

Minutes of Faculty Senate Meeting
Thursday, January, 2015
Walker 1-111, ULM Campus
12:30 – 2:00 p.m.

* indicates excused absence; Name/Name indicates Moved/Seconded
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Senators Present: Jeffrey Anderson, John Anderson, Craighead, Dagley, Eisenstadt, Frye, Giles, Gissendanner, Hare, A. Hill, R. Hill, Kaleem, Lasiter, Lovett, Michael, Nazzal, Niemla, Stockley, Vangelisti, White, Wiedemeier

Senators Absent: None

Faculty Senate President Stockley **called the meeting to order** at 12:32 p.m.

Faculty Senate Secretary Gissendanner **called the roll.**

Special Guest: President Nick Bruno

- Pres. Bruno summarized the proposed budget cuts to higher education: \$370 million with \$300 million in reduction and \$70 million in tuition sweep.
- ULM could get hit with \$10 million in cuts which will be a higher percentage than we have ever taken.
- ULM looks OK financially for Spring semester.
- Potential savings on building insurance, phone service, unfunded liability of retirement plan—it was enacted a while ago that liability be eliminated at some point in the future. ULM can suspend this payment for a couple of years.
- There is a different attitude among legislators—the cuts are not a good idea. Efforts need to be made to convince legislators, especially those that are not running for re-election or are term-limited, that Louisiana risks losing its best and brightest students.
- Will legislators have the courage to suspend tax credits?
- A question was asked if there is a financial development office for the University (not just athletics) and Pres. Bruno replied that we are under a capital campaign. ULM has submitted nine endowments and two chairs for approval. Pres. Bruno noted that people are willing to give to entities that are making progress.
- Pres. Bruno indicated that a realistic cut that ULM could survive would be 1-2 million. A \$10 million cut would completely alter ULM.
- Pres. Bruno answered a question regarding long-term vision for ULM: Pres. Bruno thinks enrollment can grow to 9,000 students in a year with potential up to 9,200 or 9,300 students.
- Pres. Bruno also noted that ULM has more name recognition. In 2011, recognition was less than 20% for South Louisiana and 2013 it was 30%..

Special Guest: VPAA Eric Pani

- Dr. Pani distributed a document summarizing Academic Affairs priorities for 2014 – 2015 and selected results
- Average SCH/FFTE has increased 2.9%.
- As of Spring 2015, eULM had enrollment of 1,058 with 10,201 total SCH
- Dr. Pani stated he would like to see ULM increase its SREB designation from tier III to II which would increase funding by \$20/SCH.
- Faculty maximum overloads: Tenured and tenure-track can overload one course per year; Instructors can overload one course per semester.

At 2pm, the Faculty Senate no longer had quorum.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris R. Gissendanner, Faculty Senate Secretary