

FACULTY SENATE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 12, 2005
A – 127, NOON

Senators present: Carma Andrus, Michael Axelrod, Anthony Baltakis, Holly Bell, Angela Buchanan, Jennifer Creswell, Billy Fontenot, Katrina Freeman, Cinderella Hayes, William Henshaw, Lorrie Joubert, Susan LeJuene, Art Schroeder, Angela Sonnier, Christina Vick, Kathleen Warner

Senators absent: Avery Williams

Representatives: Stephen Guempel (Administration), Anthony Baltakis (Academic Policies), O’Sanna Vidrine (Staff Senate)

Guests: Mary Leslie, Ellen Stutes, Sanford Wood, Fred Landry, Linda Langley

Christina Vick (chair) called the meeting to order at noon.

- I. Adoption of Minutes: The minutes from the May 2, 2005 Faculty Senate meeting were approved as submitted.
- II. Chairperson’s Report
 - a. Board of Supervisors meeting report: Christina Vick read a brief summary of the meeting from August 18 – 19, 2005. This summary will be distributed by email to LSUE. A question was raised about state funding and Steve Guempel responded that funding is based on enrollment. He commented that we are “losing” some students possibly because of gasoline costs and some students after one year because they only need a year to meet the requirements for transfer to other universities. Linda Langley posed a question about what can be done to increase enrollment and encourage our students to stay at LSUE. Dr. Guempel responded that we should see which programs are doing well and which are not, and that steps should be taken to try to increase student enrollment in those programs that are not doing well. He also suggested that recruitment and retention should be addressed within the divisions as well as across the university. He also mentioned the KUTER system which will enhance the recruitment of high school students as it has a direct link to programs offered at LSUE. He also emphasized that as the high school population shrinks (following a state trend), LSUE must increase recruitment of the nontraditional student. He also stated that the SEM Committee will be addressing these same issues in their meetings this year. He also mentioned that courses are being created for the spring to meet the needs of the nontraditional students, mostly Saturday type courses (web-enhanced) that will also meet on Fridays. This may encourage students who generally take one course per semester to increase their course load without detracting from their work hours. Discussion followed about students from other campuses that were affected by hurricane Katrina and their situations.

O’Sanna Vidrine commented that the Staff Senate Committee needed a representative from the Faculty Senate Committee to attend

meetings. Ellen Stutes replied that the Faculty Senate Vice Chair is responsible for acting as the representative.

- b. Council of Faculty Advisors meeting report: Christina Vick read a brief summary of the meeting from August 18, 2005. This summary will be distributed by email to LSUE.

III. Old Business: Sanford Wood presented the report of the Academic Reorganization Committee (previously distributed). Christina Vick asked for any discussion. There was none. There was a motion for the Faculty Senate Committee to accept the report as distributed. The motion was seconded and passed.

IV. Committee Reports

- a. Courses and Curricula: The first meeting of this committee will be on September 12, 2005 in the afternoon. There was some question as to who would be chairing that committee (Judith Pearson?) There will be a report at the next Faculty Senate meeting.
- b. Academic Policies: The first meeting of this committee was ongoing in the adjacent room. Tony Baltakis will report later in the meeting.

V. New Business

- a. Election of Parliamentarian
- b. A question was raised about state funding and Steve Guempel responded that funding is based on enrollment. He commented that we are "losing" some students possibly because of gasoline costs and some students after one year because they only need a year to meet the requirements for transfer to other universities. Linda Langley posed a question about what can be done to increase enrollment and encourage our students to stay at LSUE. Dr. Guempel responded that we should see which programs are doing well and which are not, and that steps should be taken to try to increase student enrollment in those programs that are not doing well. He also suggested that recruitment and retention should be addressed within the divisions as well as across the university. He also mentioned the KUTER system which will enhance the recruitment of high school students as it has a direct link to programs offered at LSUE. He also emphasized that as the high school population shrinks (following a state trend), LSUE must increase recruitment of the nontraditional student. He also stated that the SEM Committee will be addressing these same issues in their meetings this year. He also mentioned that courses are being created for the spring to meet the needs of the nontraditional students, mostly Saturday type courses (web-enhanced) that will also meet on Fridays. This may encourage students who generally take one course per semester to increase their course load without detracting from their work hours. Discussion followed about students from other campuses that were affected by hurricane Katrina and their situations.

O'Sanna Vidrine commented that the Staff Senate Committee needed a representative from the Faculty Senate Committee to attend meetings. Ellen Stutes replied that the Faculty Senate Vice Chair is responsible for acting as the representative. Cinderella Hayes agreed to attend.

