

NICHOLLS STATE UNIVERSITY

Faculty Association Meeting August 15, 2011

1. Roll Call:

Present: Wendy Adams, Luke Cashen, Michael Jeffress, John Lajaunie, Jeremy Landry, Lisa Lauer, Becky LeBlanc, Richard Mathis, Stephen Michot, Denise Mitchell, Lois Nelson, Dale Norris, Balaji Ramachandran, Gary Rosenthal, Tanya Schreiber, Anke Tonn, Keri Turner, Ianna West, Kent White

Absent: Brian Heck, Monica Larousse, Shari Lawrence, Randy Ryker

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Approval of the minutes from meetings in November-May will be deferred to the first regular meeting of the Faculty Senate.

3. ELECTION OF PARLIMENTARIAN

- Dr. John Doucet has resigned from the Senate because he has been named Interim Dean of Arts & Sciences
- Dr. Michot asked for nominations for new Parliamentarian to replace Dr. Doucet and directed Senators to **Section 1.16.6.7** of Senate By-Laws
- Anke Tonn nominated Tanya Schrieber (Nursing Dept) for the position of Parliamentarian. The nomination was seconded by Becky LeBlanc.
- Senate voted unanimously to appoint Tanya Schrieber as Parliamentarian.

4. ADMINISTRATION REMARKS:

Dr. Stephen Hulbert, President

- Proposed Budget will be reviewed by Board of Supervisors this month. Dr. Hulbert has submitted the proposed budget but has not yet heard from the Board or its staff. Dr. Hulbert noted that sizable reductions have been made and that had been done without allocating our savings. Once the proposed budget is approved by the Board, it will be released to the general public.
- Hulbert also noted that, because we are not a state that is dependent on the Federal Government for funding higher education, federal government budget cuts should not make a huge difference.

- Hulbert believes that we are past the most difficult time; the only issue now would be agendas that we are not aware of.
- We still do not know if we will be able to charge for all credit hours that students register for. This is crucial. Noses are being counted on how many students complete the hours they register for. If we are going to hold institutions accountable for performance, then students should be held accountable for hours they don't complete.
- Enrollment for this semester is probably down, which we expected it to be. There are lots of reasons for this.

Dr. L. Barrilleaux, Academic Vice-President

- Results of the ACT Student Survey indicate that students may be feeling the pain as much as we are. ACT student poll numbers are down. Drugs, alcohol, and prescription drug use are down, but cocaine use is up (above the national norm).
- Research Week was a great success. Great job done by the organizers of this event.
- Current Initiative from BOR: to create a **common course numbering system** across the universities in the entire system
- CAL (Center for Adult Learning) is a program we should think about adding to our departments.
- All faculty will be required to use Moodle in the Spring of 2012
- Master Plan needed for Research Development:
 - 1) Education of Adults;
 - 2) Investment in University Research;
 - 3) Post/Secondary Efficiency

Dr. Stephen Michot, FAC Report

- Dr. Stephen Michot reported on the FAC meeting in Baton Rouge on June 24, 2011.
- The committee felt that tenure was still on the BOR agenda for the upcoming year.
- Faculty termination was being monitored at ULM with regard to the call for the discontinuance of the Chemistry program.
- Dr. Michot read an article from "The Advertiser" that mentioned termination notices for two tenured faculty at ULL. There has been no confirmation of any terminations at ULM or ULL, however.
- With regard to office hours and summer pay, Nicholls looked good in comparison to its sister institutions.

Mr. L. Howell, Asst. Provost

- Enrollment is down, which was expected. We had a larger than ever graduation this year, which means that a larger percentage of students are progressing than ever before.
- We also have a higher number of sophomores and juniors.
- There are fewer graduate students and fewer entering freshmen.
- About 2/3 of the endowments that were not awarded last year will be endowed this year.

- Hopefully, the worst is over, but NSU is not through pushing for what we need and deserve. Once the budget is passed by the legislature, Howell will meet with the executive boards to go over the approved budget and then report to the Senate

5. SENATE OFFICER REPORTS:

Faculty Advisory Committee to the Board of Supervisors:

- Dr. Steve Michot reported on the Faculty Advisory Council Meeting in Baton Rouge.
- The tenure issue may still need to be addressed
- Tenured faculty termination was addressed at the meeting. It has occurred at Monroe and at ULL. Nothing was officially resolved.
- Nicholls is looking good as far as office hours and summer pay

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Committee on Committees

Current Members: Lois Nelson, John LaJaunie, Gary Rosenthal

- This committee has been charged to fill vacancies.
- It was recommended that the committee select a representative from each of the various units in filling these vacancies.
- There are currently representatives from: Business, Education, Arts & Sciences
- New members should be selected from: Nursing/Allied Health, University College/Culinary Arts, and Library
- Monica Larousse will represent University College/Culinary Arts
- Denise Mitchell will represent Nursing/Allied Health

7. Old Business:

Promotion/Equity Raises Policy

- Discussion of this issue was tabled at the request of Dr. Hulbert.

8. New Business:

- Dr. Eugene Dial has requested that one member of the Senate serve on the Recreation Center Advisory Committee
- Senate Web Page update
- 2011-12 Meeting Schedule

Executive VP Search

Dr. David Boudreaux, Chair

- **Committee Members:**
Quentin Fontenot
Kevin Breaux
Danielle Breaux,
Stephen Michot
Tamara Lafont
John Ford
- The committee has moved the closing date for applications from August 15th to September 16th, with the possibility of extending the date of filling this position

Academic VP Search

Dr. Al Davis, Chair

- **Committee Members:**
Steve Michot (Senate),
Louis Raiford(Student Representative),
John Doucet,
Todd Keller (Senate),
Sue Aysen,
Jennifer Cazenave,
John Ford,
Jean Donergan
- Candidates will make 20-minute presentations to the faculty
- Candidates will take open questions from the faculty
- Interviews/Presentations will take place in Powell Hall at 2PM on the following dates:
 - Wed, Aug 31
 - Fri, Sept 2
 - Tues, Sept 6
 - Thurs, Sept
- There were 30 applicants, mostly from out of state.
- The field has been narrowed to 4, who will be brought to campus
- These names will be published in today's edition of the Nicholls Insider

8. Adjournment:

- Motion to adjourn 1st R. Mathis 2nd J. LaJaunie
Meeting adjourned @ 3:30PM