Loyola University New Orleans
University Senate
Thursday, September 7, 2006, 3:30 pm  Multimedia Room 1, Monroe Library

Italicized names represent those in attendance
Underlined names indicate programs/faculty eliminated by Pathways

Biological Science
  E. L. Beard
  Maureen Shuh

College of Business
  Karen Arnold
  Walter Block
  Wing Fok
  Brett Matherne
  Mike Pearson
  Mike Sibley

Chemistry
  Thomas Spence

City College
  Dee Harper
  Barbara Ewell

College of Law
  Stephen Higginson
  Patrick Hugg
  Jim Klebba
  Blaine LeCesne
  Lawrence Moore, S. J.

College of Music and Fine Arts
  Alice Clark
  Joe Harris
  Simeon Hunter
  James MacKay
  John Murphy

Communications
  Mary Blue
  Nancy Dupont
  Cathy Rogers

Education
  Mary Ann Doyle
  Margie Dermody

English
  Ted Cotton
  Kate Adams
  Marcus Smith

History
  Robert Gerlich, S. J.
  Mike Ross

Languages and Cultures
  Connie Rodriguez
  Josefa Salmon

Law Library
  Michele Pope

Library
  Richard Snow (Proxy)
  Trish Nugent

Mathematics and Computer Science
  Xuefeng Li (Proxy)
  Ralph Tucci

Philosophy
  Francis Coolidge
  Mark Gossiaux

Physics
  Mickey King

Political Science
  Conrad Raabe

Psychology
  Lawrence Lewis
  Glenn Hymel

Religious Studies
  Grant Kaplan
  Robert Gnuse

Sociology
  Marcus Kondkar

Guests
  Lynn Koplitz
  Melanie McKay
  Stephen M. Scariano
Meeting was called to order at 3:40

Chair's Remarks:

The executive committee has met and feels it is important for the senate to have an agenda for the year and the focus of that agenda should be conversation, communication, unity, and governance.

I have set up regular meetings with president and provost and they are anxious, concerned and want to have an open and cyclical communication process. There is concern that messages have gone out from the senate without response. Our thoughts and concerns should be forwarded to the administration and the board and we should receive timely response. To date our concerns have not been addressed although they may have been heard. The president and provost have set up meetings with the colleges to help this dialog. We are all in the same boat and we are all faculty of the university.

As far as governance for faculty, staff, administration and the board are concerned, Father Wildes would like the board to have a better understanding of its role at this institution. The faculty need to look at what our role really is in terms of our wishes to contribute, legalities, and the current perceptions of the role of the Senate.

I see the role of this body as a group of faculty that bring forward the voices of their departments and programs. The role of the chair is to carry that voice to the administration. I will bring forward your concerns and argue for them with all of my heart. This position was dropped in my lap and I am committed to moving this body forward, to see the university move forward, and see our lines of communication strengthened all for the good of the faculty, staff, and University as a whole.

Introduction of new senators:

Senator Maureen Shuh from Biology
Senator Mark Gossiaux from philosophy
Senator Trish Nugent from the library

Conrad Raabe was asked to serve as parliamentarian.

Cathy Rogers made a motion to change the order of the agenda to allow for election of a new executive committee. Motion passed by more than 2/3 vote.

Motion: Election process should include election of the senate executive committee.

Motion: Suspend the rules to consider this motion at this meeting
motion passes by acclimation

Debate
Tish Beard noted that elections were made at the end of a very chaotic meeting with people walking out during the process.
John Murphy pointed out that the announcement that elections would be held at the last meeting of the Senate in Spring II was made before the meeting so senators should have been prepared. Overturning those elections would make a mockery of those proceedings.

Joe Harris mentioned that the provost has made provisions for the current chair to receive release time to take on this responsibility. Adjustments have been made to teaching schedules etc.

Maria Calzada mentioned that in view of what happened, the current chair should receive the releases which were granted to avoid problems. (others agree)

John Murphy pointed out that there is very little doubt that the administration would approve a load reduction if that person was not chair.

Jim Klebba recommended that regardless what action is taken, the chair should be grandfathered in due to arrangements which have already been made to accommodate Joe Harris's chairmanship.

Lynn Koplitz asked if we should not consider that there may be a faculty member willing to take on the chair with out a release.

Marcus Kondkar mentioned that there was some confusion over what elections were going to be held as all other elections were put off until the Fall.