VI. Adjournment: A motion was made and seconded. The Meeting was adjourned at 12:48.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lorrie Joubert

*** Corrections: Steve Gervais is the chair of the Courses and Curricula Committee, with Jennifer Creswell serving as secretary. The Academic Policies Committee has only held one meeting so far. (per meeting October 3, 2005)

FACULTY SENATE MEETING
OCTOBER 3, 2005
A – 127, NOON

Senators Present: Carma Andrus, Michael Axelrod, Anthony Baltakis, Holly Bell, Angela Buchanan, Jennifer Creswell, Billy Fontenot, Katrina Freeman, Cinderella Hayes, William Henshaw, Lorrie Joubert, Susan LeJuene, Art Schroeder, Angela Sonnier, Christina Vick, Avery Williams

Senators Absent: Kathleen Warner

Representatives: Stephen Guempel (Administration), Anthony Baltakis (Academic Policies) Absent: O’Sanna Vidrine (Staff Senate)

Guests: Jim Robinson, Ron Wright, Steve Gervais, Michelle Anfenson-Comeau, Dr. William Nunez

Christina Vick called the meeting to order at noon.

- I. Adoption of Minutes: The minutes were approved with the following corrections: Steve Gervais is the chair of the Courses and Curricula Committee, with Jennifer Creswell serving as secretary. The Academic Policies Committee has only held one meeting so far.
- II. Chairperson’s Report:
 - a. The Board of Supervisors meeting (scheduled for September 22, 2005) was canceled due to Hurricane Rita. It has been rescheduled for October 5, 2005.
 - b. The Council of Faculty Advisors meeting was also canceled. Tony Baltakis will attend the meeting on October 27& 28. Christina Vick will be at a conference on those days.
- III. Committee Reports:
 - a. Courses and Curricula: Steve Gervais reported that there were 27 changes (adds or drops) presented. All were approved by the committee. The report was accepted by the faculty senate.
 - b. Academic Policies: Tony Baltakis reported that the meeting consisted of mostly information. There was discussion (no vote) about overload classes, the average size of classes and independent study classes (compensation?). There was also discussion about charging students tuition for every credit hour rather than only the first 12 credit hours. The report was accepted by the faculty senate.
- IV. Old Business: Steve Guempel was to discuss the issues of the academic policies concerning overload, etc., but these issues were discussed in the academic policy committee report. There was no other old business.
- V. New Business:
 - a. Re-opening of school following hurricane Rita: Susan LeJuene asked about the rationale behind opening school on Tuesday following the

hurricane, when many faculty and students were suffering hardships (evacuations, flooded homes, etc.). Dr. Nunez commented that work was done Sunday and Monday after the storm. The campus suffered approximately \$130,000 worth of damage. He also stated that the LSU system encourages schools to get back to a normal schedule as soon as possible. Since communication was impaired after the storm, the circumstances of many of the faculty members remained unknown to the administration. There were also questions concerning the schedule and how to adjust for days lost due to hurricane Katrina and Rita.

Susan LeJuene asked if there are days built into the schedule to accommodate for emergencies. Dr. Nunez replied that there are none.

Christina Vick asked about faculty members who were unable to return to work on Tuesday being penalized financially. Dr. Nunez replied that it would be left up to the division heads as to how that would be handled.

After much discussion about the students and faculty situations, it was agreed that the circumstances surrounding the recent hurricanes were extraordinary and that the situation has served as a learning tool for dealing with future crises. Angela Buchanan asked about the change to the Fall Break schedule and how to handle students who could not attend the "makeup day". All those involved in the discussion agreed that the teachers could use their discretion when dealing with this circumstance. Other accommodations could also be made (Blackboard, etc.) for those students. Faculty was encouraged to be flexible when dealing with the students.

- b. Four Day Week: Jim Robinson proposed a discussion about a four day class schedule (handout). He stressed that the university should be accommodating to the students when it comes to class times and options.

Steve Guempel commented that changes that have been implemented for the Spring 2006 schedule, offering students more options for MW or TR class schedules. There will also be a similar framework for Friday and Saturday classes. He also stated that the noon hour MWF would now be used for class time in order to better utilize classroom space. Changes for the Fall 2006 semester will depend upon the success of the Spring 2006 schedule. Students will be informed of changes through their advisors, announcements on the plasma screens, and the bulletin.

There was discussion about faculty teaching weekend courses and the number of days they would be required to be on campus. There was some agreement that faculty schedules would have to be flexible in order to help accommodate the changing schedules. The faculty is encouraged to see their division heads to work out the details.

Dr. Guempel stated that the Academic Council would decide whether the new schedule is a "success" based on enrollment and changes would be made accordingly for the fall semester. He also stated that even if faculty teach a 4 day week, that they would still work a 5 day week, using

Fridays for meetings, etc.. There was a motion to close the discussion and the motion passed.

