AGENDA

April 14, 2015
10 a.m., CST

President’s Dining Room, Thomas Hall, 1st Floor

President’s Update       Fr. Wildes
Update on Financial Equilibrium  Fr. Wildes
May 2015 BOT Agenda       Fr. Wildes
Legal Update       Gita Bolt
Loyola University New Orleans Board of Trustees

Executive Committee Meeting

DRAFT MINUTES

April 14, 2015

10 a.m., CST

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By Phone: Michael Braden and S.J., James Bowler, S.J., John Simmons, Jr.

Mr. John Finan, Jr., called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. Mr. Barry LeBlanc opened the meeting with a prayer.

President’s Update Fr. Wildes reported that there is significant progress in enrollment with deposits being ahead of last year. This time last year Loyola had 90 deposits, today we are at 230 deposits. He said enrollment management will work throughout the summer in recruiting and enrolling students.

Fr. Wildes reported that Fr. Ted Dziak, S.J., will step down as vice president of Mission and Ministry at the end of the academic year. Fr. Dziak will remain on as university chaplain. Loyola professor of English, John Sebastian has been appointed vice president of Mission and Ministry. Fr. Bowler commented that Mr. Sebastian is an excellent appointment to this position.

Fr. Wildes reported that the campaign has over $50 million in commitments. Additionally, the campaign has helped to better engage the university community and alumni. Fr. Wildes recognized Ms. Anne Gauthier for her leadership in this area and thanked her for hosting a leadership dinner in New York City.

Update on Financial Equilibrium Fr. Wildes selected Dr. Lucy Lapovsky to conduct the financial equilibrium study for Loyola because she understands the academic world and develops methods that fit the academic model. Work groups have been established. Dr. Lapovsky is looking at faculty work load, class size, cost structures, among other areas. Fr. Wildes pointed out that Loyola’s class size is significantly smaller than other Jesuit schools. Mr. Chase asked if there is a policy on class size in order for a class to happen. Ms. Gita Bolt responded there is but didn’t know the exact number. Mr. Finan commented that with the work that Dr. Lapovsky is doing, we will be better able to set up new controls and benchmarks to analyze cost structures and areas where efficiencies can be identified.

Additionally, Dr. Lapovsky is reviewing tuition, utilities, purchasing agreements and processes and security. She is exploring with Tulane ways in which redundant systems may be eliminated. She
continues a thorough analysis that will look at all academic and non-academic programs. Mr. Chase inquired if Dr. Lapovsky’s work and recommendations take into consideration data on national trends. Fr. Wildes responded that it does and that she is well versed in national trends and data.

Mr. LeBlanc asked if Dr. Lapovsky’s study will address issues relative to the distinctiveness of Loyola programs. Fr. Wildes commented that we do need to be better at explaining the value of a Loyola education.

Fr. Bowler suggested that one of the first jobs for the new vice president for marketing and communication is to explore ways in which Loyola may gain positive publicity on how the Loyola Board and Fr. Wildes are addressing the issues of financial equilibrium that will put the university on a sustainable model for years to come.

**May 2015 Board Meeting** Fr. Wildes asked the committee if there should be any particular focus to the May meeting. Mr. Finan responded that there should be an update on Dr. Lapovsky’s work as well as metrics of the strategic plan. Mr. Finan asked when her recommendations will be ready. Fr. Wildes will find out when a “draft” of her report will be ready. In discussing the financial equilibrium study recommendations, Mr. LeBlanc suggested that the recommendations include a timeline with corresponding decision points. By doing so, he added, this will establish an order of when specific decisions should be made and avoid making “reactive” decisions. The committee agreed this is a good suggestion. Mr. Finan raised the possibility of having a “teleconference” board meeting during the summer.

**Legal Update** Ms. Gita Bolt gave an update on pending litigation. She reported that the policies on background checks and minors on campus have gone to the Faculty and Administrative Senates for review. Mr. Finan said he would like to have these policies ready to be presented to the Board for action at the May meeting. Fr. Wildes will follow up with the leadership in the Faculty Senate about this.

The meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.