John Murphy pointed out that we had a discussion in the meeting of the importance of electing an executive committee to ensure that the senate would continue to meet in the fall.

Fr. Gerlich pointed out that the fact that elections were being held during the meeting was clear and there was no question raised as to a quorum at the time and, therefore, our chance to show otherwise had passed and the elections should stand.

The motion was voted upon by secret ballot and failed to pass by a vote of 10 for, 19 against, with 1 abstention.

Conrad Raabe, parliamentarian, points out that we were lucky the motion failed as it is illegal to overturn an election unless the election was found to be faulty.

Old Business

Elections of Senate Representatives to University Committees were held and results of those elections are given below.

Academic Faculty Affairs Committee of the Board
Elizabeth Hammer

Endowment Committee of the Board
Kurt Birdwhistell
Barbara Ewell pointed out at this point that one of the reasons the senate executive committee election was challenged was due to this kind procedural processes [referring to the previous vote in which terms were based on votes garnered] which the senate tends to implement to improve expediency. She points out that we need to pay close attention to procedure.

Conrad Raabe pointed out that the body agreed to the modification of the process and, therefore, the procedure is legitimate.

There were several who spoke in favor of paying attention to procedure.
Michele Pope

University Budget Committee
  Dee Harper
  Lawrence Lewis
  Maureen Shuh
  Marcus Smith
  Thomas Spence
  Bill Walkenhorst

University Faculty Handbook Committee
  Maureen Shuh

University Parking Committee
  Mary Brazier

University Planning Team
  Melanie McKay (3 year term)
  Steve Scariano (2 year term)

New Business

Status of the Composition of the Senate

  Father Gerlich asked about the attendance of the president and provost at this meeting.

  The chair pointed out that the reason the president is not at the current meeting is due to
  conflicts and we have a special meeting arranged later in the month expressly for the purpose of
  hearing from the president. Furthermore, they both would be attending all of the meetings of the
  University Senate that their schedules would permit.

  Barbara Ewell asked about the constitution of the senate, being a senator from a dissolved body.

  Joe Harris mentioned that there are many handbook issues and we are asking for the most
  recent document. He is working to get proposed amendments on the website.

  Connie Rodriguez mentioned that she and others do not have a current hard-copy of the
  handbook and there are changes on the on-line version of the handbook which did not go
  through the handbook committee.

  Joe Harris pointed out that there are three amendments covering non-substantial changes, sexual
  harassment policy, and intellectual property rights. The board has approved these amendments

  Steve Scariano pointed out that the chair should ask Jerry Dauterive for minutes

  Dee harper said that he had been re-directed to Lisa Alexandria for minutes to find out the
  status of amendments.
Senator Faculty Awards

Joe Harris pointed out that the sooner we put together a committee to select recipients of the senator faculty awards, the sooner the president can reschedule the fall convocation that did not occur this year. The President would like to schedule that meeting but it hangs on these awards.

Conrad Raabe points out that the composition of the selection committee was one person from each college other than the college of arts and sciences and one from each division of the college of arts and sciences. Furthermore, he moved that the nominations and committee's composition be postponed until the Spring semester.

John Murphy seconded.

Robert Gnuse asked if the original intention to rush through the process and have some sort of convocation in the fall with a second round of awards in the fall of 07?

Maria Calzada pointed out that it would be a mistake to not give awards for the 05-06 academic year.

Joe Harris pointed out that the president sees the faculty senate awards be a big part of the fall convocation and that to not give awards would be a mistake.

Steve Scariano stated that for continuity we should continue to give awards and that we should award the Herculean effort of faculty in the Fall and Spring of 06.

Marcus Kondkar recommended that awards for the 05-06 and 06-07 academic years be given in the Fall of 07.

Barbara Ewell stated that it is the intention of the president to hold a convocation this year should the senate select award recipients.

Ralph Tucci then asked if the president would not call a fall convocation if we did not select award recipients by that time?

The chair stated he could not answer that question.

John Murphy stated that the president is going around talking to colleges individually and he had not heard that there was any intention of holding a fall convocation

Connie Rodriguez pointed out that there were other awards traditionally given out in the fall convocation that were not awarded this year.

Ralph Tucci stated he felt the convocation was more than an opportunity to give awards and asked if that was the president's rationale for not holding the fall convocation?

Joe Harris stated that that was part of the rationale for not holding the convocation.
Connie Rodriguez moved to adjourn which was seconded
motion passed meeting was adjourned.