- c. Use of Elevators on Campus: Lorrie Joubert reported that faculty members have complained that they cannot move their carts (overhead projectors) from floor to floor in the Science Building because of the number of students riding in the elevator. This causes the faculty to be late for class and leaves little time for setting up. It was suggested that the elevators be restricted to faculty and handicapped only. Others stated that the problem also exists in Manual Hall. Dr. Nunez replied that a restriction would have to be campus-wide. After a brief discussion about a key system, it was decided that signs stating the restriction should be placed on and around the elevators. Dr. Nunez agreed and said signs would be ordered.
- d. The Use of Bengal Village Apartments as Temporary Housing During Emergencies: Mary Leslie suggested in an email that empty apartments could be used to house faculty and staff during emergencies such as the hurricanes when many people were displaced from their homes. Dr. Nunez pointed out that LSUE does not own the apartment complex, so it is not our decision. Also, as was stated in a reply to the previous email, there were not enough empty apartments to serve the needs of a faculty member and his or her family members, there were only single beds available throughout the complex. There was no further discussion.

VI. Adjournment: A motion was made and seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 12:52.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lorrie B. Joubert

FACULTY SENATE MEETING
FEBRUARY 6, 2006
A – 127, NOON

Senators Present: Anthony Baltakis, Holly Bell, Angela Buchanan, Jennifer Creswell, Billy Fontenot, Cinderella Hayes, William Henshaw, Lorrie Joubert, Susan LeJuene, Art Schroeder, Angela Sonnier, Christina Vick, Kathleen Warner , Avery Williams

Senators Absent: Carma Andrus, Michael Axelrod (at a conference), Katrina Freeman (in class)

Representatives: Stephen Guempel (Administration), Anthony Baltakis (Academic Policies), Steve Gervais (Courses & Curricula), O’Sanna Vidrine (Staff Senate)

Guests: Dr. Bill Nunez, Mary Leslie, Ron Wright, Diane Langois, Huey Gugliardo, Betty Aguillard, Bonnie Johnson, Michael Bari, Sanford Wood, Shelby Anfenson-Comeau, Noah West, Doug Narby

Christina Vick called the meeting to order at noon.

Before the agenda, Dr. Nunez asked to speak to the committee on a matter of great urgency to the LSUE campus. Dr. Nunez reported on a January 18th meeting he had with President Jenkins, Commissioner Savoie, and Bill Silvia. Also at that meeting were Bernie Boudreaux, Larry Trembly, and the fiscal officer for the Board of Regents. Dr. Nunez went to the meeting prepared with a position paper (handout) about why LSUE should stay in the LSU System rather than become part of the LCTC System. The plan of the LSU Board was to keep the main campus (Baton Rouge) with the professional schools, the Pennington Center and the Health Science Center. UNO, LSUE, LSUA and LSUS would be realigned into the University of Louisiana System. This plan is a result of the budget crisis caused by the hurricanes.

In the position paper, Dr. Nunez stressed that LSUE uses the LSU name in marketing. It helps the situation in recruiting top students, faculty, etc.

The Board of Regents also would like to see LSUE be a part of the LCTCS. Act 506 of the spring legislature of 2005 calls for the reorganization of the LCTC System. A consultant was called in who devised a plan to break the state into regions. LSUE would be in Region 6 (composed of Evangeline, Avoyelles, Rapides, Vernon, Grant, LaSalle, Catahoula, and Concordia Parishes) and would coordinate all technical schools and community colleges in those parishes. St. Landry and Acadia Parishes would be zoned with Region 4 coordinated by SLCC in Lafayette.

Dr. Nunez went on to say that as of a meeting on the previous Friday, he believes that LSU has had a change of heart and is not willing to dismantle the system and lose any of its campuses. Also, he believes that LSUE contributes to the “Flagship Agenda” of LSU, as evidenced by an email to Bill Silvia (handout). This email contains a link to a “fate analysis” study of 353 students for a five year period of time (1997 – 2002). These students started at LSUE, transferred to LSU and then graduated from LSU with GPA’s comparable to what they attained while at LSUE. Following further discussion, Dr.

Nunez reiterated that he believes that drastic changes to the LSU System will not be implemented as planned.

I. Adoption of Minutes: The minutes of the November 28, 2005 meeting were approved as submitted.

II. Chairperson's Report:

a. Board of Supervisors meeting report: Christina Vick reported on the December 8, 2005 meeting. There were \$177 million cuts made in spending in the special session and further cuts are expected with the current session. As of December 8th, 2005, there are approximately 900 employees in New Orleans who have resigned, taken early retirement or were furloughed. That number has risen since then. The topic of Force Majeure will be addressed under new business.

