Rosamond (excused)

Public Health – R. Scribner, Thames (excused), Hu (excused)

- I. Guests: Vice Chancellors Moerschbaecher and Smith.
 - A. Answered questions from the Senate regarding potential budget cuts.
 1. Past President Paul asked if the Dental school in Baton Rouge will be closed and if there will be extension of stimulus money – VC Smith responded:
 - a. \$200-400 million shortfall in addition to the cuts already made is forecasted but a specific amount that we will have to cut has not yet been determined. A meeting will be held tomorrow regarding the budgetary forecast after looking at the March revenue data. There is no specific plan to close a part of the Dental School like its South campus operation. However, there is a real possibility that the Baton Rouge operation of the Dental school may close because there were no funds allocated to that organization and it costs the system \$1 million per year.
 - b. There is no way of knowing if there will be more stimulus money.
 2. Senator Simonsen inquired about the Rainy Day fund usage?
 - a. VC Smith responded: It has not been approved by the Governor at this time and it should be considered that its usage would be only a temporary expedient rather than a long-term fix as it is forecasted that deficits will continue.

- b. VC Smith also replied: When comparing our current organization to after Katrina, we are a stronger institution academically, clinically, and scholastically (reflected in research funding and activity).
 - c. VC Moerschbaeher reported that our organization has become more self-sufficient with less reliance on the state.
3. VC Moerschbaeher asked VC Smith to comment on the tuition increases: VC Smith stated that we are approximately 50% lower than the Southern Public University average for tuition. If we were to increase our tuition to that amount, we could project a net income gain of \$12mil. However, a disadvantage to that increase would be creating a hardship for the students.
4. Senator Sturtevant inquired if there would be a reduction in Graduate Assistants and the affect that would have on research? VC Moerschbaeher responded: There is no reduction in the amount of monies for Graduate Assistants. The situation in our organization is similar to that of other schools in other states.
5. Past President Paul inquired if there would be a chance of decreasing enrollment due to there being limited increases in tuition. VC Moerschbaeher stated that a decrease in enrollment would mean a decrease in revenue and that there is no plan for that in the future.
6. Senator Dugan inquired about not being able to spend State General Funds. VC Smith replied that the LSUHSC Administration did not mandate a freeze on General Fund spending. However, the “brakes” have been put on the budget in anticipation in of the cuts. There will be no cuts to those needs that are essential to the core and mission of the function of our Center (i.e. paper for exams, toilet tissue, light bulbs, etc.) and it does not limit the expenditure of funds for instructional purposes, for example. Travel has been cut; some things that involve direct patient care have exemptions. The freeze does not limit expenditures critical to our core functions.
7. Senator Porter inquired why he read in the paper that the Professors at the University level were not accountable and that we should be kept accountable. Is there anyone at the administrative level advocating for our positive outcomes? VC Smith replied that the information he read was referring to the 4 year colleges and other programs and not Health Science Centers. VC Smith further stated that we do benefit from our positive performance outcomes.

II. March Minutes were unanimously accepted

III. President’s Report

- A. Chris Vidrine is concerned that not many faculty have signed up for the LSU Health Caucus website: www.ciclt.net/lsuhscf. Vidrine stated that the address can be sent via our LSU emails but the site must not be accessed from our campus computers. Dr. Hollier is due to have it rolled out in the next Chancellor’s notes. Senator Brierre inquired whether the address could be sent to all Faculty Assemblies? President Rubin stated that it is not a problem to send to the Assemblies although it cannot be sent to entire schools without the Dean’s approval.
- B. This site is open to Alumni, Faculty, Students, or anyone supportive of this cause.
- C. Spread the word to use the website but be sure to inform faculty not to use the LSU emails or access the site from campus computers
- D. Council of Faculty Advisors meeting in Alexandria will be attended by President Rubin and possibly Past President Paul. President Rubin welcomed/invited other Senators to attend

this meeting. April 23, 2010 – Friday at 9:00am to 12. There will also be a CFA meeting and a meeting between the Shreveport HSC and us.

IV. Old Business

A. Budget Cuts - Rubin

1. Resolution 10-2 amendments: After the resolution passed by all Senators electronically, President Rubin was advised by administration to delay dissemination to Legislators in Baton Rouge. Shortly after there were other budget changes and it became apparent that the resolution was no longer appropriate. The Senators discussed officially rescinding the resolution.
2. Resolution rescinded: It was unanimously agreed to rescind Resolution 10-2 and to construct another one more appropriate to the current budgetary issues.
3. Rubin raised the question of whether the Senate can propose resolutions targeted to bodies other than the LSUHSC Administration. This is a topic that may need to be discussed later and may need to be addressed in the Bylaws.
4. A charge to the Constitution & Bylaws committee was made to discern who the Senate is able to direct resolutions.

B. Electronic Voting

1. In the future, do we need to conduct electronic voting with a mandatory 4 calendar days for discussion and 5 calendar days for voting? And, if a new Resolution 10-2 was written, would that timeframe be necessary. It was decided that we not make any new budget resolution less time-sensitive.
2. It was moved to implement a 4 day discussion with a 3 day voting period (unless the majority votes in favor before the voting period ends).
3. An issue was raised that the electronic voting had Senator's names used in registration. It was determined that it was useful to prevent duplication and that voting was not anonymous unless in special circumstances.

C. Tenure Clock Extension – Tabled to the next meeting. It will be discussed with the Shreveport Senate to see their position on this issue.

V. Other Old Business - None

VI. New Business

The following items were introduced for future discussion:

- A. Handicapped parking is farther from the elevators than other parking spaces. Should they be made closer?
- B. We are supposed to have a representative on the Executive Committee of the HSC. This should be investigated and representation should begin.

VII. Other New Business - None

VIII. Reports

A. Faculty Senate Committees

1. Clinical Education – Service work update was tabled.
2. Committee Coordinating Committee – Senate Committee preparation -for next year will begin at the next meeting.
3. Constitution, Bylaws, Resolutions, Nominations, and Elections – Senate should nominate officers at next meeting.
4. Electronic Communications – No report.

5. Facilities, Safety, and Security – Daycare resolution (10-01) completed and posted online. Assisting the Research committee to find facts on the indirect costs of research grants. There has been no information sent by faculty documenting these issues.
6. Professional Rights, Responsibilities, and Faculty Welfare – No report.
7. Research – Regarding indirect costs: The Senators that are Delegates on Assemblies should inquire about the indirect cost issue and School’s Liaisons should report back to Senator Richter.

B. Faculty Assemblies

1. Allied Health – Liaison is Erin Dugan. No other report
2. Dentistry – No report
3. Graduate Studies – Liaison is Angela Amedee. No other report.
4. Library - No report.
5. Medicine – Liaison is Johnny Porter. Petitioning the Dean to place two practicing MDs on the Board of the Healthcare Network.
6. Nursing – Liaison is Leanne Fowler. Budget cuts include those of ancillary staff.
7. Public Health – Liaison is Neal Simonsen. No other report.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10pm.

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