

Minutes of Faculty Senate Meeting
Thursday, April 18, 2013
University House, ULM Campus
12:30-2:00 p.m.

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

Senators Present: Anderson, Caldwell, Carpenter, Chenoweth, Cumming, ~~Strube~~ ~~Erbe~~ Erbe, Giles, Hill, Niemla, Owens, Stockley, Sutton, Sylvester, Tommerdahl, Walker, Wiggins, Wilson

Senators Absent: *Bray, *Lasiter, *Pope, *Sampognaro

Special Guest President Bruno

Handouts circulated: Electronically circulated documents

- ¥ Senator Walker explained that the Academic Standards Committee is currently crunching the numbers on the Faculty Senate Survey.
- ¥ President Sylvester and Senator Stockley met with Walsworth and Jay Morris. President Sylvester has written letters to the state representatives. The state representatives understand the cost of the cuts, but they have decreased revenue and a requirement to balance the budget. Senator Sutton noted that the FS webpage listing the Constitution and the Bylaws is in the process of being updated.

No old or new business

Special guest ULM President Bruno arrived at 1:10pm to discuss strategic planning

Note: Please see the Appendix to the Minutes of Faculty Senate Meeting **Thursday, April 18, 2013** **University House, ULM Campus 12:30 – 2:00 p.m. The appendix is a copy of the discussion included below.**

President Sylvester talked a little about their strategy for Strategic Planning.

- ¥ "If you don't know where you are going, any road will get you there." They are looking for a path we can be successful.
- ¥ They met over two day and made a lot of progress. They gathered data to understand ULM and its current status. They gathered external factors on ULM such as funding, Board of Regents, the UL System including the System President, the state legislature that funds ULM, and the community (the region/the state) that looks to ULM for service, culture and financial impact. Then they updated the mission statement and the guiding principles.
- ¥ The next step will be stakeholder meetings. All the different groups of people affected by ULM will each get their say on the strategic plan. Some of these groups are the faculty, the staff, the students, the alumni, and the community.

- ¥ Due to humanistic issues, they want to talk to those who will be "released" rather than later. He is going to work with HR. He is concerned that if the cuts do not happen in July, that they will happen in December.
- ¥ The question was posed during these strategic planning meetings: "What can we control?" We can recruit more, and we can raise more. We can't get our own insurance. We can't raise tuition. We can't cut services. We need to change how we do things and how we deliver our service.

Q&A Period

- ¥ Will the Program Prioritization Matrix from last fall be used?
Some of that may have changed. Some programs have grown. Some programs can't accept all the students, e.g. Nursing and Health Sciences.
- ¥ What can be done about the 6 month contracts for instructors?
It is true that the instructors carry the load of SOHs on campus, but the tenure track and the tenured professors are more difficult to release. ULM can continue on as we are currently doing 4 months, or we can have the tenured professors teach the intro courses.
- ¥ Can we change programs into new programs that are in demand?
ULM has the least number of new programs in the system. The day of "give me more time to show I can build a program" is over.
- ¥ Are we in exigency since we are using restricted funds?

Stuart met with the governor. Joe Farr understands more about tuition. Everyone has been rallying, but it may be too late.

Baton Rouge has not seen blood in the streets. ULM has had a lot of retirements and people leaving to cover the cuts. We have not had offerings. This year's major cut was covered by the positions that were vacated between July and December 2012. We can't get 20 million dollars from the private sector. Most people want to earmark donations.

¥ Do they need blood in the streets?

The students should complain that their tuition is being used to educate them.

¥ It would be helpful to make a list of what we can and cannot do (when talking to university people about the situation at ULM). People are scared to speak out.

President Bruno wants people to be honest with him. He understands frustration and fear. He wants to encourage the faculty to have coffee with him to vent. Please send him, the VDeans feedback with ideas how to fix things.

¥ We need to alert the programs that are being cut.

There will be blood. The Gen Ed programs may need to be revisited. There is a fine line between (1) protecting people and making them frustrated and (2) telling people and creating hysteria.

¥ I want the names of who will be cut. Telling people sooner is better than later.

President Bruno wants to tell those on the list who may be cut to aid them in making arrangements for health insurance.

The budget continued to be discussed

The meeting was adjourned at 3:03pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Cumming Strunk, Faculty Senate Secretary Elect