University of Louisiana at Lafayette
Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Committee on the Status of Women

Report on meeting, 19 September 2014, 11AM-1PM

Present: Bary, Gentry, Hasha, Lasala, Wooddell
Absent: Mopper, Réaux

**TOPIC: SEXUAL ASSAULT POLICY**

1/ At the suggestion of convener Sara Ritchey, Margot Hasha and Emily Deal are now co-chairs of the subcommittee on policies, procedures and best practices of the University’s new sexual assault task force.

Per Ritchey’s suggestion, Margot Hasha is also liaison between the task force and this committee. We will keep abreast of the activities of the task force, and George Wooddell will prepare written commentary or reports from us as needed. (Followup forthcoming from both Hasha and Wooddell.)

2/ Some questions we have about campus safety are: Is lighting near dormitories adequate? Are there sufficient code blue lights on campus, and are they working? (Followup, or a more specific plan for followup, is needed here.)

3/ On counseling for sexual assault victims: professional, off campus counseling is available, desirable, and recommended. Students receive information about agencies to contact (e.g. Hearts of Hope) at orientation, but this information should be distributed in other ways as well. Can there be signs on bulletin boards, in restrooms? Who should post these? (Followup is needed here.)

3a/ At this week’s Senate meeting it was announced that permission was required from building managers to post anything on bulletin boards. Does that mean information on sexual assault response cannot be posted? More broadly, is this a freedom of speech issue? (Followup is needed with Senate and University, and perhaps with AAUP.)

**TOPIC: SALARIES**

1/ There were some problems with the recent *Advertiser* article on salaries. Leslie Bary will ask for a followup article (in early November, after current urgent manuscript deadline). (Followup forthcoming from Leslie Bary by 30 October.)

2/ Although HR had last year said they had no problem providing us with the data we need for the salary study, proposals have come from the Provost that: (a) Senate committees now seek approval of all data requests from Senate Executive Committee [this violates Senate constitution], and (b) the Senate authorize the Provost to withhold budget data that by state law will remain a matter of public record. **Followup:** George Wooddell has prepared a motion for the October 1 Senate meeting. We hope to be able to proceed with the salary study in a timely and efficient manner. The Senate Constitution and state law should also be respected and followed.