LAMAR UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE
MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 4, 2002

ATTENDANCE

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

CALL TO ORDER

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

MINUTES

The November 6, 2002 minutes were approved as distributed.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Bruce Drury reported the following:

1. The University Information Technology Committee has been formed. New Academic and Administrative IT committees with slightly different composition and structure will be selected in the spring.

2. The Fire Marshall will be on campus next week. Get rid of candles-they’re not permitted in offices-and some professors will need to clean their offices.

3. Departments are being asked to consider the imposition of course fees. This is now done at most other public universities in the state.

4. Terri Davis is the Lamar University candidate for First Year Student Advocate Award.

5. The university Budget for FY2003 is now on the LU Web for Faculty. Also, a corrected version of the Faculty Handbook is on the LU Web.

6. I have appointed Dianna Rivers as Co-Chair of the Southwestern Bell Distinguished Faculty Lecture Committee. Cindy Stinson, co-chair last year, will continue in that role.

7. Space-available tickets for LU basketball games are available. They may be picked up at the ticket office one hour before the game or at the ticket booth on the northwest corner, ground level of the Montagne Center.

OLD BUSINESS

Academic Computing. There is a sense of the Senate that there is a need for a General Administrator for this area.

NEW BUSINESS

Developmental Leave Recommendations. Committee Chair Judy Mann moved Paul Nicolletto receive a full term leave, and Alec Matheson a summer leave. Motion was seconded by Max Loges and passed unanimously.

OPEN HEARING ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY FOR ANNUAL EVALUATION OF FACULTY

Valentin Andreev made a motion to establish standards by departments for every merit level in all three categories of faculty evaluation, remove peer review from the F2.08, and that the goals part of F2.08 would not be needed if the standards are established. K. C. Sen moved that the deans function be added back into the process. Both motions carried the full Faculty Senate.

COMMITTEE REPORTS ON PROPOSED AGENDA

Academic Issues: Christine Bridges-Esser. The committee has decide not to further pursue the concept of writing across the curriculum at this time. Transfer credits available from LUIT include: English 1301, Art/Music 1315, 1402, and Composition 1301. Chris offered (complete text can be found in Appendix I) a resolution on faculty concern for increases in plagiarism from digital sources. The resolution passed unanimously.

Faculty Issues: Bill Holmes. No report.

Budget and Compensation: Valentin Andreev. Computer use fees and policies on the use of adjunct instructors are being researched for the next meeting of the committee.

Development and Research: Judy Mann. Proposed changes are being considerd by a committee involving the Enhancement Grant process. The committee didn’t agree on all of the changes, and EVPAA Doblin requested more information prior to any decision on changes to the existing process.

Distinguished Faculty Lecturer: Dianna Rivers/Sarah Tusa. Faculty senators were urged to help with the recruiting of faculty representatives from each college to serve on the committee, which will begin meeting in January or February.

Staff Appreciation Day Mark Asteris. No report.

APPENDIX I

Resolution on plagiarism.

WHERAS Lamar University faculty is concerned by the increase in plagiarism from digital sources, and

WHERAS the Faculty Senate believes that the faculty needs maximum assistance in identifying plagiarized work, and

WHERAS online plagiarism checking systems can greatly discourage plagiarism simply by their existence,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate recommends that the university subscribe to www.turnitin.com on a trial basis for six-months, then assess the faculty’s perception of the success of this trial and consider a longer-term commitment to this service.