LAMAR UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE
MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 1, 2003

ATTENDANCE

Arts and Sciences: Rick Altemose, Christine Bridges-Esser, Donna Bumpus, Don Carey, Dave Castle, Roger Cooper, Terri Davis, Alicen Flosi, Paul Griffith, Martha Rinker, Dianna Rivers, Lee Thompson, Iva Hall, Paul Nicoletto, Sheila Smith, Jim Sanderson, Mike Mathis; Absent: George Irwin, Jim Jordan, Steve Zani
Business: Larry Allen, Jai Young Choi, Larry Spradley, Quoc-Nam Tran;
Absent: Carl Montano, Celia Varick
Education: Kimberly Chalambaga, Fara Goulas, Lula Henry, Bill Holmes, George McLaughlin, Bernadette Moore, George Strickland
Engineering: Valentin Andreev, Hsing Wei Chu, Peggy Doerschuk, John Gossage, Bernard Maxum, Mien Jao, David Read; Absent: Alec Matheson Fine Arts and Communication: Kurt Gilman, Ann Matlock, Sumalai Maroonroge, Nicki Michaelski, Zanthia Smith, Prince Thomas; Absent: Kim Ellis
Library: Rick Dyson, Jon Tritsch
Developmental Studies: Joe Kemble
LSCPA: Mavis Treibel

CALL TO ORDER

Faculty Senate President Peggy Doerschuk called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS

Juan Zabada, Director of Alumni Affairs, Senators with details concerning Red White and You Day, which will be on November 18, and urged all to support this event.

Cliff Woodruff, AVPIT, informed Senators about the use and potential advantages of Internet 2.

MINUTES

The September 3, 2003 Faculty Senate Minutes were approved as distributed via the Internet.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1. Texas Council of Faculty Senates and TSUS Council of Faculty Senates will meet 10/24-25 in Austin. Bill Holmes and Peggy Doerschuk will attend. The TSUS representatives will meet with the Chancellor to discuss issues of common interest.

2. Salary increases will go into effect Nov 1 and appear in paychecks December 1. Chairs should communicate what the amount of the merit increase is and what formula was used for calculating merit pay. Because the increases are effective Nov 1, they will be 7/9 of the amount of the academic year raise this year.

3. Searches will be conducted for (1) the Dean of Library Services to replace Linda Dugger, who will retire in January, 2004; (2) the Dean of College of Education and Human Development to replace Carl Westerfield, who will retire in August, 2004; and (3) the Director of Developmental Studies to replace Gary Laird, who will retire in January, 2004. The latter search will be internal.

4. Status of elections, appointments
Quoc-Nam Tran has been elected from the College of Engineering to replace Alec Matheson this year during his developmental leave absence. Faculty members have been elected from Education and Human Development to serve on
(1) the Academic IT Committee: Robin McCutcheon; and (2) the Fisher Lecture
Committee: Kim Chalambaga. Elections are ongoing in Fine Arts and Communication for faculty members to serve on Academic IT, the Faculty Tenure Committee, and the Student Advising and Retention Council. Christine Bridges-Esser and Mike Matthis are conducting elections in Arts and Sciences for a faculty member to serve on the Curriculum Council. David Read will represent the Faculty Senate on the University IT Committee.

5. A proposed new policy on tenure and promotion is being distributed to Faculty Senators and referred to the Faculty Issues Committee. Please give feedback to the Faculty Issues Committee.

6. A proposal for incentives for faculty to encourage funded research is being distributed to Faculty Senators and referred to the Faculty
Development & Research Committee. Please give feedback to FD&R.

7. Academic Master Planning Committee has begun its charge to examine the structure of the academic units.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academic Issues: Terri Davis. The Committee is currently reviewing new University acquisitions of Reddot.com, Turnitin.com, and Plagiarism.com. Also, they are considering the issues of student enrollment and class size, and will be soliciting comments from faculty through a survey to be distributed soon.

Faculty Issues: Hsing Wei Chu. The Committee is continuing to review proposed changes in the evaluation forms. Of concern are goals, which remain as part of the proposed form, and the five levels of performance, which the Committee considers to be too many. They will also be selecting a nominee for the Piper Professor award.

Budget and Compensation: Ann Matlock. The Committee is dealing with the issues of overload pay and ranges of pay by discipline, rank and years, and is considering a possible forthcoming resolution concerning these issues.

Development and Research: George Strickland. The Committee sponsored a two- day seminar, led by Paul Nicolleto, on suggestions for submitting successful requests for Research and Development grants. The results of the survey, concerning D & R grant procedures used by other universities, should be available soon. During the next two meetings, the Committee will prepare for and review the applications for R & D grants for 2003-2004.

Distinguished Faculty Lecture: Dianna Rivers. Dianna reminded all Senators of the upcoming lecture by Dr. Richard Harrel on Monday, October 20, 2003, in the University Theatre, and the reception following in the Dishman Art Gallery. She also thanked all members of the Committee for all of their work and commitment.

Staff Appreciation Day: Mark Asteris. No report.

Ad Hoc Committee: Bill Holmes. The Committee reached a conclusion on allegations concerning the Dean of Engineering, and will propose a resolution under New Business.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

Bill Holmes presented a Resolution (see Appendix I) concerning the Dean of Engineering, and moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by David Castle, and carried by voice vote.

Paul Nicolleto voiced concerns about the membership of the Curriculum Committee. This matter will be reviewed by the Academic Issues Committee.

Christine Bridges-Esser introduced a resolution concerning the schedule of faculty equity raises. This will be studied by the Budget and Compensation Committee.

A concern about the safety of campus elevator doors and applicable Workman Compensation information was raised, and this will be studied by the Faculty Issues Committee.

OPEN DISCUSSION

There was no open discussion.

ADJOURN

The Faculty Senate adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

APPENDIX I

REQUEST

It may be that overall things are going well for some departments in the College of Engineering. However, it has been noted by the Faculty Senate that there are some currents of dissention and concerns that need to be addressed. Therefore, the Faculty Senate requests that the Academic Vice President closely monitor the performance of the Dean of the College of Engineering and ensure his commitment to and practice of the concept of shared governance/collegiality, his commitment and demonstrated ability to fairly and equally represent all of the departments of his college, and his commitment to follow university policies and procedures.