

Minutes of Faculty Senate Meeting
Thursday, March 14, 2013
Rm 170, Student Center, ULM Campus
12:30 – 2:00 p.m.

- * indicates excused absence;
- Name/Name indicates Moved/Seconded

Senators Present: Anderson, Caldwell, Eisenstadt, Giles, Hill, Sampognaro, Sutton, Strunk, Sylvester, Tommerdahl, Wiggins, Wilson

Senators Absent: *Bray, *Carpenter, *Chenoweth, *Frye, *Lasiter, *Niemla, *Owens, *Pope, *Stockley, *Walker

Handouts circulated: Electronically circulated documents included the Draft of Minutes of FS February 14, 2013 meeting, Agenda for FS March 14 meeting

President Sylvester **called the meeting to order**, at 12:30 p.m.

Secretary Sampognaro **called the roll**.

The **Minutes of the FS February 14** meeting were **accepted**. (Wilson/Eisenstadt)

Agenda Items:

- Executive Vice President Richters provided an update on the printer and copier policy. Xerox came in and did a review of all printing and copying on campus in order to provide cost information. They propose to set up centralized printing and copying on campus. There are a great deal of resources tied up in printer repair, and the computing center employees could better utilize their time. If faculty/staff do have personal printers in offices, they would no longer be supported by the University and would have to supply toner and paper. Once the results from Xerox are complete a decision regarding centralized printing will be made. Ricoh was also mentioned.
- President Sylvester provided an Executive Committee Report from the Executive Council meeting held on March 12.
 - President Bruno will attend the next FS meeting to discuss upcoming strategic planning.
 - The option of bringing in an outside consultant to assist in strategic planning was explored. This is very costly. St. Francis hospital recently completed their strategic planning process and donated their consultant's time to help ULM with the upcoming strategic plan.
 - There has been no budget update from the state.
- Senator Hill attended the last FAC meeting and provided a report.
 - Dr. Woodley provided a brief summary of her campus visits.
 - Dr. Woodley attended a portion of the FAC meeting. She stated that Louisiana is lacking organized data for taking an analytical approach at the system levels (e.g. examining financial strengths of institutions, debt ratios, and productivity of faculty comparing "like" disciplines).
 - The FAC requested a meeting with Dr. Woodley on a separate date where they would have more time to talk, and she agreed.

- The FAC asked Dr. Woodley to consider three items:
 - To strongly consider having a faculty representative on the Board. There is already a student representative serving.
 - To formulate a specific policy in the Board Rules on shared governance for campuses to encourage more uniform practices, and to do so with the involvement of the FAC. It was noted that practices among campuses are very different and that practices even vary on a single campus with changes in administration.
 - Dr. Woodley was asked to comment on the AAUP's recently issued policy statement on program elimination. She said only that she was aware that the policy statement had been issued, but that she had not yet had time to fully review it. Perhaps she will be able to say more about this at a later meeting.
- Dr. Woodley seemed receptive to FAC input during this brief meeting.
- After Dr. Woodley left, the campus FAC representatives gave reports. Generally, faculty morale is very low state wide. Senator Hill mentioned the disproportionate impact of across the board budget cuts and the ULM faculty survey.
- The Election Committee delayed nominations for open FS seats by one week to encourage more participation. Human Resources contacted President Sylvester notifying him that requesting the CWID on the nomination form is a violation and asked that this not be done.
- The faculty survey is complete and ready to be sent. A motion to approve and disseminate the survey was passed. (Hill/Anderson)
- President Sylvester and Senator Stockley have been contacting local senators and legislators to set up meetings. They will meet with Jay Morris and Mike Walsworth next week. They also plan to attend Northern Exposure in Baton Rouge.
- Senator Sutton provided an update regarding the Constitution and Bylaws. Two changes to this document were previously approved but never actually updated. These will be taken care of. There was another change approved in November 2011 but the placement of the change was never agreed upon. The change is related to situations in which a senator would have to miss more than two meetings in a semester due to health reasons. A motion passed to add this in Article 1, Section 4. (Wilson/Hill) Senator Sutton will send these changes to President Sylvester who will implement them. Senator Eisenstadt asked this committee to review the FS ratio in relation to the entire faculty. As the faculty downsizes, the FS continues to shrink. A request was made to consider setting a minimum number of senators or a percentage of faculty proportionately distributed by college. The Constitution and Bylaws will be reviewed next year.
- Dr. Pani attended a portion of the meeting to review the results of the ModernThink survey. This is a national survey sponsored by the Chronicle. The next dissemination of this survey will begin soon. He reported that ULM is doing relatively well overall, but still has a long way to go to reach excellence. Areas that warrant attention include shared governance, senior leadership, faculty/administration/staff relations, communication, and collaboration. The response rate was 39%. He asked what could be done to improve confidence in the senior administration. Senator Wilson voiced concern that follow-through regarding problems raised is not communicated well. Dr. Pani recognized the FS concern that the "loop is not being closed". He will continue to hold faculty chats and also recognizes the need for more communication from the administration. The discussion was cut short due to time and was planned to continue at the next Academic Affairs Talk on March 18th.

The next FS meeting will take place on April 18, 2013 at 12:30, in the University House Conference Room.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurel Sampognaro, Faculty Senate Secretary

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