Almost the entire work force of the LSU system in New Orleans has been laid off. Approximately 300 employees remain. The image of LSU has been a big asset in the repair, renovation and quality health care in the area. The topic of TOPS students and the rainy day fund were also discussed. FEMA money will not be used in the calculation of the rainy-day fund and there were no indications that changes would be harmful to LSU. The budget reductions mandated by the executive order in the January 2006 legislation were \$ 33.4 million system wide. During the same meeting, a \$2.4 million budget was passed for the Peach Bowl. Tulane is planning to cut 230 jobs, about 10% of their faculty. This is expected to result in \$50 million in savings. Xavier is laying off 30% of their faculty. Delgado was destroyed by hurricane Katrina. The Board of Regents reports that there will be a moratorium on all new programs with a few exceptions. Senator Mary Landrieu made an appearance at the second day of the meeting of the Board of Supervisors. She talked about charter schools in Louisiana and the devastation from hurricane Katrina, stressing that Louisiana needs good management. She made a statement about universities leading the way to recovery.

b. Council of Faculty Advisors meeting report: Christina Vick reported on the meeting. Patricia Biehr of the LSU Health Sciences Center reported on the situation following hurricane Katrina. She talked about buildings that were locked and guarded by armed guards. Students and faculty were escorted into the buildings to retrieve personal belongings. Another topic mentioned was the proposed revision of PM 35 (Post-tenure review). An ad hoc committee spent 18 months revising the document to make it more "faculty friendly." The council is looking for feedback from all campuses about the documents.

c. Association of Louisiana Faculty Senates meeting report: Christina Vick reported on the December 10, 2005 meeting. The meeting was held at LSUA in Alexandria. Commissioner Savoie reported that nineteen colleges were damaged with eight unable to operate on their campuses. There was a loss of direct revenue of about \$154 million. He stated that faculty would be asked to do what they could to help, teaching more than

normal loads because adjunct positions would be cut. Funds would be available to replace some equipment. SUNO is adding 4 new programs while furloughing faculty members. The commissioner said that they are restructuring many programs and cutting others at SUNO. The federal government is expecting payments to begin in February 2006 and proceed over 2 years. There will ultimately be increases in tuition but administration would like to make internal changes before passing on the cost to students.

Tony Baltakis attended a meeting on February 2nd and reported that the LSU athletic department raised ticket prices without discussion. There was discussion about Force Majeure (forced furlough). If an institution files financial exigency, the faculty has input into where changes can be made to restrict the budget. With Force Majeure, the decisions are made without faculty input. In November 2005, the decision was made to go with Force Majeure at institutions that were hardest hit by the hurricanes. At UNO, 29 tenured faculty members and 240 faculty members were furloughed. There was discussion about the LSUS Hospital. There was also much discussion about the budget cuts for this year and the expected cuts for next year.

III. Committee Reports:

- a. Courses and Curricula: Steve Gervais reported that there were 18 proposals. 13 were approved for Business and Technology. 4 in Liberal Arts were tabled until the next meeting and 1 in University 1000 was approved. The committee will meet again February 7th to close out the tabled issues.
- b. Academic Policies: Tony Baltakis reported that the committee has not met recently. Steve Guempel reported that he has received guidelines from all the divisions about technology and equipment on campus and he will put together a form for the guidelines.

IV. Old Business: None

V. New Business:

- a. Force Majeure : Christina Vick reported that faculty are being laid off or furloughed without due process. Due process would include a 5 day period in which the faculty member would have a chance to defend his/her position in keeping their job. Many faculty members are being furloughed, losing their pensions and health benefits in the process. Many were told they could not apply for unemployment, but since have been able to do so. Chris Vick reported that the AAUP (American Association of University Professors) was consulted and they reported that they could not find another single incidence of Force Majeure being invoked in the United States. She referred to an email from Bill Stewart (handout) about Force Majeure. She asked for a motion to table the discussion about Force

Majeure until the next meeting. A motion was made and seconded. All were in favor.

- b. Proposed Revision of PM – 35: Christina Vick also asked that this be addressed at the next meeting.

- VI. Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 12:54.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lorrie B. Joubert

FACULTY SENATE MEETING
SPECIAL SESSION
MARCH 22, 2006
A – 127, NOON

Senators Present: Michael Axelrod, Anthony Baltakis, , Angela Buchanan, Jennifer Creswell, Billy Fontenot, Cinderella Hayes, Lorrie Joubert, Susan LeJuene, Art Schroeder, Angela Sonnier, Christina Vick, Kathleen Warner , Avery Williams

Senators Absent: Carma Andrus, Holly Bell, Katrina Freeman (in class), William Henshaw

Representatives: Stephen Guempel (Administration), Anthony Baltakis (Academic Policies)

Guests: Huey Guigliardo

Christina Vick called the meeting to order at noon.

