Loyola University New Orleans
University Senate

Thursday, June 8, 2006, 3:30 pm
Multimedia Room 1, Monroe Library

Italicized names represent those in attendance

**Biological Sciences**
E.L. Beard

**Business Administration**
Joseph Ganitsky
Mike Sibley
Wing Fok
Karen Arnold
Donald Dozier
Jing Li

**Chemistry**
Thomas Spence

**City College**
Dee Harper
Barbara Ewell (acting secretary)

**Communications**
Mary Blue
Nancy Dupont
Cathy Rogers

**Drama & Speech**
Georgia Gresham

**Education**
Mary Ann Doyle
Margie Dermody

**English**
Ted Cotton
Katie Ford
Marcus Smith

**History**
Robert Gerlich, S.J.
Mike Ross

**Languages and Cultures**
Connie Rodriguez
Josefa Salmon

**Law School**
Patrick Hugg
Jim Klebbra
Lawrence Moore, S. J.
Mitch Crusto
David Normann

**Law Library**

**Library**
Michelle Pope [proxy Brian Huddleston]

**Mathematics and Computer Science**
Xuefeng Li
Ralph Tucci

**Music**
James MacKay
John Murphy
Alice Clark

**Philosophy**
Francis Coolidge
Edward Kleist [proxy: Henry Folse]

**Physics**
Armin Kargol

**Political Science**
Conrad Raabe

**Psychology**
Lawrence Lewis
Glenn Hymel [proxy Lawrence Lewis]

**Religious Studies**
Grant Kaplan
Robert Gnuse

**Sociology**
Marcus Kondkar

**Visual Arts**
Simeon Hunter

**Guests:**
Teri Gallaway (Library)
Bill Barnett (Business)
Creston King (Physics)
Martin McHugh (Physics)
Melanie McKay (English)
Maureen Shuh (Biology)
Maria Calzada (Math)
Stephen Scariano (Math)
Elizabeth Hammer (Psychology)
Vernon Gregson (Religious Studies)
I. Chair of the Senate, John Murphy, called the Senate to order at 3:40 p.m.

II. Robert Gerlich, S. J., offered the invocation.

III. Minutes
Since the minutes for the May session have not yet been completed and the minutes of the special session of April 20 were not posted a full three days before the present meeting, it was moved and seconded to suspend the rules to approve the minutes of April 20. The minutes of April 20 were then approved.

IV. Report of the Board of Trustees Meeting of May 19 (Chair of the Senate, John Murphy)
The Chair reported that at its regular meeting on May 19, the Board immediately went into executive session for about two hours, excluding him from all of the critical business of the meeting. When he was allowed to return, it was reported that the Pathways Plan had been approved with minor amendments. The Chair then asked to present the Board with several motions from the faculty, but was told that the matter had been settled, and he was not allowed further comment. The meeting soon adjourned, and copies of the revised Pathways Plan were distributed as the members departed. [The full text of the Report is attached].

The Chair asked for comments. Marcus Smith noted that such treatment of the chief representative of the faculty by the Board was deplorable.

Old Business
Mary Blue asked that her motion of March be again tabled.

Tim Cahill asked that the Senate formally approve and prioritize the criteria submitted by SCAP at the April meeting of the Senate. He noted that the Provost’s addition of a paragraph makes the criteria “infinitely flexible,” and that unless we actually approve a set of criteria that emphasizes our mission, the current version will be cited as what the faculty supports in any further round of cuts and changes. After some discussion, it was suggested that the Senate subcommittee originally appointed to review the criteria be asked to weigh the criteria from SCAP and suggest any other necessary amendments and present its report to the Senate at its first meeting of the fall semester.

New Business
Faculty Response to Pathways Plan
Marcus Smith moved that a document being circulated by various faculty articulating a response to the Pathways Plan be introduced into the Senate minutes, together with an article from the Chronicle of Higher Education articulating President Wildes’ statement of his rationale in reaching his decisions affecting Loyola University. A motion to suspend the rules was approved. After further discussion of the technicalities, Smith’s motion to include the Chronicle material in the minutes was approved without dissent. [See attached.]
Nancy Dupont moved that the Senate formally endorse this document by sending it to the President and the Board of Trustees. Latitia Beard seconded.

