

Faculty Senate Minutes
September 2009

President Rubin called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. in the Chancellor's Conference Room on Tuesday, September 8, 2009.

Those present included:

Allied Health – George Hebert, Jerald James, Erin Dugan, Theresa Nicholls

Dentistry – Marco Brindis

Graduate Studies – Andrew Catling; (proxy present for A. Amedee)

Library – Hanna Kwasik

Medicine – Stephen Brierre, Costa Dimitriades, Michael Levitzky, Erich Richter, Johnny Porter, Joy Sturtevant, Gregory Bagby (guest faculty)

Nursing –Leanne Fowler, Cynthia Langford, Gwendolyn Stewart-Woods

Public Health – Neal Simonsen, Mary L. Thames, Julia Volaufova, Chih-Yang Hu, Richard Scribner

Ex Officio – Jennifer K. Lloyd

At-Large (President) – Scott Rubin

Those absent included:

Allied Health – Kelly Alig

Dentistry –Diedra Foret, Dennis Paul (excused)

Graduate Studies – Angela Amedee (excused)

Medicine – John Estrada, Kevin Reed

Nursing – Randy Rosamond, Marjorie Kraus

Public Health –

Agenda item 1. Chancellor Hollier Report.

After introducing Chancellor Hollier, on behalf of the Senate, President Rubin thanked him for his efforts in securing the new Academic Medical Center.

- a. Chancellor's address to the Senate regarding the Academic Medical Center.
 - 1.) Dr. Hollier reported that the make-up of the Academic Medical Center's Board of Directors was the major cause of delay in reaching an agreement. While LSU cannot have majority control, a large portion of the funding for the Center is to come from bonds tied to LSU. An understanding was ultimately reached that created an 11 member board, with 4 LSU members having voting privileges, one of whom will serve as Chair.
 - 2.) The current focus of activity is continuing negotiations with FEMA over settlement money for the Charity Hospital structure.
 - 3.) A source of additional training opportunities will be provided as part of an MOU between Our Lady of the Lake (OLOL) and LSU/Earl K Long (EKL) Medical Center in Baton Rouge. There are 770 beds at OLOL and under the MOU it is planned to go to 950 beds. OLOL has stated they want to get more

- involved in graduate medical education (foreseeing having approximately 100 Residents). New Orleans alone does not have the full training capacity for the Residents and a partnership with OLOL will allow that. The Medicaid rate that would have been paid to EKL would go to OLOL to cover the uninsured.
- 4.) LSU is able to acquire property required for the new VA hospital through “quick take.” Groundbreaking is planned by late spring 2010. All entities (State, LSU, and VA) have an understanding regarding LSU initially acquiring the necessary property.
 - b. Past-President Bagby and Senator Scribner asked about the VA and LSU plans to share some diagnostic and other services. Previously, <10% of all Charity patients had private insurance. Thus 90% of all patients were covered by Medicaid or disproportionate share. Therefore, other departments (HR, Power Plant, etc.) were being funded by State care dollars. Plans to build a common infrastructure for the Center had to be scaled back, but there will still be cost efficiencies in some areas where there can be shared services (Radiology, Pathology Lab, etc.)
 - c. Senator Sturtevant asked if there are any plans for positive public communications regarding the new Academic Medical Center, noting the persistence of talk about the need to “Save Charity” in order to continue to make care available. There is a meeting planned for tomorrow on how to educate the public about the new hospital and there will likely be discussion of possible uses for the “old” Charity Hospital structure.
 - d. Other:
 - 1.) At the last Board of Supervisors meeting, the intention to start construction on the N.O. Biomedical Innovation Center was confirmed. This will include both office and lab space. Construction will soon begin.
 - 2.) The new Louisiana Cancer Research Consortium facility that involves LSU, Tulane and Xavier will also have new office space for cancer-related projects.
 - 3.) In spite of financially difficult times there is no anticipation of layoffs at LSUHSC–NO since we are still down 800 employees from pre-Katrina level.
 - e. LSUHSC Telemedicine Initiative:
 - 1.) Telemed is used in the LA prison system. It will be launched in screenings, in nursing homes, and across the State healthcare system. Many opportunities with this area of medicine are to be harnessed and better organized.

Agenda item 2. August minutes approved unanimously

Agenda Item 3. President’s Report (Meeting with Vice Chancellor Moerschbaecher):

- a. The issue of the State’s potential shift of focus toward 2 year Community Colleges and Technical Colleges was discussed. Dr. Moerschbaecher reported that there could be a limited reallocation of funds away from the LSU System. President Rubin stated that the Senate will monitor the issue.
- b. President Rubin had reported to Vice Chancellor Moerschbaecher that the Senate was considering a service activity. Dr. Moerschbaecher suggested an ongoing effort, such as adopting the “pocket park” across from the downtown campus on Tulane Ave.