I. Resolution Requesting the Establishment of a Position Designated for a Voting Faculty Representative on the LSU System Board of Supervisors:

Christina Vick informed the faculty senate committee of the events taking place at LSU. Bernard Boudreaux resigned his at-large position with the LSU System Board of Supervisors. The LSU student senate proposed that the position be filled by a student representative. Bill Daly (Council of Faculty Advisors) proposed a resolution that the position be filled by a faculty representative who would have voting rights. As this would require legislation, Bill Daly has drafted a letter to Governor Blanco to encourage her support of this proposed resolution. Bill Daly is also asking for the support of the faculty senates throughout the state. He has asked all faculty senators to contact their legislators to support this bill. The faculty senates of LSUA and LSUS have already passed the resolution. The position would be appointed by Governor Blanco this year.

Chris Vick read the resolution (attached copy). Tony Baltakis made a motion to adopt the resolution. Susan Lejuene seconded the motion. Chris Vick called for any discussion. Tony Baltakis commented that the state will hesitate to place a faculty member on the board, especially, a retired faculty member. He believes that this resolution (having an employee with voting rights) will meet opposition from the board. Chris Vick pointed out that a student is receiving grades and a degree from the university, so they should not have voting rights. She also stated that the Council of Faculty Advisors objected to a retired person holding this position. They believe the position should be filled by someone “in the loop”, someone who is on campus, attending meetings, and current with the information in the system.

Jennifer Creswell asked a question about from which campus would the person filling this position be chosen. Avery Williams asked if the person would be appointed each term. Chris Vick responded that the person filling this position would be appointed initially by the governor. Jennifer Creswell stated that the CFA would give the governor a list of suggested names to choose from. Chris Vick added that Bill Daly had written the resolution during the meeting and that many of the specifics would have to be worked out in the legislation.

Chris Vick reiterated that the Council of Faculty Advisors is looking for support for this resolution from all faculty senates in the state. Jennifer Creswell had a question as to the legality of a faculty member being on the board. Steve Guempel replied that the board member positions are appointed. Art Schroeder commented that the position should be filled by a faculty member who is a full professor and tenured. Tony Baltakis stated that the faculty member would have to be a full professor (no longer eligible for promotion) because all promotions are voted on by the board. Avery Williams asked about the policies in place at other universities who have faculty as a voting member of the board of supervisors (University of Kentucky). Chris Vick replied that we can adopt the resolution as is or we can adopt the resolution with changes: the faculty member must be a tenured full professor. Huey Guigliardo stated that he believes the board will have less opposition to a faculty member having voting privileges if the person is no longer in a situation of receiving promotions.

Chris Vick asked for a motion. Tony Baltakis made a motion to approve the resolution with the stipulation that the resolution include the requirement that the faculty member be a tenured full professor. Susan Lejuene seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Adjournment: Chris Vick made a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 12:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Lorrie B. Joubert

FACULTY SENATE MEETING
APRIL 3, 2006
A – 127, NOON

Senators Present: Bonnie Johnson, Michael Axelrod, Anthony Baltakis, Jennifer Creswell, Billy Fontenot, Cinderella Hayes, Lorrie Joubert, Susan LeJuene, Art Schroeder, Angela Sonnier, Christina Vick, Kathleen Warner , Avery Williams

Senators Absent: Holly Bell, Angela Buchanan, Katrina Freeman (in class), William Henshaw (in class)

Representatives: Stephen Guempel (Administration), Anthony Baltakis (Academic Policies)

Guests: Mary Leslie, Jason Ambrosiano

Christina Vick called the meeting to order at noon.

- I. Adoption of Minutes: The minutes of the March 6, 2006 meeting were approved as corrected. (the LSU Ag Center receives no revenue from tuition.)
- II. Adoption of Minutes: The minutes of the March 22, 2006 special session meeting were approved.
- III. Chairperson's Report:
 - a. Board of Supervisors meeting report: Christina Vick reported that the Board of Supervisors met on March 9-10, 2006. She handed out a copy of the agenda for that meeting. The request from Chancellor Richardson of the LSU Agricultural Center for financial exigency was approved. There was discussion about the UNO financial exigency plan. There was only discussion, no action was taken. Chris Vick handed out a copy of the Procedures for Notification and Review, one of the topics discussed. The Board of Supervisors is requesting more information from Chancellor Ryan of UNO. She pointed out section b and c on page 4, "under financial exigency, if a faculty member is notified of termination, they have 5 days to respond in writing (appeal) to the provost, dean...and those people will consider that appeal. If that appeal is turned down, that faculty member has three days to appeal to the President of the system. Such review will be at the sole discretion of the President and may or not be placed in the record." Since there is no faculty involvement in the process, this falls into the category of Force Majeure rather than financial exigency and Chris Vick assured the senate that law suits have been and will be filed over this situation.