Considerable discussion followed on the substance of the report. Joe Harris noted the absence of consistent documentation for many assertions in the report. Mary Blue suggested appending the SCAP materials to the document.

Marcus Smith proposed that its name be revised to “Call for Dialogue” and that the final paragraph be moved to the beginning as a preamble.

Robert Gerlich noted that the document fails to clarify the faculty’s lack of opportunity to become involved in the process. He recalled the positive morale of the faculty as it returned in November, grateful for the continuation of salaries and eager to assist the administration in rebuilding the university. Gerlich said that a central theme of the document should be the deliberate exclusion of the faculty from any process of change.

It was noted that since the administration seems to believe that there was dialogue, we must spell out what genuine dialogue means.

Marcus Smith noted that the faculty did in fact suggest cuts and made a number of suggestions for alternative actions, but the administration was never receptive to any of its proposals—such as not to create a new college, cut salaries overall, or to use endowment funds.

Mary Blue further noted the serious problems with the process. There was, in fact, no systematic program review by an elected faculty committee (SCAP), which is required by the Faculty Handbook. In addition, once a program review is complete, enhancements as well as eliminations should have been considered. None of this process was properly completed.

Maria Calzada suggested that a committee should be constituted to review the draft of this document for stylistic and substantive changes, including suggestions for a cover letter and a request that the administration re-engage the faculty in university governance.

Nancy Dupont noted the absence of the university administration at recent Senate meetings. Mary Blue pointed out that since the town meeting announcing the Pathways Plan, no administrator (with the exception of Brenda Joyner) has attended any regular faculty committee meetings. With the exception of SCAP, the Pathways process has completely avoided the regular governance structure of the faculty.

Alicia Hansen pointed out that, whatever its flaws, the account does provide a valuable documentation of the irregular process by which Pathways has been created; she argued that, despite the length of the report, its details should be retained.

Nancy Dupont asked if the Senate was appropriately constituted. The Chair responded
that while the constitution of the Senate will change after Pathways Plan is implemented, the present Senate should exercise its continuing authority until that point.

Alicia Hansen, Marcus Smith and Bob Gerlich volunteered to revise the document under discussion, taking into consideration the recommendations of the Senate. It was agreed that the committee would report back to the Senate as soon as possible; it was also suggested that the Senate could approve the revision electronically.

**Elections**

Given the impending and unknown changes to the Senate membership, the Executive Committee recommended that the election of Senate representatives to university committees be postponed. Marcus Smith moved to postpone the election of Senate subcommittees and representatives, with the exception of the Executive Committee. Marcus Kondkar urged that all Senate representatives should remain in place until elections can be held.

Georgia Gresham made a friendly amendment to that effect, which was seconded.

Robert Gerlich noted that since the recommendations of the faculty are not being heard on these committees, then our participation in them adds to the sham of the entire process. Marcus Kondkar agreed, but argued that the dissolution of committees would leave the faculty with even less power.

Mary Blue noted that the administration simply does not call meetings when it wishes to avoid the regular process; that for the first time in fifteen years, for example, the Finance Committee of the Board of Trustees has failed to meet—at a moment when some of the most important matters ever facing the university are at issue.

Marcus Smith urged that dissolving faculty governance would be a grievous mistake; that all things change and faculty must remain engaged in the processes.

A motion to suspend the rules was approved. The amended motion, to postpone the election of the Senate committees and representatives, with the exception of the Executive Committee and to invite Senate representatives (or their alternates) to continue to serve until elections can be held, passed without dissent.

Nominations for Chair and Senate Executive proceeded and the following were elected by acclamation: Joseph Harris (Chair), Marcus Kondkar (Vice Chair), Thomas Spence (Secretary), and Glenn Hymel and Connie Rodriguez (Members at large).

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.