Governmental Concerns

Name of Committee
Robert Slater
Person Submitting Report
4/15/13
Date

Task of Committee (please indicate the task of your committee here):
The Governmental Concerns Committee shall call to the attention of the Senate issues pending before governmental bodies which affect higher education and shall furnish the Senate with information necessary to understanding such issues.

Progress Report:

1. HB87 filed by Thomas Carmody allows colleges and universities to raise tuition and fees without having to get legislative approval. If approved, needs to be on the ballot in the general November 4, 2014 election.
2. HB576 filed by Broadwater Creates a special taxing district to provide a supplemental means of financing higher education.
3. SB117 filed by Appel Provides for the creation of an Outcomes-Based Funding Task Force, the intent of which is to develop a funding formula for higher education that is based on "student and institutional outcomes". Outcomes include retention, timely progression toward degree completion, and consideration of potential earning power of graduates.
4. HB528 filed by Ray Garofalo Abolishes the current Board of Regents and Board of Supervisors and creates a Louisiana University System Board of Trustees and the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges.

Since the last Faculty Senate Meeting, the following has been accomplished:

1. Personal communication sent to Representative Broadwater concerning nature, intent and chances of passages of HB576.
2. Have contacted and spoken with members of Senate Education Committee about upcoming legislation. Contact with the staff of Senators Appel and White and Representative Jefferson. More to be contacted.

Committee Members Present at Committee Meetings:

Anticipated Future Plans

Action Required by the Faculty Senate (list any action that needs to be taken by the Faculty Senate as a result of this report)

None at this time.

Before the next Faculty Senate Meeting, the following actions are planned:

1. Follow up on pending legislation.