

Minutes of Faculty Senate Called Meeting
Friday, September 7, 2012
Rm 170, Student Center, ULM Campus
11:00a.m. – 12:28 p.m.

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

Senators Present: Anderson, Frye, Giles, Hill, Lasiter, Niemla, Owens, Stockley, Cumming Strunk, Sutton, Sylvester, Wiggins, Steckline Wilson

Senators Absent: (* denotes excused): Bray*, Caldwell*, Carpenter*, Chenoweth*, Eisenstadt*, Pope*, Sampognaro*, Tommerdahl*, Walker*

Guest: President Nick Bruno and Vice President of Academic Affairs Eric Pani

Handouts circulated: State of the University PowerPoint Presentation from 8/17/12 (<http://www.ulm.edu/president/state-of-the-university>), Analysis Showing Inequity of BOR Formula Allocation Methodology, Appendix #1 outlining implementation rates at other Louisiana universities, Appendix #3 BOR Formula Funding Notes, Appendix #4 relating various factors that go into calculating the formula funding for ULM and the other University of Louisiana System universities, Appendix #6 highlighting system funding rates and tuition rates, and Academic Program Prioritization Evaluation Matrix Variables and Weights

President Sylvester **called the meeting to order**, at 11:00 a.m.

President Bruno addressed the senate.

- He reviewed key points of the "State of the University" presentation.
- He gave a short explanation of the program factors analysis and the implementation rate which is how the formula funding is actually applied by the state.
- A few years ago, the state funded the university 60% of our budget and the tuition covered the 30%. Now the numbers have reversed.
- ULM is getting 77% of the implementation rate from the program factors as opposed to 90% which is the average statewide. ULM should be receiving another \$10 million if we were funded at the system average.
- President Bruno has been meeting with state representatives and others using the data provided by the Board of Regents. No one has disputed the data.
- Other universities have problems too, but none of them have had to go to the lengths that we have. These inequities must be addressed by the state legislature.
- President Bruno has been pushing these state representatives to lobby the Board of Regents to redistribute funds in one of two ways which may not cause problems with other state institutions.
 1. Do not continue to cut us, but work to help us in the future.
 2. Provide us with some additional aid to make up for the severe cuts.
- Referencing slide 10-11 of the "State of the University" presentation,

- ULM is hurt most by inequities in Formula funding because of the large number of high cost programs (Sciences, Health Sciences, Pharmacy, etc). ULM is not a liberal arts University.
- The BOR Formula says that our budget should be \$95 million, but the operating budget is only \$73 million.
- Last year's implementation rate was 90% for ULM. This year's is 77%. The "Performance Change" is the amount more we should get for our increases in students which is up by 7%. ULM is down by a total of 20% after you factor in the drop in implementation rate of 13% and the lost of performance change 7%.
- Note a higher tuition rate does not necessarily guarantee that we will have a higher implementation rate. When LSU and LA Tech increased their tuition, the tuition increase handled much of their cuts since it was already higher than ours.
- He mentioned that we have an inequity in the student credit hours (or SCHs) versus our budget. For example, 5% of our SCHs come from the College of Pharmacy, yet 20% of our budget goes to the College of Pharmacy. While their portion of the budget was not cut, they will not receive as much of the tuition paid by their students in the future.
- When asked if there will be a mid-year cut, President Bruno replied things were looking positive before Hurricane Isaac hit.

Vice President of Academic Affairs Pani addressed the senate.

- Starting with Appendix #1, he explained the budget for 2012-2013 was actually \$73.5 million instead of the \$74 million listed due to some unfunded mandate issues.
- ULM is the worst funded per student rate in the state. (See the "Analysis Showing Inequity of BOR Formula Allocation Methodology" handout.) Note ULM is funded at \$2,809 per FTE student below the BOR formula, while the next worse is \$2,742 below the BOR formula and the best is \$691 above the BOR formula.
- There was a quick discussion of how program factors are assigned. For example, see slide 11 of the presentation. A GenEd class has a factor of 1.88, a Master's Business class has a factor of 4.59, and a PharmD class has a factor of 13.43.
- ULM's role, scope, and mission is to become a better institution and strive to produce more students with graduate degrees. ULM is tasked to move forward with more graduate programs than bachelor's programs. The state needs to decide if they want ULM to continue to focus on health care.
- We can do all this, because everyone at ULM is working harder, carrying heavier loads than ever. **Thank you all for this.**

Then there was a short Question and Answer period.

- Program Prioritization
 - VPAA Pani explained that they used the book *Prioritizing Academic Programs and Services* by Robert Dickeson as a guide and the evaluation matrix table from Dean Camille.
 - The Academic Deans Council (the academic deans and the interim VPAA) reviewed each degree program according to these factors, and ranked them according to a combination of objective and arbitrary weights, weighted total.
 - For example, programs like Mathematics and English are important and higher than others since they are central to the university, but not as high as Pharmacy.

- When they looked at the budget, they used this prioritization list.
 - Only minors have been eliminated to date. no majors.
- Enrollment numbers
 - The total enrollment is either level or slightly increased.
- How can the Faculty Senate help in this situation?
 - President Bruno says to be aware of the data and have a common message. We are not here to whine. Just give them the facts.
 - We need to not get down. We need to keep producing and thriving. We need to keep morale as high as possible.
 - VPAA Pani asked us to think about the data. Tell your deans, your department head, or even VPAA Pani, himself, of any solutions that you have.

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President Sylvester adjourned the meeting at 12:28pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Cumming Strunk, Faculty Senate Secretary-Elect