LAMAR UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE
MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 4, 2002

ATTENDANCE:

Arts and Sciences: Christine Bridges-Esser, Terri Davis, Donna Bumpus, Bruce Drury, Dave Castle, Vernice Monroe, Walter Sutton, Judy Mann, Sheila Smith, Dianna Rivers, Stephanie Yearwood, Mike Matthis, Paul Nicoletto, George Erwin. Absent: Jim Jordan, Max Loges.
Business: Larry Allen, Carl Montano, Celia Varick, K. C. Sen, Frank Cavaliere
Education: George Strickland, Joel Barton, Bill Holmes. Absent: Fara Goulas, Kim Griffith.
Engineering: Peggy Doerschuk, Mien Jao, David Read, Valentin Andreev, Hsing Wei Chu, John Gossage.
Fine Arts and Communication: Kurt Gilman, Prince Thomas, Zanthia Smith, Travis Almany, Larry Elliott, Ann Matlock.
Developmental Studies: Joe Kemble.
Library: Jon Tritsch, Sarah Tusa.
Port Arthur: Mavis Triebel.

CALL TO ORDER

Faculty Senate President Bruce Drury called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM.

MINUTES

The May 1, 2002 minutes were approved without correction.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Bruce Drury reported the following:

1. Deans Schultz, Westerfield, and Hopper are scheduled for the three-year evaluation this fall. Committees will be elected this fall so that the process can be completed by December 1. Each Administrative Review Committee shall be composed of five members---two tenured faculty from the college by an election run by a senator from the college and the AVPAA, a chair elected by the chairs of the college, and two faculty (one from outside the college and one from the college to enhance balance) agreed to by the EVPAA and the president of the senate. The process is described in Appendix M of the Faculty Handbook.

2. In addition, eight department chairs (Cooper, Crawford, Lumpkin, Martin, Meeks, Osborne, Sheppeard, Strinivasan, and Warren) are to have formal evaluations this fall. That process is described in Appendix N of the Faculty Handbook.

3. Salary information: The staff was given a raise of 3% or $65 per month, which ever is greater. For faculty a 2% merit raise (a bit over $300K) was distributed by the established merit raise policies. In addition, an amount equal to 2% of the faculty salary pool from the FY2002 ($291K) and an additional 1% ($145K) from the FY2003 budget were added to the 2003 base salary for faculty following the equity process formula. This means that you received a merit raise (if meritorious) and an equity raise of roughly 17% of your “target market raise” provided by your dean this summer. Dr. Simmons had hoped to put more money into the equity process, but was persuaded to be cautious at this time. Contracts will have a special clause authorizing the University to increase your salary within the fiscal year if deemed appropriate.

4. The Texas Council of Faculty Senates will meet in Austin on October 25-26. Tony Sanchez, Dem. Candidate for governor, has accepted an invitation to speak at the TCFS/TACT/AAUP banquet. Rick Perry, the Rep. Candidate for governor, has also been invited to speak.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chairs and their committees met briefly to discuss a proposed agenda for the 2002-2003 session. The chairs then reported the following agenda:

Academic Issues: Christine Bridges-Esser. Writing across the curriculum, Plagiarism, Space allocation, Academic planning.

Faculty Issues: Bill Holmes. Faculty evaluation process, Committee elections process, Bookstore service monitoring.

Budget and Compensation: Valentin Andreev. Run survey of senate on merit and equity, Equity plan, September paychecks for new faculty, Budget time frame, Foundation/grant supported programs not in the printed budget, Monitor master plan budget.

Faculty Development and Research: Judy Mann. Foster other forms of development leave, Recruit more applicants, Provide continuing agenda to allow committee to meet the full semester.

Distinguished Faculty Lecturer: Sara Tusa and Cindy Stinson. Dr. James Sanderson is the 2002 Distinguished Faculty Lecturer. The committee is on course with plans concerning the 2003 DFL.

Staff Appreciation Day: Mark Asteris. 2002 Staff Appreciation Day will be February 14. Several menus of varying prices are being considered. Mark suggested that the Senate suggest that faculty could make an additional contribution is so desired.

OLD BUSINESS

A resolution concerning compensation for web-based courses, which was tabled in the May 1 Faculty Senate meeting, will remain tabled.

NEW BUSINESS

Elections were held for Senate representatives for several university committees. The results of those elections were:

Continuing Education Committee: Celia Varick
Curriculum Council: David Read
Distance Education Committee: Stephanie Yearwood
Fisher Lecture Series: Terri Davis

OPEN DISCUSSION/COMMENTS

Items discussed in open forum were: summer salary, campus bookstore, twice per month pay, separate paychecks for one-time pay, compensation for adjunct instructors.

ADJOURNMENT

The Senate adjourned at 4:10 PM