

**LSUHSC Faculty Senate Meeting
October 12, 2004**

President Jean Jacob called the meeting to order at 3:35 PM in the Chancellor's Conference Room.

Members present: **Allied Health** – Sarintha Stricklin, Robert Rowe, Dave Pariser, Andy Pellett, Larry Broussard; **Dental** – Cathy Springstead, Carrie Mason, Jim Cade, Don Layman; **Graduate School** – Jay Hunt, Kurt Varner; **Library** – Jennifer Lloyd; **Medicine** – Jeffery Green, Michael Levitzky, Bob Richards, Jean Jacob, Thomas Wolf, Dan Kapusta, Greg Bagby; **Nursing** – Ann Byerly, Patricia Beare, Sally Ruel, Susan Rick, Charlene Coco; **Public Health** – Cathrine Correa
Members Absent: Johnny Porter, Tom Houston, Brian Barkemeyer

After a date change, the September minutes were unanimously approved by voice vote.

1. Old Business:

- a. **Research Committee letter to Chancellor Rock:** Dr. Rock perceived the letter as an action letter and not as a discussion letter. He approved several of the letter's recommendations. However, Vice Chancellor Smith felt that the Research Committee needed to check with him and get his approval before any recommendations could be made to Chancellor Rock. Since the Faculty Senate is an advisory group to the Chancellor, and Dr. Rock requested a report from the Senate's Research Committee, the entire Senate felt that it was appropriate to send the Committee's letter directly to the Chancellor. The Research Committee will meet with Vice Chancellors Moerschbacher and Smith to work with the newly hired consultant, David Blake, to improve the infrastructure of the grants office.
- b. **Letter to Dr. Rock on the closing of the HSC during hurricane Ivan:** The Senate sent a letter to Dr. Rock about the late closure (at 11:30 PM) of the HSC on Monday 13 September, 2004 during the threat of hurricane Ivan. All other schools in the area were closed and Mayor Nagin requested a voluntary evacuation of the city. Late closure had an adverse impact on patients, students, faculty, and staff arriving the next morning only to find the HSC closed

At that time few of the procedures for a timely shut down of the HSC functioned. These included the breakdown of phone trees, lack of faculty notification by e-mails, nothing posted on the LSUHSC website, no public announcement of closure over TV, and late notification of Security about school closure.

Because of faculty concern about the late school closure, the Executive Committee of the Senate (Jacob, Levitzky, Layman) met with the Emergency Management Team to discuss these problems. Members present at the meeting were Ron Gardner, Dr. Moerschbacher, and Leslie Capo. Dr. Rock and Joel Chatelein were out of town. After a spirited discussion all of the problems of closing the HSC, it was felt that a line of

communication needed to be in place between the administration and the rest of the HSC. All phone trees are to be kept up-to-date by the Dean's of the various schools and departments, e-mails to all faculty are to be sent out to alert of a possible or actual school closing, notification of closure is to be posted on the HSC website, early notification of Security and local TV stations. Practical guidelines are needed for future closures. To that end Andy Pellett, Head of the Senate's Safety and Welfare Committee, will meet with the EMT to establish such guidelines and to maintain open dialogue between the Senate and the EMT.

It was noted that the Chancellor needed to get approval from the president of the LSU system in Baton Rouge in order to close the HSC. Apparently, Dr. Jenkins now has a better appreciation about the chaos that a hurricane can cause because he had to close the main campus due to traffic caused by evacuation of not just New Orleans but of the gulf coast.

2. New Business: Pat Beare reported on the Faculty Advising Council meeting.
 1. The first order of business was to elect Claire Advokat as the new Chair and Patricia Beare as the Vice Chair.
 2. The committee discussed tuition waivers for faculty and family members who attend LSU colleges. Members will visit with their faculty senates and chancellors to determine whether any recommendations have been made on this issue.
 3. There have been numerous registration problems throughout the LSU system, but it is especially acute at the smaller colleges. A lack of a seamless computer system where college credits could easily be transferred would alleviate many of the problems. Since such a system is unlikely to be implemented due to cost, the issue was tabled.
 4. There has been a large increase in claims for Definity Health and thus premiums will increase.
 5. There will be a large increase in expenditures for the Charity System to cover cost of moving generators from the basement of Charity to a safer place in the event of flooding due to storms.
 6. It has been proposed that different university systems will be able to charge different tuition rates. In some cases, not charge out of state tuition. Each campus will have its own tuition fees.
 7. An optical data network is being prepared to share data and information between research institutions and researchers.

The meeting was adjourned by President Jacob at 4:30 PM

Respectfully submitted

Don Layman
Secretary

