

NICHOLLS STATE UNIVERSITY

Faculty Senate Meeting May 11, 2011

MINUTES

1. Roll Call:

Present: Simone Camel, Luke Cashen, Melissa Goldsmith, Brian Heck, Rodney Hodges, Michael Jeffress, Todd Keller, John Lajaunie, Jeremy Landry, Lisa Lauer, Monica Larousse, Becky LeBlanc, Richard Mathis, Stephen Michot, Denise Mitchell, Lois Nelson, Gaither Pope, Randy Ryker, Tanya Schreiber, Anke Tonn, Ianna West, Kent White.

Absent: Wendy Adams, Jim Baker, Carol Britt, John Doucet, Amanda Eymard, John Kozar, Shari Lawrence, Dale Norris, Balaji Ramachandran, Gary Rosenthal, Keri Turner.

2. Approval of the Minutes:

- The Recording Secretary submitted the minutes for October 2010, March 2011, and April 2011.
- A motion was made by Rodney Hodges to approve the October 20, 2010 minutes. 2nd by Lois Nelson. Vote: unanimous.
- John Lajaunie made a motion to suspend the approval of the March & April minutes until the December, January, and February minutes had been presented. Motion carried.

3. Administration Remarks:

Dr. Stephen Hulbert

- There is a freeze on personnel actions. Cut backs are being made on all expenditures. There is no mid-year cut. Spending will be allowed for equipment.
- The budget situation is not clarified as of yet. The Legislature is not focused on the budget yet; they are challenging increase in tuition.
- The Governor is campaigning to unify SUNO/UNO; Nicholls position is non-committal; we are not getting involved, despite rumors that NSU was against it because we may be next. Political posturing is on-going.
- Flood Warnings: We are monitoring water flow out of the Mississippi. The Corps of Engineer maps only take into account their levees, not non-Corps levees that affect our region.
- State share of optional retirement becoming a nightmare with regard to recruitment; no sensitivity to it by the Legislature or the Board. We are down on salaries and the State is not paying reasonable amount for optional retirement.

Mr. Larry Howell

- Governor’s Executive Order on Expenditure—we are in good shape, doesn’t effect us
- Search committees—Is there travel money for candidates? Minimum essentials will be met; everything will be dealt with on individual basis.
- We are at a standstill; no cuts, no expenditure.
- Legislative resistance against cap of going from 12 to 15 hours; it is now a majority of our budget.
- Summer School: 10 May is the date to determine minimum salary or termination of course.

4. Senate Officer Reports:

- a. Faculty Advisory Committee to the Board of Supervisors: none

6. Committee Reports:

Todd Keller discussed the policy language of committees “reporting to” versus “reporting through” the Senate. “Reporting to” policies were actionable by the Senate, while “reporting through” is more of a courtesy. The Senate has the authority to confirm, remand, and/or amend reports.

7. Old Business:

- a. Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation Policy
- Dr. David Schultz (Faculty Welfare) reported that he and John Ford went through the policy thoroughly, and everybody agreed with the changes.
 - Motion to approve the policy was made by John Lajaunie; 2nd by Brian Heck; In-favor: unanimous.
- b. List of approved Humanities Courses through GEAC
- Issued postponed. Keri Turner not present.
- c. University, Academic, and Faculty Senate Committee Elections – have been conducted.

8. New Business: none

9. Other Business:

- a. Dr. John Doucet has been added to the VPAA Search Committee.
- b. Installation of New Senators: Becky LeBlanc, Stephen Michot, Keri Turner (not present), Ianna West, Michael Jeffress, John Lajaunie, Randy Ryker, Denise Mitchell, Tanya Schrecker, Lisa Lauer, Dale Norris (not present), Jeremy Landry, Kent White, and Monica Larouse. Todd Keller read the duties of being a Senator and administered the oath of office.
- c. Faculty Senate Officers Elections:
President – Stephen Michot
Vice President – Brian Heck
Recording Secretary – Becky LeBlanc
Corresponding Secretary – Anke Tonn
Parliamentarian – John Doucet (not present)

10. **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn: Brian Heck; 2nd: Becky LeBlanc