

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

* indicates excused absence; Name/Name indicates Moved/Seconded
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Senators Present: Anderson, Carpenter, Chenoweth, Eisenstadt, Frye, Giles, Hill, Niemla, Owens, Pope, Sampognaro, Stockley, Strunk, Sylvester, Walker, Wilson

Senators Absent: *Bray, *Caldwell, *Lasiter, *Sutton, *Tommerdahl, *Wiggins

Handouts circulated: Electronically circulated documents included the Draft of Minutes of FS January 17, 2013 meeting, Agenda for FS February 14 meeting, News article about ULS President, Family and Medical Leave Act, Modern Think Survey results, Faculty listing, Constitution and ByLaws

President Sylvester **called the meeting to order**, at 12:32 p.m.

Secretary Sampognaro **called the roll**.

The **Minutes of the FS January 17** meeting were **accepted**. (Wilson/Frye)

Agenda Items:

President Sylvester provided an Executive Committee Report from the Executive Council meeting held on February 7.

Dr. Woodley's visit with the joint Faculty and Staff Senates went well. However, she warned that it was highly unlikely that the State increase funding to higher education and that subsequent budget cut are more likely to occur.

Follow up regarding the Arts and Science's tenure and promotion policy was provided by Interim Dean Camille. Once he began working on rewording the policy in the Faculty Handbook, he realized it was more complicated than it seemed. Wording for the Faculty Handbook will be delayed but the procedure has been communicated and will be completed for this cycle.

The Student Research Symposium will be held on February 27, 2013. Encourage attendance.

There have been some misunderstandings regarding the Family and Medical Leave Act in cases of maternity. Females get 12 weeks for maternity leave or more if deemed necessary for medical reasons. These twelve weeks should only be counted while the University is in session and should not include holidays. Additional training for faculty and staff is needed. Dr. Pani will be present at the next FS meeting to discuss the results of the Modern Think Survey.

The Staff Senate will represent administrators, department head and other members of the faculty that are currently excluded from participation in the Faculty Senate. They sent the

FS a list of employees this would potentially affect and asked the FS to review it and suggest corrections if needed. The FS Elections Committee was charged with this task. The Constitution and ByLaws Committee identified areas that need to be revised from several years back. The revisions have already been approved, and the changes need to be made. Senator Sutton is the chair of this committee and was absent. The discussion will be continued at the next meeting.

Senator Niemla provided an update about the upcoming FS elections. They will be held in mid March. The numbers of employees in each College has changed, and the committee is working to determine the number of senators needed per College.

Senator Walker reported that the faculty survey is complete and that the Faculty Welfare Committee will proceed to send it out to the Faculty via Survey Monkey.

Senator Stockley along with other senators plan to discuss concerns about higher education in Louisiana with local senators and representatives. Senator Stockley spoke with the Rotary Club in February highlighting ULM's current situation.

Senator Frye suggested that we have a community town hall meeting to help educate our community regarding ULM's situation.

Senator Chenoweth reported that the Dean's Search Committee for the College of Arts and Sciences has narrowed the applicant pool to six. Phone interviews are the next step.

There was no Old Business.

New Business

Senator Hill requested access to the FS files that used to be on Moodle and that these documents be archived. President Sylvester agreed that this can be done from this time forward, but this would not be possible for documents prior to this academic year because many of these documents have been removed from the website.

The next FS meeting will take place on March 14, 2013 at 12:30, in Student Center #170.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Laurel Sampognaro, Faculty Senate Secretary

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