

Faculty Senate Minutes
April 2008

President Bagby called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. in the Chancellor's Conference Room on Tuesday, April 8, 2008.

Those present included:

Allied Health – Scott Rubin, Erin Dugan, Robert Turner (for Kelly Alig), George Hebert (for Kevin Lord);
Dentistry – Thomas Spranley, Dennis Paul;
Graduate School – Angela Amedee;
Library – Hanna Kwasik;
Medicine – Gregory Bagby, Julio Figueroa, Ann Tilton;
Nursing – Ann Byerly, Susan Rick, Christine Langer;
Public Health – Neal Simonsen, Chih-Yang Hu, Sarah Moody-Thomas, Julia Volaufova;

Those absent included:

Allied Health – Kelly Alig (proxy), Kevin Lord (proxy), Jo Thompson (excused);
Dentistry – Thomas Lallier;
Graduate Studies – Andrew Catling (excused);
Medicine – Robin English (excused), Pam Lucchesi (excused), Tonya Jagneaux (excused), Dan Kapusta, Lolie Yu;
Nursing – Marjorie Kraus;
Public Health – Ed Peters (excused).
Ex Officio – Michael Levitzky (excused), Jennifer Lloyd;

The meeting proceeded according to the agenda with a minor change in order of items.

Agenda item 1.

Dr. Bagby introduced Robert Turner (proxy for Kelly Alig) and George Hebert (proxy for Kevin Lord), both from Allied Health.

Agenda item 2. The March minutes were unanimously approved.

Agenda item 3. President's report included

- a) Resolution 08-01 (AAUP Recommendation to Modify Faculty Handbook) – As communicated to Senators on March 18, 2008, the Faculty Handbook Committee met March 13, 2008 to consider changes to the Faculty Handbook recommended by AAUP. The Committee in word or principle adopted 6 of 10 recommendations. The proposed changes give faculty through the Faculty Senate more input to the process followed for retrenchment resulting from the declaration of financial exigency. Proposed changes have been submitted to the LSU Systems office for consideration and hopefully approval. A summary of recommendations that were not approved and hence not included in the document approved by the Faculty Handbook Committee. were: 1) Under recall (page 56, line 45) – AAUP recommended “three years after dismissal” but they voted to keep “recall up to one year after dismissal” (Reason – Language in BOS Bylaws). 2) Under Appeal procedure Page 78, line 41– Text has been retained at the request of the Chancellor. AAUP recommended change to “The

Chair of the Standing Appeal Committee shall make the determination". There was no argument from the committee. 3) Page 79, line 6 – Not changed because text on page 78, line 41 was not changed. 4) Page 80, line 24ff – Not changed because BOS requires proceedings to be recorded by a certified court reporter.

- b) A meeting of the Emergency Planning Committee is scheduled for April 10, 2008 to consider expanding emergency preparedness and hopefully Resolution 07-01 (Recommendation to Revise CM51). Dr. Bagby is a newly named member of this committee.
- c) Safety and security measures are moving forward with Access Control being activated April 14, 2008. Access will be restricted outside normal working hours (7:00 am to 6:00 pm, M-F). The LSUHSC picture ID will be required for access at other times.
- d) Emergency preparedness has been improved with the advent of Emergency Text Alerting system. To be effective, it is important that a substantial number of faculty, staff and students register to receive emergency notices.
- e) A meeting of the Senate Health and Welfare Committee for the state of Louisiana met on the HSC campus on March 25, 2008 to receive testimony from state officials and the public on the issue of the proposed LSU Hospital in New Orleans. Dr. Bagby attended the first 2 hours of the meeting and came away concerned about the project because of potential delays and whether the final product would meet the needs of the HSC. For this reason, Dr. Bagby invited Chancellor Hollier to the Senate meeting to present an update on this issue.

Agenda item 4. Old business

- a) Student misconduct – Senator Figueroa presented the final version of Senate Resolution 08-02, which was modified with respect to comments received from senators via e-mail. The Resolution 08-02 was unanimously approved.
- b) Financial exigency and force majeure – since Senator Peters was absent, this agenda item has been postponed until the next meeting.
- c) Student Security Clearances – Senator Figueroa presented the final version of Senate Resolution 08-03, whose wording was also slightly modified based on comments received from Senators via e-mail. The Senate Resolution 08-03 was unanimously approved.
- d) Discrepancy between base salary and supplemental salary – there was no new information on this topic. The issue was unanimously decided to be moved to the Professional Rights, Responsibilities, and Faculty Welfare Committee chaired by Ed Peters.
- e) Ombudsman proposal – no report and no action assumed.
- f) Standing and ad hoc committees of the LSUHSC – President Bagby reported about the existence of approximately 26 standing committees. In order to enhance faculty input in existing committees, Dr. Bagby suggested several options on how to increase information on committees. One possibility is to establish a Senate committee on committees, following the pattern of the LSU main campus. This committee would sort through existing committees and evaluate the importance of faculty/Senate input for each committee. The committee would help to identify faculty members and recommend them to be members to appropriate committees to the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs. In the discussion it became clear that the senators need more information about what the standing committees are and what the description of their activities and membership is. Dr. Bagby briefly informed the Senate about the list of

standing committees. Those participating in discussion included Greg Bagby, Dennis Paul, Robert Turner, Ann Byerly, and Neal Simonsen

Action – the issue is moved to the Constitution, Bylaws, Resolutions, Nominations & Elections Committee to prepare a plan to establish a Senate Committee on standing LSUHSC committees.