There were personnel actions that required board approval. Chris Vick pointed out that the state lost ~ \$70 million in funds due to the hurricanes. While some of those funds may be restored, there were many faculty members who have lost their jobs. Meanwhile, there were 17 new positions created and approved. Most of these new positions were administrative. Nine of those were at LSU A & M (Baton Rouge). Two of these positions included Dean of the Graduate School (\$170,000 – 240,000 per year) and Vice Chancellor of Research and Economic Development (\$200,000 – 250,000 per year). Raises that were approved were mostly administration and coaching positions. All those getting raises were already making over \$100,000 per year. Bonnie Johnson commented that those raises may have involved restructuring with greater responsibility.

The health plan status report was discussed. There will be a 7.9% premium adjustment upward in order to build up reserves. Also, the research and economic development committee reported about the resolution regarding the search process for the President of the LSU System. The Board of Supervisors has hired the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges to study the eleven institutions in the LSU System and also recommended that they be hired to conduct a nationwide search. This process is expected to take from 15 – 18 months. Dr. Jenkins will stay in the position until a replacement has been found.

Dottie Reese has put forth a discussion about establishing an LSU System Diversity Initiative, to include gender diversity, racial diversity, ethnic diversity and gender orientation diversity.

- b. Council of Faculty Advisors meeting report: Christina Vick reported that the Council of Faculty Advisors met on March 9, 2006. Bob Rasmussen gave a briefing on the Board of Supervisors agenda. He also stated that the Board of Supervisors is not the driving force behind the agenda to place LSUE in the LCTC, that the Board of Regents is responsible. The search for the new system president was discussed extensively. The entity hired to conduct the search will meet with the boards, the chancellors, students, the community and the faculty to gain input from those affected by the hiring of a new president.

IV. Committee Reports:

- a. Courses and Curricula: There was no report.
- b. Academic Policies: There was no report.

V. Old Business:

- a. Letter to the CFA concerning Force Majeure: Jennifer Creswell had emailed Chris Vick about whether the letter had been sent out because there were questions from her and other senators about the content of the letter. Chris Vick replied to her that the letter had already been sent. Jennifer stated that she had a problem with the fact that the letter had been sent under the name of the Faculty Senate when not all the senators were in agreement over the contents. Susan Lejeune commented that the only email she received about the content of the letter was from Jennifer Creswell (concerns about the forcefulness of the wording). She mentioned that we all received the email from Avery Williams about not supporting the sending of the letter. He voted at the last meeting not to send the letter at all. Tony Baltakis brought up the issue of an email vote on the letter. It was agreed upon at the last meeting that the final draft would be voted upon by the faculty senate. Due to general confusion over the sending of the letter, Chris Vick apologized for sending out the final draft without further review from the faculty senate members. She passed around a copy of a letter of the letter that was sent as well as a letter from the AAUP to Dr. Jenkins concerning force majeure.

VI. New Business:

- a. Election of Faculty Senators for AY 2006 – 2008: Chris Vick will send an email to the heads of each division, calling for the election of new faculty senators so they may attend the April 24, 2006 meeting. Tony Baltakis requested that a special effort be made to elect faculty members who have tenure. Of the 16 current members, 7 are tenured and 4 of those members are at the end of their terms. This leaves only 3 choices for the chair. He stressed that the faculty senate committee needs faculty members with experience and at least 50% of the senate should be tenured faculty.

Jason Ambrosiano commented that he was under the impression that serving on the faculty senate was an important step in gaining tenure. There was some discussion about less experienced faculty being afraid to speak their opinion, for fear of stepping on toes and affecting their chances of promotion later. It was generally agreed that everyone attending the meetings has the freedom to speak their mind without fear of repercussions, however the experience and knowledge of the concerns of the division is needed on the senate committee.

- b. Gender Inclusive Language in the Faculty Senate Bylaws: Chris Vick referred to a handout containing the proposed (recommended) changes for gender inclusive language in the Faculty Senate Bylaws. She also referred to a handout of her arguments for the proposed changes. The proposed changes were emailed to the faculty council and will be voted on

at the April 24, 2006 meeting of the faculty senate. There was a question about whether the faculty council will vote on the changes as well. It was decided that the council ratifies the actions of the senate for the given year, but only the senate actually votes on given issues. However, Chris Vick said that she would research the process and let us know at the April 24, 2006 meeting.

