

NICHOLLS STATE UNIVERSITY

Faculty Senate Meeting October 20, 2010

MINUTES

1. Roll Call:

Present: Carol Britt, Simone Camel, Luke Cashen, Amanda Eymard, Melissa Goldsmith, Brian Heck, Rodney Hodges, Todd Keller, John Kozar, John Lajaunie, Shari Lawrence, Lisa Lauer, Becky LeBlanc, Richard Mathis, Stephen Michot, Lois Nelson, Dale Norris, Gaither Pope, Gary Rosenthal, Anke Tonn, Keri Turner.

Absent: Wendy Adams, Jim Baker, John Doucet, Balaji Ramachandran, Randy Ryker.

2. Approval of the Minutes: October 29 and September 16 2010 minutes approved.

3. Administration Remarks:

Mr. Larry Howell – Dr. Hulbert was not present due to a meeting with the governor. Nicholls suffered a 26% cut, not 5% cut, since 2008. This correction was being emphasized to the governor. Dr. Hulbert is presenting the case of why Nicholls State should be a priority when it comes to funding. Dr. Becky LeBlanc added that there was a concerted effort to inform the community and organize to promote Nicholls' position.

4. Senate Officer Reports:

a. Faculty Advisory Committee to the Board of Supervisors: Dr. Michot reported that the FAC met with Dr. Randy Moffett and he agreed to suggested changes in the wording of the Policy & Procedures document. He was less receptive to the idea of elimination of the section dealing with "Reduction" and the "3 Month Notification" for tenured faculty. FAC was in favor of proposing "Furloughs" as a method of saving tenured positions; however, it was stated that Nicholls State faculty were not in favor of furloughs.

The Faculty Senate voted unanimously against the FAC proposal to support furloughs. Motion was made by Dr. Lajaunie, seconded by Gaither Pope. Comments included low salary, lack of pay raises, and the impact on recruitment & retention as reasons for being against furloughs.

5. Committee Reports:

- a. Faculty Welfare: Dr. Shultz and Mr. Ford explained the changes undertaken with regard to Conflict Resolution. There are two separate polices: Grievance (which includes issues not protected by law) and Harassment, Discrimination, Retaliation (which includes issues protected under law). Under the new policy, there are two committees: 1) Conflict and Faculty Grievance Committee, and 2) Compliance Committee which handles informal investigations and resolutions; however, a formal complaint may be filed with the Grievance Committee if a resolution is not reached.
- b. Courses and Curricula: Committee addressed the requirement of 9 hours of 400-level courses to be specified by each major.
- c. General Education Assessment Committee: Committee discussed computer and speech requirements with the option of incorporating the proficiency within the Major's courses.

6. Old Business:

- a. Distance Learning Committee: Dr. Andy Simoncelli discussed making the committee a permanent standing committee; presently it is a select committee with specific responsibilities outside the expertise of Courses & Curriculum. Motion by Lajaunie, 2nd by Nelson, to make the Distance Learning Committee a standing committee was unanimous.
- b. The proposed university reorganization has been placed on hold.
- c. Dr. Becky LeBlanc reported on rallying support against budget reductions and encouraged participation.

7. New Business:

- a. The Schedule of classes for Spring 2011 is now available.
- b. The President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll was announced and a request to report any service within the community.
- c. There has been a change to the Attendance Policy to include a Religious Freedom policy.

8. Other Business:

None

9. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn: Hodges; Second: Goldsmith.