Minutes of Faculty Senate Meeting  
Thursday, August 28, 2014  
Hemphill 124, ULM Campus  
12:30 – 2:00 p.m.

* indicates excused absence;  
Name/Name indicates Moved/Seconded


Senators Absent: Michael*

Faculty Senate President Stockley called the meeting to order, at 12:30 p.m.

Welcome remarks made by President Stockley

Faculty Senate Secretary Gissendanner called the roll.

Approval of New Senators:

- President Stockley discussed the need to fill four vacancies for the 2014-2015 Faculty Senate: two in the College of Arts, Education, and Sciences and two in the College of Health and Pharmaceutical Sciences.
  - President Stockley appointed Jeffrey Anderson and Jana Giles from the School of Humanities and Jessica Lasiter and Matt Lovett from the School of Health Professions.
  - The motion to approve all new Senators, elected and appointed, passed unanimously (A. Hill/John Anderson).

- The agenda was suspended to allow special guest, ULM Library Dean Don Smith to address the FS regarding the digitalization of the library. The following is a summary of his presentation:
  
  - Use of electronic books and journal has surpassed use of print materials.
  - Last year, use of print materials was less than 4,000 while 133,000 full-text electronic books and journal article were used.
  - The library is not going back and digitizing print materials.
  - Many print items are not used, falling apart and are items that are not needed for majors.
  - The size of the collection will be reduced and compacted to two floors. This will increase study and work space. White walls will be added to study rooms.
  - Some print materials will be kept for specific program and accreditation purposes.
  - A question was asked if e-mail space will be increased to accommodate more digital items. Dean Smith responded that it will need to be looked into.
A question was asked if faculty will have input on print items to be kept. Dean Smith responded that faculty can work with a library liaison to identify print materials to keep.

A question was asked if faculty can be given books. The answer was “No”.

A question was asked if Departments can receive books if they have room. Dean Smith responded that he will look into it.

Dean Smith also commented that the extra space created by the collection reduction could mean that summer classes would be offered in just the Library and Strauss Buildings to conserve electricity.

Approval of Minutes:

- Edits to the 4-17-14 Faculty Senate meeting and 5-1-14 special meeting minutes were submitted to Secretary Gissendanner from Senator A. Hill. The motion to approve the edited minutes passed unanimously (Frye/A. Hill).

Committee Reports:

- President Stockley asked if there were any committee reports. No reports were presented.

Special Orders:

- Committee Assignments: President Stockley summarized the assignments for the various Faculty Senate Committees. President Stockley explained that the Chair appointments he made for the committees are subject to approval by the committee, in accordance with the Faculty Senate Constitution.

- Election of Faculty Senate President-Elect and Secretary-Elect:
  - President Stockley opened the floor to nominations for President-Elect.
  - Senator Niemla was nominated (Niemla/A. Hill). Secretary Gissendanner was nominated (R. Hill/A. Hill).
  - Faculty Senate Secretary Gissendanner was elected President-Elect.
  - President Stockley opened the floor to nominations for Secretary-Elect. Senator Karen Frye was nominated (Eisenstadt/White). Senator Vangelisti was nominated (Gissendanner/A. Hill).
  - Senator Karen Frye was elected Secretary-Elect.

Unfinished Business:

- President Stockley provided a follow-up to budget discussions that took place after the informal Faculty Senate Session on July 22, 2014 between the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and the ULM Administration.
  - At a follow-up meeting, the administration presented a budget summary that identified a pool of money that could be used for a one-time disbursement of bonuses after final enrollment and retention numbers are known.
Since that meeting, there have been no further meetings or discussions between the Executive Committee and the administration over the budget or bonuses.

New Business:

- Faculty Senate Meetings: President Stockley asked if there were any objections to the Faculty Senate Schedule for 2014-2015. No objections were raised.

- Faculty Senate appointments to University committees. The following volunteered to serve as indicated:
  - Senator Craighead: Electronic Learning
  - Senator Nazzal: Academic Appeals
  - Senator Giles: University Library
  - Senator Frye: Quality Enhancement Plan
  - Senator Niemla: Student Technology Assessment Plan
  - Senator R. Hill: Student Technology Assessment Plan
  - Senator John Anderson: University Library
  - Senator Kaleem: Academic Appeals
  - Senator R. Hill: Premedical/Predental Advisory
  - Senator Wiedemeier: Premedical/Predental Advisory
  - Senator A. Hill: Premedical/Predental Advisory

- President Stockley then discussed a report he is working on based on former student surveys to determine the reason students do not stay at ULM. This information will be utilized in the development of a retention plan. The main conclusions so far are that the major issues students are not staying are financial and personal much more than academic.

- President Stockley discussed charges to the Faculty Welfare and Academic Standards Committees

- Secretary Gissendanner asked for volunteers for an ad hoc Faculty Handbook Committee to complete revisions to the Faculty Handbook.

- A comment was made by Senator A. Hill that the Faculty Senate Constitution infers five Executive Committee members. There are only currently four members of the Executive Committee since Senator Gissendanner is serving as Secretary and President-Elect simultaneously. Senator A. Hill suggested the election of an At-Large member to the Executive Committee. President Stockley agreed to discuss the issue at the next Faculty Senate meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:02pm (A. Hill/Wiedemeier)

Respectfully submitted,
Chris R. Gissendanner, Faculty Senate Secretary