- c. Senate Bill 280 –TOPS Bill Proposed by Cleo Fields: Cleo Fields has sponsored a bill in the state legislature that would change the requirements so that only students whose families fall at or below the poverty level would be eligible for TOPS. Steve Guempel stated that LSUE would be greatly affected because approximately 400 students receiving TOPS scholarships come to our campus each year. Art Schroeder commented that Cleo Fields later amended his goal to include middle class families as well. Tony Baltakis stated that TOPS has no means testing. He believes that families above a certain mean should receive a partial TOPS scholarship, perhaps 70% . Cindi Hayes also commented that working families often are not eligible for grants and depend on the TOPS scholarship to be able to attend college. It was stated that the original goal of the TOPS program was to encourage academic excellence regardless of economic status.

VII. Adjournment: A motion was made and seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 12:50.

Respectfully submitted,
Lorrie B. Joubert

FACULTY SENATE MEETING
APRIL 24, 2006
A – 127, NOON

Senators Present: Anthony Baltakis, Angela Buchanan, Jennifer Creswell, Billy Fontenot, Cinderella Hayes, Lorrie Joubert, Susan LeJuene, Angela Sonnier, Christina Vick

Senators Absent: Bonnie Johnson (at a meeting), Michael Axelrod, Holly Bell, Katrina Freeman (in class), William Henshaw (in class), Art Schroeder, Kathleen Warner, Avery Williams

New Senators Present: Shelby Anfenson-Comeau, Wayne Escude, Paula Jacobi, James Robinson, Jeanne Soileau, Sanford Wood

New Senators Absent: Barbara Batiste, Maura Cavell, Sharon Clark

Representatives: Stephen Guempel (Administration), Anthony Baltakis (Academic Policies)

Guests: None

Christina Vick called the meeting to order at noon.

Before addressing the agenda, Chris Vick answered a question from the previous meeting about changes in the faculty senate committee bylaws. The faculty council does not need to vote on the changes to the bylaws, only the faculty senate votes to accept the changes. The faculty council only votes to ratify the actions of the faculty senate for the given year. Sanford Wood replied that changes to the bylaws of the faculty senate require a two-thirds vote by the faculty senate with a one-month prior notification sent to all members of the faculty council.

She also made a change to the agenda, adding the election of faculty senate officers for 2006 – 2007 as part a. under new business.

- I. Adoption of Minutes: The minutes of the April 3, 2006 meeting were approved with the aforementioned clarification.
- II. Chairperson's Report:
 - a. Board of Supervisors meeting report: Christina Vick reported that the Board of Supervisors met on April 20-21, 2006. The matter of financial exigency for UNO was approved with very little discussion. Bill Stewart (Chair of the Louisiana Association of Faculty Senates) gave a speech to the board asking them not to declare financial exigency and asking them to

restore money lost to budget cuts. He claimed that UNO was already under funded even before hurricane Katrina hit last year. Faculty at UNO was not asked for input at all about whose position would be cut and whose would remain. He stated that this will add to the difficulty of recruiting and retaining professors at the university. Dottie Reese and Laura Leach both were upset by the approval and Laura Leach made the statement that "This is definitely a dark day for New Orleans and for UNO." The Academic and Student Affairs Committee had several proposals approved. One was for a Bachelor of Science degree in Coastal and Environmental Studies at LSU. Another was for a Bachelor of Science in Psychology at LSUA and the changes in Dairy Science at the Agricultural Center were approved. This involves restructuring and selling the dairy herd.

Chancellor O'Keefe spoke about the flagship agenda. He said that there was 75 – 80% acceptance rate of students who applied. The median standard was a 22 ACT with a GPA of 3.0. He claimed that education at LSU is cheaper than anywhere in the country of Canada. Also, he said that approximately 15% of all students received federal aid such as Pell Grants. The average student debt upon graduation is approximately \$19,500. It was noted at the meeting that the governor's executive committee had designated a pool of \$5 million for universities affected by the hurricanes. How this money will be distributed will be decided after registration for the Fall 2006 semester. UNO Chancellor Tim Ryan reported that the university faced a \$16.5 million or a 12.8% loss of revenues. He estimated that 83-84% of their students will return, facing a loss of approximately 3000 students. The proposal for a new Alex Box Baseball Stadium was approved. It is projected to open in 2008 and will be built with no cost to the state. The athletic committee reported on amendments to the contracts of several coaches at LSU, allowing their names and images to be associated with merchandise, and allowing the coaches to receive monetary compensation.