- c. When President Rubin brought up the issue of Senator absences from meetings, Dr. Moerschbaecher recommended having meetings at the Dental School or other locations around the Center rather than just in the Chancellor's Conference room (though the Senate is always welcome there). Rubin offered strong support for having a meeting at the Dental School in the near future.
- d. ORP issue was discussed. Dr. Moerschbaecher acknowledged that it is an issue concerning the faculty as a whole.

Agenda Item 4. Old Business

- a. LSUHSC standing Web Advisory Committee – Senator Simonsen - Recruiting members to the standing committees. It was difficult to find necessary information such as other schools' student government contacts on the website.
- b. Senate resolution: Single retirement plan switch - No report
- c. Senate Public Service – President Rubin – The Education, Service, and Patient care committee was charged with investigating potential Senate public service activities.
- d. LSUHSC Standing Committees: Current opportunities – Senator Simonsen – An invitation was extended to the faculty to volunteer for, or submit nominations for possible service on the standing committees. Both Senate and LSUHSC-wide committees were discussed. The Senate's Education committee is still too populated with Nursing faculty – an invitation for any interested member to change committees was made.
- e. The Center's Chemical and General Safety Committee has openings. An invitation for Senators to volunteer for nomination was made before the general HSC faculty body is asked to help in providing nominees for the vacant or needed positions. The Faculty Appeals Committee needs 2 more faculty members from the Senate (preferably tenured). Senators Langford and Sturtevant volunteered.
- f. Introduction of new Senators.
- g. Other old business

There was no other old business.

Agenda Item 5. New Business:

- a. ORP issues – President Rubin –
 - 1.) The LSU Council of Faculty Advisors, Association of Louisiana Faculty Senates (ALFS), and the LSU Faculty Senate in Baton Rouge are responding to the reduction of benefits for those participating in the ORP. An email was sent by President Rubin to the Senate containing background information from Kevin Cope (President of LSU-B.R. Faculty Senate).
 - 2.) President Rubin would like to provide a letter of support from our Senate to the organizations involved in representing our Faculty on this issue. A letter stating our support and joining in the effort of addressing this issue was recommended to the Senate.
 - 3.) Senator Richter moved to appoint President Rubin to write a draft and was seconded by Senator Volaufova.

- 4.) It was further moved that there be a vote on the resolution by email; this was seconded by Senator Lloyd and approved by the Senate.
- 5.) Academic Medical Center (see Dr. Hollier's statements)
- 6.) Other new business

There was no other new business.

Agenda item 6. Reports.

- a. Faculty Senate committees –
 - 1.) Education, Services, and Patient Care – No report.
 - 2.) Committee Coordinating Committee – No report.
 - 3.) Constitution, Bylaws, Resolutions, Nominations, and Elections – No report (covered under 4.d.).
 - 4.) Electronic communications – Senator Lloyd - Is the “white list” (approved websites) published anywhere? IT reported that the white list changes as problems occur and it is best not to have them published. Resolutions page was updated regarding follow-up and decisions made with links to the connecting information.
 - 5.) Facilities, Safety, and Security – no report;
 - 6.) Professional Rights, Responsibilities, and Faculty Welfare – no report;
 - 7.) Research – no report.
- b. Assemblies:
 - 1.) Allied Health – It was reported that the Assembly had discussed the distinction between Faculty meetings and those meetings held as General Faculty Meetings arranged by School's Dean. There was discussion about whether it is an issue across the Center.
 - 2.) Dentistry – Opened 2 auditoriums (A & B). A meeting place will be arranged for a future Senate meeting at the School.
 - 3.) Graduate Studies – no report;
 - 4.) Library – Increased usage of resources.
 - 5.) Medicine – Had first Assembly meeting. Discussed absence of daycare. Will be adding daycare needs survey to another existing survey. There was discussion of the School's website. Discussion of the lack of ability to track allocation of indirect funds and resulting difficulty in adhering to planned direct costs budgets. A suggestion was made to invite the Center's grant administrators for an explanation direct versus indirect items. A charge was made to the Research committee to follow up on this issue; it was suggested that the Research Committee examine this issue and report back to the Senate next month.
 - 6.) Nursing – no report;
 - 7.) Public Health – Revising Bylaws and developing new Strategic Plan.
- c. Faculty Advisory Committee representatives – no report.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20pm

Submitted by
Leanne H. Fowler
Faculty Senate Secretary