Agenda item 6 – Reports

- a) Faculty Advisory Committee Representative Report – Senator Paul presented the report from the recent meeting on March 6, 2008. His report included:
- Dr. Lombardi has appointed Dr. Mike Gargano to coordinate recruiting and enrollment for all LSU schools. This includes graduate students. No one knew if this would affect the two Health Sciences Centers.
 - The Association of Louisiana Faculty Senates (includes private Universities as well as state) met for the first time since Katrina. Nearly all representatives (one from each system) had retired. Jim Robinson (LSU-Eunice) will be the new President.-will try to recover the sitting membership on the Board of Regents
 - The Commission on Higher Education made recommendation for a formula for funding of faculty raises, implying that there will be money for raises. However, nobody knew the details of the formula. There seemed to be an idea that the two Health Sciences Centers were “above the formula”, but no one could say why.
 - Tuition Waivers: LSU-Eunice and UNO faculty senates have voted in support of tuition wavers for family members of faculty. LSU-Baton Rouge has drafted a proposal, which they will vote on their next meeting. Tuition exchanges with other systems are not supported. The need for this type of tuition waiver arose in relation to recruiting new faculty.

Agenda item 5. New business

a)
Dr. Bagby welcomed Chancellor Hollier to the meeting and asked him to present his view on the present status of the proposed LSU Teaching hospital in partnership with the VA hospital. This issue was in relation to President’s Report Item e). Chancellor Hollier explained why the meeting of the Senate Health and Welfare Committee for the State of Louisiana took place. He presented a thorough background of historical development of the issues on the joint building of the VA and Teaching hospital. The strong motivation for partnering with VA was based on possible savings on infrastructure, which otherwise each hospital would pay separately. For example, if VA had 30% of beds, the third party would pay 30% of the infrastructure, such as power plant, imaging unit, lab, food services, etc. Cost savings would be \$400 million over the next 25 years. On the federal level, the DHH suggested a different model, to create a new insurance product. The issue involves the concept of so called “dish” (i.e., DSH) money. It is money allocated to support community hospitals that provide a disproportionate share of their medical

services to the uninsured and under-insured. Federal government in this way subsidizes costs for medical services to those least able to pay. DSH funding comes from the Federal Government and Louisiana is currently “capped” at the maximum amount we are eligible to receive. Multiple consultants have all indicated that there is simply not enough DSH funding available to cover all of the uninsured in this State. Moreover, if we were to use DSH funding for an insurance product, there would not be enough DSH funding to cover GME and to maintain the safety net system to provide care for those who would remain uninsured.

LSU supports the idea of insurance but through a different mechanism. LSU would support a plan to significantly increase Medicaid eligibility, thus bringing more Federal funding into the State. For example, if Medicaid eligibility were extended to all parents of children with incomes under 200% of the Federal Poverty Level, you would have additional federal funding for these patients. This would actually expand access to care as opposed to alternative proposals that simply redistribute an insufficient pool of funds and result in reduced access for some people.

Regarding the LSU Teaching hospital, over the past year major effort was put into finding the necessary money. The state administration, not LSUHSC, came up with the proposed number (484) of beds, and was fully supportive of the joint LSUHSC/VA project. The change of administration in the state of Louisiana triggered the process of reconsideration of the size of the hospital. There is perceived consensus with the new administration regarding a) the hospital being built in New Orleans, b) at the location chosen, and c) in partnership with VA. The only issues are the size and business plan. At present, the DHH and LSU each have consultants who continue to research the issue and will work to come up with a consensus proposal. Hopefully, by the end of the present legislative session (June 30, 2008), the number will be finalized, and there is strong hope that the legislators would then include the needed money in the next year’s budget. Chancellor Hollier assured the Senators that the teaching hospital, as badly needed, will be built.

b) Assembly reports

- a. Allied Health – the faculty advisor for the yearbook has resigned. It is unclear where a new advisor will come from. Dr. Bagby will get information on the issue from Dr. Moerschbaecher;
- b. Dentistry – no report;
- c. Graduate Studies – The Research Day held at the Audubon Zoo will be held on April 18, 2008;
- d. Library – no report;
- e. Medicine – no report;
- f. Nursing – at the next assembly meeting they will hold elections;
- g. Public Health – no report.

The rest of the agenda items were postponed to the May meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30pm

Submitted by
Julia Volaufova
Faculty Senate Secretary