

**Minutes of Faculty Senate (FS) Meeting**  
**Thursday, March 18, 2010**  
**Admin Rm 2-91, ULM Campus**  
**12:30 – 2:00PM**

**Call to Order and Roll Call:** President Walker called the meeting to order. Secretary Reid called the roll.

**Senators Present:** J. Anderson, C. Grinnell, J. Feldhaus, A. Hill, C. Hutto, K. Kervin, M. Matusiak, L. Nickelson, S. Owens, L. Reid, D. Rhorer, C. Steckline, B. Walker

**Senators Absent:** M. Bontty\*, W. Campbell\*, D. Chandler\*, Y. Dupre, M. Lowe, M. Parker, P. Sylvester\*

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of March 4, 2010 were reviewed and approved with corrections (Matusiak/Steckline).

**Committee Reports:**

**Executive Board:** President Walker gave a report from the Academic Affairs Budget Committee. He and Senators Hill, Rhorer, and Parker will be the FS representatives on this committee. He reported that the committee is preparing for the worst case scenario. Three of the subcommittees will try to plan what the University should look like in 3 years. President Walker is on one subcommittee with Lon Smith, Stan Williamson, Mike Parker, and Cecil Hutto. Senator Hill is on a parallel subcommittee headed by Dr. Charles Jastrom (Pharmacy). Senator Rhorer is on the third subcommittee. These subcommittees are to look at critical elements and budget needs across programs. The committees will meet Monday, March 22 to ensure that all committees are working within the same agenda and if needed with get clarification from the Provost.

**Constitution and Bylaws:** President Walker raised the issue to consider having an addition/amendment to the FS Bylaws that would bar faculty who are on terminal contract for involuntary reasons to be required to step down as a faculty senator. Faculty senators are elected by their college and have the option to resign. Discussion revolved around the idea that such an amendment would not necessarily be beneficial, that censure and perhaps expulsion would be the appropriate alternatives for addressing inappropriate behavior of senators, that FS meetings are a time for open discussion and for senators to express dissent, and that the ULM code of conduct for faculty should be followed by all senators. Senator Feldhaus read the Bylaws as to the role of the faculty senator and reasons for expulsion. The idea of amending the Bylaws was tabled.

**Elections:** Calls for nominations have been mailed to all faculty and nominations for senator candidates will be closed Monday, March 22 at 4:00 pm. President Walker asked that senators from each College encourage faculty members to consider membership on the Senate. The FS went into executive session (Steckline/Feldhaus).

After resuming normal discussion, Senator Hill expressed concern that there is not a balance of when senator terms expire in the College of Arts & Sciences (A&S) and that perhaps the Senate could use the opportunity created by mid-term resignations/openings to restore balanced rotation in senator

terms. Senator Feldhaus made a motion that the Executive Board members examine the terms of incoming senators in all positions (A&S) who have not been elected. Seconded by Steckline. An amendment was made and seconded for the Executive Board to look at all vacant seats in all colleges to balance terms of office in a staggering fashion. Several seats on FS have been eliminated due to loss of faculty positions (1 in Education and 1-2 in A&S).

**Faculty Advisory Council (FAC):** Chair Rhorer reported on the meeting of February 26, 2010. Discussion of topics were recommendations from the PERK commission, budget issues, the Governor's proposal for possible tuition increases, ORP concerns, financial exigency policy changes, and incentivized retirement policy. Members also discussed possible submission again this year of a bill allowing guns on campus. FAC will write a resolution against guns on campus again. Campus reports from 7 of 8 universities were given. She informed us that Penny Ferguson of Louisiana Federation of Teachers talked about that group filing some kind of suit regarding ORP changes. She reported that most universities cannot offer the incentivized retirement offerings because of budget cuts.

**Unfinished Business:**

**Tobacco Free Resolution:** Senator Hill presented the recommendations of the Smoking Policy Committee of February 3, 2010. Senator Feldhaus made the motion to accept the recommendations. Seconded by Senator Matusiak. Previous efforts were made to provide measures to be accommodating to those who use tobacco products, but measures were not followed. Therefore, the new recommendation is to have a tobacco free campus. Motion carried with 8 for, 2 against, and 2 abstentions.

**Faculty Senate Budget Resolution:** A revised resolution was presented by President Walker. Senator Steckline made a motion that we accept and send the resolution to Governor Bobby Jindal with the minor changes discussed. Seconded by Senator Matusiak. Motion passed.

**New Business:**

**Resignation:** Dr. Holly Wilson formally resigned from the FS via email sent on March 11, 2010.

**AAUP Training:** Senator Steckline proposed that FS financially support President-Elect Hill to attend the AAUP training for senate presidents this summer. Seconded by Senator Feldhaus. Motion passed.

**Other Business:**

**QEP:** President Walker received a letter from Deanna Buczala who oversees the implementation of QEP. Senators Steckline and Hutto volunteered to serve on this committee to represent FS.

The next meeting will be on April 15, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Reid, MSN, RN  
Faculty Senate Secretary