**Faculty Senate/Association Meeting Minutes**

Nicholls State University

January 28, 2015

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| **Roll Call** |  |  |  |  |
|  | Arts and Sciences |  | Business Administration |  | Nursing and Allied Health |
| X | Richmond Eustis-Corresponding Secretary | X | Luke Cashen | A | Angele Davis |
| X | Michael Jeffress | X | John Lajaunie – Committee on Committees | X | Amanda Eymard |
| X | Stephen Michot | X | William Neese | A | Donna Fitzgerald-DeJean |
| A | Gaither Pope | X | Randy Ryker | X | Brigett Scott – President |
| X | Balaji Ramachandran |  | Education |  | University College |
| X | David Schultz | X | Angelle Hebert | X | Ray Giguette |
| X | Andy Simoncelli | A | Dale Norris | X | Milton Saidu – Parliamentarian |
| X | David Whitney | X | Kimberly Reynolds – Vice President | X | Amy Hebert |
| A | Shana Walton | X | Gary Rosenthal |  | Ellender Library |
| X | Ianna West |  |  | X | Hayley Johnson - Recording Secretary |
| X | Matthew Gamel |  |  | X | Sarah Simms |
|  |  |  | A = absent x = present |

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| AGENDA ITEM | DISCUSSION | RECOMMENDATION/ACTION |

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| 1. Call to Order/Roll Call
 | Meeting called to order at 3:01 PM. | Roll taken. Quorum present. (Sign in sheet attached) |
| 1. Approval of meeting minutes:
	1. December 2014 minutes
 | Discussion regarding minutes approval.  | Andy Simoncelli motioned that we accept the December 2014 minutes as presented. Luke Cashen seconded. Unanimous vote to approve. |
| 1. Administration Remarks
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| * 1. Bruce Murphy - President
 | * The topics discussed during the last meeting are still ongoing and progress is being made.
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| * 1. Dr. Todd Keller
 | * 4.5 vs 5 day class day schedule: Trial run was done to see if money was saved but no one has been able to produce any cost-savings documents. There is a loss of revenue for Auxillary services due to low campus attendance on Fridays.
* Important to remember that the main reason we are here is for student success and the final decision should reflect what is best for students.
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| * 1. Alex Arceneaux
 | * Gave update on electronic timesheet transition. Should be entering the test environment soon.
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| 4. Officer Reports |  |  |
| a. President – Brigett Scott | * Still attending all weekly meetings. The Budget Committee has formed three sub-committees and will meet again on February 5th.
* Discussed branding changes that will be implemented. Changes are being made to make the branding more concise.
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| b. Stephen Michot | * Discussed UNO’s plan to release 22 faculty members due to budget cuts and never fully recovering after Hurricane Katrina.
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| 5. Committee Reports |  |  |
| GEAC | No one present to report | Tabled until next meeting. |
| Academic Appeals – Amy Hebert | The committee met on January 13th to review 53 suspension appeals. 36 were approved and 17 denied. There was a question regarding the number of suspensions a student could have. Amy will look into whether there is a policy on that.  |  |
| 6. Old Business |  |  |
| a. Comprehensive Nicholls Online Policy  | Discussion occurred on having a policy that states how it is determined who gets to teach Nicholls Online courses and how that compensation is determined. Andy Simoncelli will work on a policy that he will then bring back to the Senate.  | John Lajaunie motioned to table the issue until the policy is prepared. Amanda Eymard seconded the motion. A unanimous vote approved. |
|  b. 4.5 vs. 5 day class week | The results of the faculty survey were discussed.  | Amanda Eymard motioned to recommend the 5 day class week if that is what is best for the students. Michael Jeffress seconded the motion. Vote tally: 21-yes, 2-abstain. Motion approved. |
| C. GEAC Coordinator Recommendation to the VPAA |  | Tabled until the next meeting.  |
| D. (+) or (-) grading system | William Neese discussed the pros in implementing a (+) or (-) grading system.  |  |
| E. Adoption of the Academic Calendar | Discussion of calendar changes occurred. Concerns regarding the timeframe of the last final exam to when final grades are due was also discussed.  | John Lajaunie motioned to approve the calendar and to have Mr. Rodrigue and Alex Arceneaux come forward with a proposal to address the finals timing issue. Stephen Michot seconded the motion. A unanimous vote approved.  |
| 7. New Business |  |  |
| 1. Sustainability Committee
 | Richmond Eustis discussed the possibility of establishing a sustainability committee to look into recycling and reuse on campus in an effort to make Nicholls more environmentally neutral.  |  |
| 1. College Committee Elections
 | Discussion on establishing consistency (procedure) in the way elections are held across the colleges. John Lajaunie will look into the Policy and Procedure Manual to see if this is addressed.  |  |
| 8. Other Business |  |  |
|  | None. |  |

Meeting adjourned at 4:14 PM (Amanda Eymard –motioned to adjourn; seconded by John Lajaunie unanimous vote to adjourn)