

**Minutes of Faculty Senate Meeting**  
**Thursday, September 15, 2011**  
**Rm 3-84, ADMN, ULM Campus**  
**12:30-1:50 p.m.**

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| <p>* indicates excused absence;<br/>Name/Name indicates Moved/Seconded</p> |
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**Senators Present:** Andrews, Anderson, Arrant, Casey, Eisenstadt, Feldhaus, Hill, Hutto, Junk, Lanham, Owens, Rhorer, Frye, Steckline, Stockley, Strunk, Sutton, Sylvester, Towns, Walker, Wiggins

**Senators Absent:** Niemla\* (Lila Jefferson replaced Senator Niemla as an observer.)

**Invited Guest:** President Nick Bruno

**Handouts circulated:** Draft of Minutes of FS August 25, 2011 meeting; Agenda for FS Sept. 15, 2011 meeting; and Draft document which details Advising Issues identified by a FS Sub-Committee

## Committee Reports:

- A. Executive Committee:** Rhorer reported that the EB met with administration on Tuesday, September 13, 2011. The following **faculty issues were identified** for administrators: **1)** Funding for Xerox costs, research retrieval costs, for Graduate Research Assistants when they are doing research for a faculty member, as such costs should not be incurred by the graduate assistant. Response was that it's not a problem when copying takes place at the main copy center, but doesn't work at the satellites, and Dr. Pani will work to solve this problem, getting them cards with charges to be made to the departments as a possible starting point; **2)** Grants, Professorships, Endowed positions are something of a double-edged sword—being an honor certainly, but a bit of a nightmare due to the acquisition of money, because of disputes regarding the validity of signatures, wording, etc. The Grad. School Office and Business Office need to be more customer friendly in dealing with these issues. Dr. Pani noted that there have been problems with this, that clarification on the exact problems remains needed; **3)** Reports of disputes concerning the sponsored program office were discussed. We need better process guidelines. Pani made it clear that the Graduate School is no longer in that line of authority, and appeared quite surprised by the level of difficulty involved in every interaction with sponsored programs; **4)** The Commissioner's visit on the 19<sup>th</sup> of Sept provides us with an opportunity to say this is a great institution with good stuff going on. Our engaging in research helps not only the area but everyone—Pharmacy research for example. We need to show that we drive the economy in the area, and direct links to workforce development. Other issues reported on during this meeting included the following: A) An ORP update was given—an attorney in Baton Rouge is working on this, and a quotation from Kevin Cope's and Roger Laine's emails was shared detailing concerns about ORP. B) Administrators were told that the FS approved the Deans' recommendation that 3 hours of humanities be literature...that word of this was officially sent to the Office of Academic Affairs after our August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011 meeting. C) A very broad discussion of Professionalism Across Campus occurred with observations that included handling some things privately, questioning what is collegiality and how a definition of this varies among people. D) Our most delicate topic pertained to how to get complaints about administrators on the record? Inappropriate and/or aggressive behavior in particular was targeted for discussion with the caveat that we don't want to not follow channels or not be collegial. Response noted filing complaints with the EEOC (Larry Estes to be specific), and we were told we would get a list of questions, that most people do not fill out or respond to the questions. ANSWER them. Provide the data. Follow through, we were urged. We will also open the FS office so faculty can come in to talk about concerns. E) Dean Cass was thanked for providing the FS with a permanent office. F) We went over how to report on-line absences efficiently, and as each college handles this differently, understanding the practices of one's own college is at the root of this issue. G) Anna Hill gave a report on AAUP and American Federation of Teachers incentives, noting that interested faculty will meet off campus, on Thursday Sept. 22, in the afternoon, and will not rely on university methods of communication, as neither organization is formally sponsored or endorsed by the Faculty Senate. H) The Student Policy Manual needs to be referred to on every syllabus and students need to sign that they have read it. I) Dr. Pani was hoping the FS would endorse 1) a request made by the Investiture Committee of the Office of Academic Affairs that it would be okay for faculty to give extra credit for attendance at faculty lectures, etc. during the week of Investiture; and 2) presentations made by Dr. Pani and Barbara Michaeleides about the GRAD Act.

**Note:** The FS was unanimously against the first (sponsoring extra-credit, as that is an

