MINUTES
FACULTY SENATE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 5, 2001

ATTENDANCE:
Arts and Sciences: Christine Bridges-Esser, Kevin Dodson, Joe Pizzo, Pamela Saur, Donna Bumpus, Bruce Drury, Dave Castle, Vernice Monroe, Max Loges, Walter Sutton, Judy Mann, Sheila Smith, Dianna Rivers, Stephanie Yearwood, Mike Matthis. Absent: Cindy Stinson.
Business: Larry Allen, Richard Jones, Celia Varick, K.C. Sen, Frank Cavaliere.
Education: Desmond Rice, Joel Barton, Kimberly Griffith, William Holmes. Absent: William Worsham (to be replaced).
Engineering: Peggy Doerschuk, Alec Matheson, Valentin Andreev, Hsing Wei Chu, John Gossage. Absent: David Read.
Fine Arts and Communication: Kurt Gilman, Steve Hodges, Travis Almany, Larry Elliott, Anne Mattlock. Absent: Lane Roth.
Library: Jon Tritsch, Sarah Tusa.
Port Arthur: Mavis Treibel.

CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Faculty Senate President Bruce Drury.

REMARKS BY DR. STEVE DOBLIN, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
Dr. Doblin spoke briefly about his background and experience, his reasons for coming to Lamar, and his priorities, which include: (1) learning about Lamar, (2) salary increases, and (3) an academic master plan. In connection with the academic master plan, he will be looking at distance learning, the role of department chairs, graduate education, and tying resource planning to the budget.

MINUTES
The following corrections were made to the May 2, 2001 minutes: (1) Joe Nordgren was present at the May 2 meeting; and (2) the spelling of Sam Gwynn’s name was corrected. Motion to approve the minutes of 5-2-01 with corrections was made by Christine Bridges-Esser, seconded by Dianna Rivers, passed unanimously.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT
President Drury reported the following:
1. Arthur Anderson consultants have a preliminary report that will be presented to the Salary Equity Committee Thursday, Sept 6. Dave Castle, K. C. Sen, and Bruce Drury are on the committee.
2. Academic Master Planning Committee will have an organizational meeting on Monday, Sept 10. Pamela Saur, Valentin Andreev, and Bruce Drury are on the committee.
3. The 2002 Lamar budget is now on the Web, accessible via the following links: Administration > Current Fiscal Year Budget.
4. Merit raises—The policies of all departments are now on the Web via the following links: Administration > LU for Faculty & Staff > Directories and Information - Merit Raise Policies. The amount of the raise and the procedure for arriving at that amount should have been provided by the chairs. Dr. Drury asked the senators to tell Dr. Andreev or a member of the Budget and Compensation Committee if this is not the case.
5. Minutes and Agenda: The minutes of the Faculty Senate meetings will be put on the Web in draft form within ten days following the Senate meeting, and they will be sent to Senate members by email. Corrections will be noted in the minutes of the subsequent meeting. The agenda will be sent to Senators via email at least seven days prior to the meeting, accompanied by a draft version of any significant resolution to be acted upon in that meeting.
6. University Committees: Dr. Doblin has indicated that vacant positions will be filled by elections rather than by appointment. Kevin Dodson and the Faculty Issues Committee will monitor the process.
7. Faculty Handbook: Kevin Smith will begin an update of the Faculty Handbook. Kevin Dodson will help with the process. Bill Holmes will get a volunteer from the Faculty Issues Committee to be on the committee that is updating the handbook.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
Committee assignments were distributed, and each committee met briefly to determine their tentative agendas.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academic Issues
Christine Bridges-Esser reported that the committee’s agenda includes the academic plan; compensation and ownership issues with respect to Web courses; space allocation; the core curriculum; international education, including the study abroad program; graduate education, including faculty loads and timing of scholarship budgeting. The committee was asked to determine whether classrooms that are periodically used to house classes moved from the Montagne Center are available for use in scheduling classrooms during the semester.

Faculty Issues
Bill Holmes reported that the committee’s agenda includes: surveying Lamar’s various centers and directors; reviewing procedures for elections and formation of committees; services provided by the bookstore; determining whether first year faculty should be eligible to vote for Faculty Senators; faculty evaluations; the faculty handbook; the student grievance process; providing more information on salary increases; and the Piper Award.

Budget and Compensation
Valentin Andreev reported that the committee has invited Mr. Ferguson to meet with them to discuss formula funding and other issues related to budget and compensation. David Castle and his group will be looking at this year’s merit raise and comparing it with national and regional merit raises. Other items on the committee’s agenda include the equity plan; overloads and mini-session pay; promotion raises; and the budget time frame.

Faculty Development and Research
Sarah Tusa reported that the committee’s agenda would include intellectual property issues; how to increase funds for research; how to increase funds for developmental leaves; and how to enable faculty to get some approximation of a sabbatical. The committee will send out notices of application for developmental leaves in the spring so that interested faculty will have more time to make their applications.

Distinguished Faculty Lecturer
Pamela Saur reported that the committee selected Professor Sam Gwynn as Distinguished Faculty Lecturer last spring. Professor Gwynn will present his lecture on October 15 at 8:P.M. in the Theater. The committee is still in the process of making plans for the lecture.

Staff Appreciation Day
No report.

President Drury asked that all committee chairs email to him and to the Secretary their committees’ agendas.

OLD BUSINESS
None

NEW BUSINESS
Elections were held for Faculty Senate Representatives for the following committees:
Continuing Education Committee: Celia Varick.
Curriculum Council: Christine Bridges-Esser.
Distance Education Committee: Walter Sutton
Judge Joe J. Fisher Lecture Series Committee: Vernice Monroe

The 2001-02 Senate was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

If you have any concerns that you want the Senate to discuss, please contact your Senator or the Senate Secretary: israel@ sal.lamar.edu.