

Minutes
Faculty Senate Meeting
University of Louisiana at Monroe
August 23, 2007
ADMN 2-105

Members Present: Monica Bontty, Joseph Feldhaus, Stephen Fox, David Hare, Cecil Hutto, Kitty Kervin, Megan Lowe, Lance Nickelson, Mona Oliver, Shirlee Owens, Linda Reid, Donna Rhorer, Jeff Rush, Pamela Saulsberry, Dorothy Schween, C. Turner Steckline, Bruce Walker, and Holly Wilson

Members Absent: Brett Bennett

Members Excused: John Sutherlin and Sally Davidson

I. President C. Turner Steckline called the meeting to order at 12:30 P.M. Secretary Rhorer called the roll.

II. Minutes of May 3, 2007, were distributed. Mona Oliver moved to accept the minutes as amended.

Mark Doherty from Education
Fred Adams from Foreign Languages
Melissa Melancon from Business

B. Academic Standards has turned in proposed changes.

C. Constitution and By-Laws has recorded 2 changes this year (details in the April minutes).

D. Elections Committee will meet in January.

E. Faculty Welfare met quite often last semester and created a plan for a Faculty Friends Program for first year faculty. It comes out of faculty responses gathered using the Survey Monkey last semester; respondents had wished for mentors when they were newly on board. New hires had also expressed concern over receiving a first paycheck at the end of September. President Cofer has addressed this issue and initiated some financial relief. Faculty Friends will also help in acquainting new faculty with various computer programs and other paper work required of them. Senator Wilson has invited faculty to serve as mentors, and has had good response from faculty members. Faculty Friends will meet with Senators on Friday, August 31, 2007, in Stubbs 219 from noon to 2:00 for a social.

Senator Schween asked how the program fit in with the notion of departmental mentors. The program is not to be mistaken for academic career mentoring programs particular to departments, but is one in which faculty members volunteer to orient new faculty to the many computerized and other processes specific to ULM.

F. Fiscal Affairs had no report. Dave Nicklas and Gail Parker are both willing to come to the Senate to discuss budgetary concerns.

V. University Committees/Committee on Committees

While many senators serve on university committees reporting directly to the Senate about work within those committees (TLRC, Commencement, Council for Teacher Education, Honors, Research, Curriculum, Undergraduate Curriculum, Shared Governance, International Education Council, and Recruitment), many more committees have no Senate representation; therefore, no information comes to us from them. The body needs to connect university committees and the Senate so we know what is going on across the university.

VI. Unfinished Business

Senators must complete their review of the Due Process and Procedures Document with particular attention to numbers 5, 6, and 7 under Tenure Procedures regarding the elimination of the college level committee in the promotion and tenure process. Senators discussed the pros and cons of such an action. In addition, Senators discussed initiatives within colleges to require departments to quantify requirements for tenure and promotion (for example, the number of publications necessary for tenure). Senators questioned how this fixed number of publications, etc.

Donna A. Rhorer, Ph. D.
Secretary, ULM Faculty Senate
and
Associate Professor of English
Administration Bldg. 3-66
Dept. of English
University of Louisiana at Monroe
700 University Drive
Monroe, Louisiana 71209
(318) 342-1514
rhorer@ulm.edu