The report on the health plan stated that is performing well, that it is fully funded and that LSU employees have the best benefits at the lowest cost. Bernard Boudreaux (chair) stepped down from the Board of Supervisors on March 8, 2006, so Rod West will become the chair in August 2006 and Jerry Shea will be the chair-elect. The legislative agenda included a statement about house bill 731 which would allow the university to raise student fees. This will be a constitutional amendment repealing the 2/3 vote requirement for legislative approval. The LSU system is recommending that rather than a 2/3 vote, that the requirement be a majority vote. Anthony Baltakis spoke to the Board of Supervisors concerning his receipt of the Fulbright Scholarship. Chris Vick felt like this was great publicity for the LSUE campus and a major accomplishment for Dr. Baltakis. Another issue discussed was student housing. Medical students (from the LSU medical school in New Orleans)

were being housed on cruise ships following the hurricanes. This was working well.

- b. Council of Faculty Advisors meeting report: Christina Vick reported that the Council of Faculty Advisors met on April 21, 2006 and covered basically the same topics listed in the Board of Supervisors report.

III. Committee Reports:

- a. Courses and Curricula: Jennifer Creswell reported that the committee met and there were two items that were tabled and would be considered at the next meeting.
- b. Academic Policies: There was no report.

IV. Old Business:

- a. Vote on Gender Inclusive Language in the Faculty Senate Bylaws: Chris Vick addressed the issue of gender inclusive language in the faculty senate bylaws. She had previously emailed committee members a list of arguments in favor of changes to the bylaws, whereby “he/she” would be used in place of “he” or “the person.” One of these arguments included the fact that the bylaws are legal documents and therefore must use nonsexist language. Gloria Hernandez had sent an email suggesting that plural pronouns such as “they” be used in place of “he/she”. Chris Vick replied that use of plural pronouns is only acceptable if the antecedent is plural. Since many of the references are singular, this change would necessitate even more changes. There was a motion made and seconded to accept the proposed changes to the bylaws. The vote passed with Susan LeJuene voting against “on principle.”

V. New Business:

- a. Election of Officers for AY 2006-2007: Chris Vick noted that the Division of Allied Health has not held elections for senators for the term 2006 – 2008. The elections are to be held in the spring by the outgoing senators so that new senate members may attend the final meeting of the academic year. It was noted that although the Division of Allied Health would not be fairly represented, there were enough incoming and returning senators to fulfill the required quorum for an election. It was also noted that the chair and the vice chair of the faculty senate must be a full-time tenured faculty member. Chris Vick asked for any nominations for the chair position (tenured faculty include: Jim Robinson, Jeanne Soileau, Sanford Wood, and Bonnie Johnson). Nominations included Jim Robinson and Sanford Wood. After a ballot vote, Jim Robinson was voted chair of the

faculty senate for 2006-2007. Sanford Wood was nominated for vice chair and was elected by acclamation. Sharon Clark was nominated for the position of secretary, but later refused the position. The position of secretary will need to be filled before the first meeting of 2006-2007. The position of parliamentarian will be appointed by the chair. Chris Vick invited Jim Robinson to attend the next meetings of the Board of Supervisors and the Council of Faculty Advisors on May 3, 2006.

- b. Interview with Consultants from the Association of Governing Boards regarding the search for the next President of the LSU System: Chris Vick noted that President Jenkins (LSU System President) will step down sometime in the next 15-18 months. The Board of Supervisors has hired the Association of Governing Boards to conduct a study of what attributes should be considered as important for the next president. LSUE has an appointment for an interview with AGB on May 3, 2006. There was some discussion about this topic. Tony Baltakis said that we should make it known that LSUE wishes to stay in the LSU System and give our justifications. Jim Robinson said that we have many arguments, one of which is that our students have GPA's equal to or better than LSU students at graduation. Mary Leslie commented that Dr. Jenkins has been very aware of our existence and has had an appreciation for how even the smallest college can interact within the system. Chris Vick and Jim Robinson will attend this interview. Any other suggestions or ideas should be emailed to Chris or Jim.
- c. As an addition to the agenda, Tony Baltakis asked to speak to the senate about conflicting dates between the final meeting of the year and registration / orientation. It was brought to the attention of the senate that many senators were not in attendance because of division heads mandating that they stay in their offices to advise during the orientation process. Jim Robinson stated that this would be taken into consideration in planning next year's meetings.

Angela Sonnier thanked Chris Vick for her service as chair of the senate for this year.

- VI. Adjournment: A motion was made and seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 12:56.

Respectfully submitted,
Lorrie B. Joubert