Faculty Senate *Draft* Minutes  
Meeting 19 October 2011  
Leslie Bary, Secretary

Meeting called to order 4:14 PM by Executive Officer Robert McKinney. Quorum was more than met and an attendance sheet is available from Leslie Bary.

Senator Reidel moved to approve the minutes of the September meeting. She was seconded by Dorwick and the motion passed with 1 abstention.

**McKinney:** The issue of salaries was raised at the last meeting. There are executive orders (from the state) in effect to next summer prohibiting merit raises and these orders could be extended. The administration is working to find ways out how to get around such orders so as to grant some form of raise. The UL system and Regents will have to approve such raises. Members of these boards are not happy with idea of raises; by the November meeting there may be some answers to this question.

**McKinney:** There are state elections Saturday, October 22. There is a proposed amendment to the state constitution which is in effect an attempt to privatize the retirement system; there are other proposed measures having to do with the privatization of healthcare. We would all be well advised to consider our positions on these issues and to vote.

**McKinney:** On the project of the Master Plan for the University: questions under discussion include the ultimate goals of university in terms of population, and related matters. There are open meetings Monday, October 24 in Martin Hall, 6-7:30 PM; Thursday, Oct 27, 5:30-7 PM in 222 Wharton; and Wednesday, 2 Nov 6-7 PM in 222 Wharton.

**McKinney:** On the question of moving the graduation date to accommodate the possibility of the Ragin' Cajuns entering a bowl game – let’s show support for all of our students and go with the plan. Various Senators objected to moving the date; others objected to the short timeline given for a decision.

**Gramling** moved against changing the date on grounds that academics should be foregrounded over sports, and families' plans to attend graduation should not be disrupted at such short notice. Motion seconded by Dorwick. Motion was amend and reads: “I move that the Faculty Senate go on record as supporting a Saturday graduation.” **Gramling** moved to call the question, Dorwick seconded, and that motion carried unanimously. The motion itself carried with 1 opposed, 2 abstentions. McKinney will communicate this to the Registrar, whose idea it was to move the graduation date, and to the President.

Voting for new members of the Senate committees took place and the results will be distributed / attached to these minutes.

**Committee Reports**

There were brief reports from the Committees on Ways and Means (Gentry) and Governmental Concerns (Bary) of which a written record will be distributed / attached to these minutes.

There was a written report from the Committee on Status of Women which will also be distributed / attached to these minutes. The Committee on Gender Equity (Gentry) appreciates UL’s willingness to use regressive analysis on this issue but has serious concerns about the accuracy. Senator Wooddell showed from a research perspective why administration’s use of regressive analysis was not done correctly. Gentry moved that the Faculty Senate endorse the Committee’s report, and was seconded by Bary;
discussion followed. Question called by Wooddell, seconded by Dorwick; motion to call the question passed with one opposing vote. The motion itself carried, with no opposing votes and two abstentions.

There were no reports from the Committees on Grievance, Faculty Benefits, Academic Affairs, or Parking and Planning. The Committee on Student Evaluation of Instruction reported that it is still working and will have a formal report soon. The Ad Hoc Committee on Instructors / Rank is still working on wording for its proposal, and some other committees will have brief written reports.

Old Business

Gentry proposed a resolution on faculty pay raises (to be attached to these minutes). This resolution was seconded by Gramling. Handler moved to amend the request to “at least 3%.” She was seconded by Reidel and this amendment was passed unanimously. Dorwick moved to strike the word “young” from the wording; he was seconded by Bary others. This amendment was voted upon and passed unanimously. McDonald suggested that a flat amount would be more advantageous for lower paid faculty. The motion by percentage, however, carried unanimously.

New Business

Senator Oberleitner moved that the Senate go on record as opposing a rise in health insurance premiums (to be attached / distributed). This motion was seconded by Gentry, and passed unanimously.

Announcements

Dorwick: UL has new study abroad programs in many disciplines, and faculty are invited to encourage their students to consider these opportunities. The new study abroad website is at http://studyabroad.louisiana.edu.

Gentry: The AAUP is meeting next week, and they will also have representatives on campus investigating the revisions to system policy on tenure and the recent dismissal of two tenured faculty here due to program elimination. They would like to talk to faculty about their views on these issues.

Adjournment

Woodell moved to adjourn and was seconded by several Senators. This motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 5:25 PM.