

Faculty Senate Meeting

Tuesday, April 23, 2019

3 p.m.

Webster Room in the UC

The President called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. The meeting began with the Chancellor's report.

Chancellor

The Chancellor began by discussing House Bill 470 to merge LSUS and Louisiana Tech. Dr. Robert Leitz has expressed his resistance to this bill on behalf of the Noel Foundation. The Chancellor read Dr. Leitz's letter to the Senate. The Chancellor further revealed that he had discussed 470 with the Shreveport Executive Chamber of Commerce. In the past, the Chamber had supported a plan similar to 470. The Chancellor spoke with the Speaker of the House who was not in favor 470. Jay Darden was also not in favor of it, nor was Dr. Geise at Tech. Cedric Glover has also expressed a desire for the local medical school to merge with Tech. He may be planning a study session pertaining to this possibility. Senator White mentioned that 33% of students at LSUS might not meet the necessary qualifications to enroll if the bill were to pass.

The Chancellor told of a recent lunch he had with the Board of the Colonial Dames where they spoke of the Spring Street Museum and a proposal for the LSUS Real Estate Foundation to receive the museum. The building has been appraised at \$145,000. Senator White asked whether, if LSUS decided later not to operate the museum, it would revert to the Colonial Dames. He replied that we would not like to give up the museum, but if we were hit hard financially, we could return it.

The Chancellor next spoke on the interviews for Interim Provost. He said that he has been receiving a lot of feedback about the candidates. Shelby Keith has set up a way for faculty to submit their feedback about the decision. The Chancellor said that he was pleased with his interviews with

both of the candidates, who were present at the meeting. He then shook hands with both candidates, Dr. Sanjay Menon and Dr. Helen Taylor.

The Chancellor ended his report by thanking President Mackowiak for his hard work this past year as President of Faculty Senate. He said that President Mackowiak had set a good precedent for the next Senate president.

President's report

President Mackowiak asked if there were any questions or concerns about the minutes of the March Faculty Senate meeting. There were none. Senator Burden moved that the minutes be accepted, and Senator McLemore seconded the motion. The Senate voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

He then reported on various meetings he had had concerning the selection process for Interim Provost. He thanked the Senators for their work during the academic year. He then thanked the Chancellor for being open and accessible during the year, and he also added thanks to Dr. Helen Taylor for her efforts during the year.

Business Affairs

Vice-Chancellor Barbie Cannon said that she had nothing major to report in regard to budgeting. We have, however, asked the Board for additional appropriations because of our increased enrollment. She and other administrators have been working with the people from Noel Levitz and will be doing so again this coming Thursday and Friday.

She then reported on various projects. The Collaboratory is coming along nicely as is the Thinking Space in Bronson Hall. Work on this latter project will commence May 6. Work on buildings has taken place in the BE building, and plans for a soccer building have been approved by the Board.

Vice-Chancellor Cannon revealed that she is on a committee looking into and overseeing scholarships. She remarked that getting financial aid to students in a timely fashion was an important priority. Trimming of the campus's live oaks was about to begin, but we have been advised to wait until November for this. She reminded people about Taco Wars on May 3.

Senator Bible asked the Vice-Chancellor about the time-frame of the Noel Levitz project. She said that it is a three-year project. When she asked if anyone else had questions or observations, the Chancellor spoke about recent wins by the men's baseball team, and Provost Helen Taylor reminded everyone that graduation will be on Friday this semester instead of Sunday.

Development

There was no report on development.

Old Business

Dr. Matyas Buzgo has sent a PDF about the work of the Course and Curricula Committee to President Mackowiak, who will be sharing it with the Senate. Some of this material was also presented at Faculty Council.

New Business

The Senate then voted on President for the 2019-2020 academic year. The two candidates were Senator Bible and Senator DuBose. Senator Burden and Senator Perry distributed slips of paper for voting, collected the ballots, and counted them twice. Senator Bible was the winner and will be the Faculty Senate's President next year.

Observations and Concerns

President Mackowiak and Senator White repeated their enthusiasm for the project with Spring Street Museum.

Senator Joiner pointed out that Dr. Gary Joiner of the Policy and Personnel Committee would be looking into setting up elections for new Senators for the fall.

President Mackowiak mentioned the upcoming summer activities that will be prominent on the LSUS campus.

Senator White wondered why course evaluations were distributed late this year. Dr. Helen Taylor explained that Spring Break came late and perhaps had not been factored into the issuance of the evaluation forms.

President Mackowiak again thanked everybody and encouraged everyone to attend graduation.

Senator White moved for adjournment, and Senator Burden seconded the motion.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.