

**Faculty Senate Minutes  
August 2008**

President Paul called the meeting to order at 3:40 p.m. in the Chancellor's Conference Room on Tuesday, August 5, 2008.

Those present included:

**Allied Health** –Jo Thompson, Erin Dugan, Scott Rubin;  
**Dentistry** –Dennis Paul, Tobias Rodriguez, Thomas Spranley;  
**Graduate School** –Angela Amedee, Andrew Catling;  
**Library** – Hanna Kwasik;  
**Medicine** –Gregory Bagby, Dan Kapusta, Ann Tilton;  
**Nursing** –Marjorie Krause (proxy for Joanne Hebert), Cynthia Langford, Vickie Jordan, Leanne Fowler, Randy Rosamond;  
**Public Health** –Neal Simonsen, Julia Volaufova, Chih-Yang Hu, Ed Peters, Richard Scribner;  
**Ex Officio** – Michael Levitzky, Jennifer Lloyd.

Those absent included:

**Allied Health** – Kelly Alig;  
**Dentistry** – Thomas Lallier;  
**Medicine** – Robin English (excused), Julio Figueroa, Tonya Jagneaux (excused), Lolie Yu;  
**Nursing** –Joanne Hebert (excused, proxy);

At the beginning of the meeting President Paul welcomed all newly elected Senators. The meeting then proceeded according to the agenda.

*Agenda item 1.* The June minutes were unanimously approved.

*Agenda item 2.* Introductory remarks by Senate President. President Dennis Paul took the office effective July 1, 2008 and addressed the Senate for the first time. He asked Senators to forward to the Executive Committee any pertinent issues that relate to more than one school. He mentioned several examples of issues that the Senate has been dealing with for some time.

*Agenda item 3. Old business.*

- a) Proposed change to the Constitution and Bylaws regarding Standing Committees. Senator Simonsen reminded the Senators about the proposed changes regarding establishing the new Senate committee, the Committee Coordinating Committee. For new Senators, Senator Bagby summarized the role and purpose of the new Committee, such as to identify faculty members and make recommendations for membership in HSC Standing and Ad Hoc committees. There was no discussion on this particular issue. Senator

Volaufova during discussion raised a proposal to make an amendment to the proposed changes to the Constitution and Bylaws. She proposed to change the name of the Clinical Education, Service, and Patient Care Committee to Education, Service, and Patient Care Committee. After a very brief discussion the amendment was unanimously approved. The Senate then voted to adopt the change and establish the new Committee Coordinating Committee. The change was unanimously approved.

- b) Discrepancy between base salary and supplemental salary – Senator Levitzky explained the issue in detail. For some clinicians, salary consists of base and supplemental salary. For calculating benefits as well as in grant proposals only the base salary is taken into consideration. In the discussion, Senators Levitzky, Kapusta, Paul, Bagby, and Scribner participated.

**Action:** The issue is tabled until the next meeting. Senator Bagby will communicate to the Senate the developments at the School of Medicine.

- c) Ombudsman proposal – after the issue was initially tabled, an extensive discussion followed initiated by Senator Peters. The majority of Senators expressed lack of understanding of the role of the ombudsman. It was not clear whether the issue was explained adequately in the past, and hence the Senate voted unanimously to send the proposal to the Professional Rights, Responsibilities, and Faculty Welfare Committee for further investigation. In the discussion Senators Peters, Lloyd, Bagby, Rubin, Kapusta, Thompson, and Simonsen took part.
- d) Faculty furlough follow-up by Professional Rights Committee – President Paul explained that even at present the LSUHSC is under force majeure since there are still several cases of faculty furlough that are unresolved. However, Chancellor Hollier in the past several times assured the Senate that there is no intention to terminate faculty under force majeure at this time.

**Action:** The Profession Rights, Responsibilities, and Faculty Welfare Committee will follow up on this issue and report to the Senate.

- e) Other old business – Senator Thompson asked how the issue of security clearance was resolved. The Senate adopted a resolution (see web site). Senator Paul reported that Vice Chancellor Moerschbaeher did follow up on the issue and the plan is in preparation to establish a unified approach across schools.

There was no other old business discussed.

#### *Agenda item 4. New business*

- a) Committee assignments - the Executive Committee will identify Senators who will serve on the Committee Coordinating Committee. In the meantime, the Executive Committee will help to establish the standing Senate committees, taking into

account any preferences expressed by particular Senators regarding which committee they would like to serve on.

**Action** – Senators who do not serve on any committee and have identified a specific committee that they would like to serve on should e-mail their preference to either President Paul or Secretary Volaufova.

- b) Discussion of priorities of the Senate during the 2008-2009 academic year – no discussion.

#### Agenda item 5. Reports

- a) Faculty Senate Committees

- i. Clinical Education, Service, and Patient Care - no report;
- ii. Constitution, Bylaws, Resolutions, Nominations, and Elections – no new report;
- iii. Electronic Communications – Senator Lloyd asked Senators to notify her about changes in service terms so that the Senate web site can be always current;
- iv. Facilities, Safety, and Security – no report;
- v. Professional Rights, Responsibilities, and Faculty Welfare – no report;
- vi. Research – no report;

- b) Assemblies

- i. Allied Health – the Faculty Assembly has a new president and president-elect. The new president is Erin Dugan.
- ii. Dentistry – Toby Cheramie was elected as president of the Faculty Assembly; two very good candidates in the final stages of consideration for the position of the Dean;
- iii. Graduate Studies – Senator Bagby reported that the Senators are reappointed for the next three-year term by an advisory committee;
- iv. Library – the director of the library retired and Debbie Sibley has been appointed as an interim director; construction in the area of the library continues but the library is well prepared for the new academic year;
- v. Medicine – preparation of the strategic plan continues in progress. The new president of the Assembly is Bennett DeBoisblanc;
- vi. Nursing – all five Senators from the School of Nursing are newly elected. The new Assembly president is Vickie Jordan;
- vii. Public Health – the SPH will have an open house on June 12, 2008 3:30 – 5:00pm at 1615 Poydras. The new Assembly president is Lynn LaMotte.

- b. Faculty Advisory Committee Representatives - no report; the FAC did not meet since the previous Senate meeting. President Paul also explained the kind of issues that are discussed by the FAC, such as the lack of unified levels of benefits from grants across the system, or the varying level of

involvement the Senate plays in governance at the various campuses within the system .

Other – liaisons from each school are asked to send the names of their Faculty Assembly presidents either to President Paul or Secretary Volaufova in order to keep the records current.

There were no additional reports from Senate committees.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35pm

Submitted by  
Julia Volaufova  
Faculty Senate Secretary