I. Call to Order- The meeting was called to order at 4:01 PM by Executive Officer Robert McKinney, with 30 senators signing the roster.

II. Approval of March Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve by George Woodell, seconded by Bruce Turner, approved unanimously.

III. Report of Executive Officer
Committee on Ways and Means is working on Constitutional language to set up the Executive Committee. Summer activities of this committee include attending Faculty Advisory Council (McKinney when he is in town; when he is not, Jeff Lush, 15-30 June, and Bary, 1-30 July). In August both McKinney and Bary will be here and will begin work on the fall election.

IV. Reports of Senate Committees
a. Committee on Committees
Presented slate of proposed representatives on University committees; Administration to choose from this slate. For the Committee, Kay Reidel moved that we accept the slate as presented; seconded by Lush, approved unanimously.
b. Ways and Means
Is in the process of looking into the issues referred to it.
c. Academic Planning and Development
No report.
d. Governmental Concerns
The committee moved that the Senate adopt the UL-M Senate’s resolution on the the retirement bills currently in the Legislature, and was seconded by Reidel. Melinda Oberleitner made a friendly amendment to make the language of the resolution more general: since it was written, the language and even numbers of some of the bills have changed. The amendment was accepted and the question was called; motion was approved unanimously. Judy Gentry pointed out that even though some parts of these bills may have been dropped as of today, they could be added back in tomorrow; therefore we should continue to voice all of the concerns we have had. McKinney and Turner will work on changes to the language and will present these to the Senate for approval.
e. Faculty Advisory Council
This year due to a clerical error we have not had a representative who was actually a
Senator; McKinney has therefore attended FAC. In the fall we will be sure to elect a representative who is a Senator (the representative who had been elected for this year, was then not reelected to Senate; hence the problem).

V. Reports of Ad-Hoc Committees
a. Status of Women
This committee is attempting to expand and build itself.

b. Status of Black Faculty
No report.

c. Committee on proposals re fee for excessive W grades
Preliminary recommendations from this committee are that:
- the add/drop period be extended at least until all courses have met once; in Spring that can mean as long as eight week days
- the last day to drop with a W be pushed back, although it should still come before the advising period
- the advising period be a little later, so that students, when advised, have a clearer idea of what they need and want to take the following term.

The committee ascertained that the Administration really wants faculty input on these matters and does not oppose the possibility of a P/F option, which some faculty also support. Considering pros and cons of P/F, the Committee decided not to pursue it at this time.

VI. Reports of University Committees
a. Curriculum
Reidel: They are still working on approving new courses; official deadlines have passed but if you have anything to go into the 2013-2015 catalogue that you have not submitted yet, get it in because the committee is still working. Do it now, though, because the current window of opportunity will not be open long.

b. Faculty Grievance
No report. They are required by the Constitution to make an annual report (number of grievances filed and whether or not the University has acted upon these); McKinney will make sure Jack Damico, chair of this committee, makes a report.

c. Faculty Benefits and Welfare
This committee had been charged with looking into the matter of background checks for new hires. It does not have a report now and it is not clear when it will have. McKinney will continue to press for a report but cannot guarantee when one will be forthcoming. Gentry will find a copy of the letter which is sent out to job candidates on this. There is also a concern about the wording on the forms themselves, including about giving information on pending civil suits. Carolyn Bruder is going to a meeting about this May 1 and will then have much more information about it than she does now. The Senate will have to keep up with this if it is interested.

d. Library
Bruce Turner reported that the Committee met and selected a winning paper for the Jefferson Caffery Prize. They also heard a report from Dr. Triche about the very restricted budget he has for operations especially regarding acquisitions.
Followup:
Bary, who with Triche had applied for BoR funding for acquisitions and was turned down, has discussed the situation with Triche and Savoie, will follow up with both and consult with committee on this.

e. Academic Affairs and Standards
On the question of the number of courses freshmen are allowed to take, the registrar made a study which indicated that ACT scores were not as good an indicator of performance as GPA. He proposed a 2.75 high school GPA as justification of an overload. The CAAF proposed a 3.0 GPA instead, and prevailed. Deans may waive this requirement in special cases.

f. Parking and Planning
No report.

g. Student Evaluation of Instruction
No report.

VII. Unfinished Business

Committee on proposals re fee for excessive W grades
Preliminary recommendations from this committee are that:
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- the last day to drop with a W be pushed back, although it should still come before the advising period
- the advising period be a little later so that students, when advised, have a clearer idea of what they need and want to take the following term.

The committee ascertained that the Administration really wants faculty input on these matters and does not oppose the possibility of a P/F option, which some faculty also support. Considering pros and cons of P/F, the Committee decided not to pursue it at this time.

Legislature
Barbara Ciccardo pointed out that the insurance program, not just the retirement program, is being privatized as we speak and really needs to be watched and defended.

VIII. New Business

Gholam Massiha pointed out that the ethics training given in person is more interesting than the online version, and also shorter; recommended we choose the in person version. (Note: as per earlier correspondence from Massiha, it may not be clear the state ethics training requirement actually applies to faculty. To be confirmed.)

IX. Announcements
The next meeting is 19 September. No emergency summer meetings are expected at this time.

X. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made, and seconded, by a chorus of voices; it was approved unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 4:45 PM.