

LSUHSC Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
Tuesday – February 10, 2015
Chancellor’s Conference Room, 8th floor, Admin Bldg.
3:30 p.m.

President Winsauer called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.
Quorum verified.

Those present included:

Allied Health – Scott Rubin, Kirk Nelson, Jerald James and Theresa Nicholls

Dentistry – Suzanne Farrar, Steven Brisco, and Julie Schiavo

Graduate Studies – Suresh Alahari and Diptasri Mandal

Library – Rebecca Bealer

Medicine –Sanjay Kamboj, Michael Levitzky, Kyle Happel (proxy, Mike Levitzky), Robin McGoe, Jay Mussell, Scott Delacroix and Peter Winsauer

Nursing – Todd Tartavouille, Ellen Beyer, Gloria Giarratano, and Jean Cefalu

Public Health – Lynn LaMotte, Adrienne Katner, Susanne Straif-Burgeois, Chih-Yang Hu

Ex Officio – Jennifer Lloyd, Costa Dimitriades

Those absent included:

Allied Health –Jan Case

Dentistry – Tom Lallier, Kitrina Cordell and Steven Brisco

Graduate Studies – N/A

Library – N/A

Medicine –Bradley Spieler and Timothy Foster

Nursing – Katherine Carter

Public Health – Stephen Phillippi

I. New Business:

- A) Approval of the minutes. Senator Rubin made a motion to accept the minutes from January, 2015. Senator Mussell seconded the motion, and a majority voted to accept them without revision.
- B) Mr. Bob Fahey, Executive Director of Environmental Health and Safety, briefed the Faculty Senate on the updates from the last meeting of the Executive Committee for Environmental Health and Safety. He presented some recent accomplishments and current efforts directed at improving biological, chemical and radiation safety, general safety, and emergency preparedness. He also addressed recent internal and external audits of the EH&S program. LSUHSC scored 98% on the most recent State of Louisiana Office of Risk Management Audit.
- C) Next, Mr. Christopher Vidrine, Director of External Affairs discussed the upcoming legislative session and possible legislative actions under consideration to address the possible budget cuts. Upcoming events for LSUHSC include LSU Day in Washington, D.C. and these types of activities can impact our efforts to increase NIH funding. Mr. Vidrine also briefly addressed the reported short fall in the state budget. He stated that no one really knows exactly what the size of the cut will be, but it could easily be in the hundreds of millions of dollars. To deal with this possibility, Universities will have to again consider raising tuition and fees. Over the last 5 years or so, higher education has been cut by 700 million dollars, and any additional cuts could be very difficult to address. The Governor’s budget will be made public the 27th of February.

Mr. Vidrine also indicated that Chancellor Hollier has hired a lobbyist and that having such a person could help us tremendously with the legislature moving forward. Part of his duties will likely be to maintain a website (like the Tiger Caucus) and lobby legislators directly, which Mr. Vidrine cannot do as a state employee without violating state law.

- D) PM-69: This is a new memorandum issued by the LSU President on the 12th of December. According to PM-69, the Chancellor has authority to take actions, such as delay of the tenure clock for faculty positions, appointments to campus executive level positions, appointment and termination of tenured faculty, granting of tenure to an existing faculty member, and/or promotion in faculty rank, faculty raises less than 15%, appointment to any designated chair or professorship, educational or sabbatical leave, appointment to campus executive level positions and other institutional things. President Winsauer suggested that all faculty read this PM carefully.

II. Old Business:

- A) Progress report from the recycling committee: The program did not start on time, but is underway with some problems and issues. It is still not clear how much money we are spending on this and how much we are saving? We will eventually need to be briefed by Facilities on this issue.
- B) Ad hoc Committee on Salary Compression: The committee is still working out the details to figure out a formula that can be used and how to proceed further. Interestingly, Louisiana Tech is doing the same thing.
- C) Reports from the BoS and the different Schools:
1. Board of Supervisors: Senator LaMotte attended the meeting, he will send a report soon.
 2. Nursing: The Dean has set-up a coffee time once a month to discuss faculty issues. A health walk (5K) is scheduled for the 7th of March at City Park to enhance the awareness of Pulmonary Hypertension.
 3. Medicine: Discussed increasing the number of clinical faculty Delegates to better reflect the ratio of clinical to basic science faculty.
 4. Allied Health: Nothing major to report.
 5. Public Health: Nothing major to report.
 6. Graduate School: Nothing major to report.
 7. Dental School: February 25th is the next Faculty Assembly meeting, where they will make a final decision on the elimination of Biochemistry as a stand-alone course in the dental curriculum.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Senator Nicholls, and it was seconded by Senator Rubin. Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Submitted by: Suresh K. Alahari, PhD
Faculty Senate Secretary
March 2, 2015