Loyola University New Orleans
University Senate
Minutes of December 4, 1997

Present:

Marcia Abide  James Baskett  Letitia Beard  Art Carpenter  Dane Ciolino
Francis Coolidge  Irina D. Costache  William T Cotton  Mitchell Crusto  Bogdan Czejdo
David Danahar  Eileen Doll  Ernest Ferlita, S.J  Mark Fernandez  Henry Folse
James Gaffney  Robert Gerlich, S.J Dee Harper  Teri Henley  Glenn Hymel
Laurie Joyner  Tony Lala  Bernard Lee, S.M.  John Mahoney  M Isabel Medina
John Murphy  Conrad Raabe  Earl Richard  Connie Rodriguez  Cathy Rogers
Michael Saliba  Stephen Scariano  Michael Sibley  Marcus Smith  Richard Snow
Betsy Weymann  Evan Zucker  (?)a -j Algero

Absent:

Lloyd Brandt  John Brockhoeft  Anthony DiMaggio  Henry Garon
Tim Hunt  Bernard Knoth, S.J Leslie Lunney  David Swanzy

Proxies: Bernard Lee, S.M for John Clark
Guests
Maria Calzada, Parking Committee
Tom Smith, Department of Religious Studies
Daniel P. Sheridan, Office of Academic Affairs

I. The chair called the meeting to order. Professor Crusto gave the invocation.

II. The minutes of the meeting of November 6, 1997 were approved with one amendment, changing Laurie Gibson Phillips to Laurie Phillips Gibson.

III. Announcements and Reports of Officers and Committees - Chair

The chair announced that Fr. Knoth was absent because of his attendance at a Board of Trustees meeting at Loyola University-Chicago. The chair also announced that the Senate has been asked to appoint a faculty representative to the new Jesuit and Catholic Identity Committee of the Board of Trustees in time for that representative to participate in spring semester meetings. Nominations of faculty members who may be interested in serving on this committee should be made no later than mid-January.

The chair further announced that Fr. Knoth had agreed to the recommendation of the University Planning Team (UPT) to reconsider the composition of Loyola's peer group institutions for the purpose of faculty salary comparisons. During the discussion in the UPT, it was suggested that faculty salaries from the different colleges be disaggregated for comparison purposes.

Chair also reported that Father Knoth has asked John Sears to obtain the data on the top five salaried Administrators at our peer institutions by February, at which time those figures will be communicated to the Senate. The chair reported that at the last Board of Trustees meeting the Board deferred decisions on honorary degree candidates until February. Other items of note from the Board meeting included Father Knoth's announcement that permanent cuts in the university-
operating budget will occur in the next year. The chair reported that the process for determining how the permanent cuts are going to be made remains unclear but Fr. Knoth has agreed to keep the university community informed of any new developments.

The chair stated that the faculty handbook provides that the fringe benefits committee is a faculty senate committee. This committee should be in the position of informing the administration on issues related to faculty fringe benefits. Currently, the University Fringe Benefits Committee is not a faculty committee. It is under the purview of the Vice President for Business and Finance. The senate executive council will be meeting to discuss how to ensure that the provisions in the handbook are observed and to determine how to best facilitate faculty input into decisions that are going to be made in the near future (like consideration of the health care provider contract to be negotiated next year). Charlotte Harris, chair of the current fringe benefits committee, is developing a survey to determine satisfaction with the current providers. Senate representatives should encourage their colleagues to respond to this survey to place the University in the best position to determine the quality of services delivered by the current providers. Lastly, the chair thanked Professors Lala, Ewell, and Gaffney for sharing committee reports as senate representatives.

IV. Unfinished Business

A. Policies on Information Technology in Teaching and Research

Professor Fernandez presented revised goals and objectives on information technology incorporating the friendly amendment of the library representative and the concerns expressed by the Department of Modern Foreign Languages. The revised document was discussed and concerns were expressed about Objective 03-Action Plan 01 which calls for the re-activation of the ACS Advisory Board and Objective 07-Action Plan 01 which calls for the designation of the Ad Hoc Committee on Information Technology as a standing committee of the senate. The major theme emerging from the ensuing discussion was a concern about duplication of effort at a time when the senate is attempting to streamline the committee structure to more effectively facilitate meaningful faculty input into university decision-making. The senate decided to table the discussion until February when Mr. Cahill would be present and additional information could be gathered on the work of the ACS Advisory Board.

B. Motion on Floor Privileges to Non-Senators at Senate Meetings

Dr. Gaffney's motion reproduced in the November 6, 1997 minutes was discussed. Professor Folse suggested a friendly amendment to the effect that the senate reaffirmed its commitment to non-senators being granted floor privileges as stipulated in the bylaws and that senate meetings should give priority to senate business. The friendly amendment was accepted and the motion carried.

C. Motion on Parking

Dr. Smith from Religious Studies was recognized by the chair and granted speaking privileges to address the Senate on the parking issue. Dr. Smith indicated that Mr. Knipfing was developing strategies to ease some of the parking difficulties outlined in Dr. Smith's original motion, reproduced in the November 6, 1997 minutes, including: a) limiting Thomas Hall parking spaces to seven from 7:00 a.m. - 4:45 p.m. on weekdays; b) installing an electronic sign indicating when upper floors are filled to capacity; and c) communicating through electronic mail the reservation of 10 or more spaces in the garage for special events/projects. In light of these new developments Professor Smith introduced the following revised motion:
WHEREAS the opening of the West Road parking garage to unrestricted student use has proven detrimental to the proper functioning of faculty and staff;

AND WHEREAS faculty and staff who must leave campus, or whose duties call for arrival after 9:00 a.m., frequently find themselves unable to find parking, BE IT RESOLVED

That campus parking space, in a number to be determined by the University Parking Committee in consultation with the Department of Public Safety, should be designated for the exclusive use of university faculty and staff during business hours (7:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.). The distribution of these spaces should be determined by proximity to workplace, with the West Road Garage and the Mercy surface lot being the two principal locations.

After further discussion, the motion was voted down.

D. Motion Concerning Speed Bumps

The floor was open to discussion on the motion concerning speed bumps, reproduced in the minutes of November 6, 1997. After considerable discussion, the senate voted to support the motion.

V. New Business

A. Web Page University Policy

The chair introduced the University's web page policy prepared by Loyola's attorneys in consultation with Mr. Cahill, but asked that discussion of the document be deferred until the February meeting when Mr. Cahill would be present.

B. Revised Salary Grade Structure for Administrative Staff

The chair asked that this item also be deferred, in light of Fr. Knoth's absence, until the February meeting.

C. Policy Recommendation on Student Athletes Missing Classes for University-Sponsored Intercollegiate Athletic Activities

Professor Cotton briefly discussed the policy recommendation distributed with the December 4, 1997 agenda materials. Discussion ensued with some senators stating that the recommendation was redundant since faculty members may grant special consideration to student athletes. Others did not agree with specifying this policy for student athletes only when many other student groups participate in conferences, educational trips, etc. Professor Crusto asked that we continue discussion on this policy recommendation at the February meeting. The senate agreed to defer continued discussion until the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.