

**Minutes of Faculty Senate Meeting
Thursday, March 24, 2016 (Rescheduled)
Hemphill 124, ULM Campus
12:30 – 2:00 p.m.**

* indicates excused absence; Name/Name indicates Moved/Seconded
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Senators Present: Jeff Anderson, Robert Eisenstadt, [redacted], [redacted], Chris Gissendam, [redacted], Hutto, Kioh Kim, Heather Pilcher, Josh Stockley, Claire Van [redacted]

Senators Absent: Sandy Bailey, Debra Crai [redacted], Hare, Far [redacted], m, Lassiter, *Matt Lovett, Savannah Posey

- I. Welcome
- II. Roll call
- III. Regular business suspended as we had a guest: [redacted] Bruno, President U [redacted]
 - A. Dr. Bruno outlined reflections on the state [redacted] and what it means for [redacted] at the time of this meeting, the outcome was not clear on [redacted] the Special Session [redacted] deficit for the State range was 800-900 million and the Go [redacted] as holding a press [redacted] today at 3 pm to discuss outcome of Session. 80 mill [redacted] been found, but hig [redacted] will have to absorb 1.4 million or 20% of TOPS, but fin [redacted] are unclear. Dr. [redacted] provided an [redacted] y: Out of [redacted] dealing with management system, e.g., Regents. As long as [redacted] as voice in the ma [redacted] structure, that is the important thing. Dr. Bruno noted [redacted] could come to camp [redacted] of the \$24 million received from the State, \$19 million [redacted] ate retirement [redacted] hcare, etc. That leaves ULM \$5 million from State. There h [redacted] ng legislat [redacted] mergers, closures, etc., but Dr. Bruno noted they are looking [redacted] a busin [redacted] p [redacted] ctive.

The problems began 8 years ago when higher ed and healthcare were pitted against k-12 and highways; higher ed lost. While the Governor wants to restore budget stability, is he able to do this in 4 years? The \$800 million dollar shortfall is very brutal situation for all of us nothing is safe. Dr. Bruno has been meeting with the VPs and going over scenarios of different levels of cuts. If we had to absorb 3 million 20% TOPS for 2016, it would be very hard to do on top of cuts. We have a \$1.5 million dollar cut now, which we can absorb. On a positive note, Dr. Bruno shared that enrollment was up 400 students this year, our new designation as Carnegie doctoral granting institution elevated our image equal to La Tech, and preserved our reputation

-Giar noted that he listens to KEDM on way in and as a faculty member and concerned parent, he did not hear about budget or see many good ads for ULM. The budget problems have brought a greater unification across universities. Senator Eisenstadt inquired about Medicaid expansion and its effect on St. Francis. The Board of St. Francis noted that if Conway folded, St. Francis would be in a grave predicament. Dr. Bruno was asked if the State has authority to cut tuition. We were charged \$1.40 for every \$1 received leading up to 2009; monies which paid for civil service raises, etc. So, not directly, but we have experienced a significant resource decline.

Dr. Bruno reminded us-who is our champion? When asked about funding next year, he indicated he is optimistic, but guarded. He noted that this is a different legislature this time. He again encouraged us to share the information on the power point & Advocate! If what was happening on campus was happening at the State, there would be a revolt! External factors affect the situation.

IV. Approval for January 21, 2016 minutes and February 18, 2016 minutes were relegated to Moodle.

V. There were no committee reports in the service of time.

VI. Unfinished Business

A. Faculty Survey-posted and by eyeballing responses, it appeared we received a great response rate (n=225). The data will be analyzed over break, with a report given first to Ex Comm administration, then verbal report to Faculty Senate. Senator Eisenstadt, Chair of Faculty Welfare Committee, requested and was approved to attend presentation for FS survey results to administration at Ex Comm meeting.

B. Senators Anderson and Frye gave a brief report of General Education Assessment Committee meeting held morning of 3/24/16. The GE-31(stn1 5762(d)-23.62(d W* no.G{a}4(ga)4(in)-

C. Foundation Awards- no report.

VII. New Business

A. Updating Faculty Handbook-tabled, no report for the sake of time.

B. Other business- Had nominations and all open seats were filled. Only Humanities will have election with 5 nominations for 2 open seats.

April 6th will be the election.

No Ex Comm meeting to report on.

VIII. Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,
Senator Karen Frye
Faculty Senate Secretary