

**Minutes of Faculty Senate Meeting**  
**Thursday, April 19, 2012**  
**12:30-2:43 p.m. Room 3-94, Walker Hall**

- **\*indicates excused absence;**
- **Name/Name indicates Moved/Seconded**
- **\*\* indicates hard copy provided as well**

**Senators Present:** Anderson, Arrant, Casey, Durkee, Eisenstadt, Feldhaus, Frye, Hill, Hutto, Junk, Niemla, Owens, Steckline, Stockley, Strunk, Sutton, Sylvester, Walker, and Wiggins.

**Senators Absent:** Andrews\*, Durkee\*, Lanham\*,

**Handouts circulated electronically:** Draft of Minutes of FS Meeting of March 15, 2012; Minutes of Called FS Meeting of March 22, 2012; Agenda for FS April 19, 2012 meeting; Guidelines for Class Projects, ULM Policies and Procedures Memo. **Handouts circulated during the meeting:** Two large sheets with 1) Budget and Formula Charts for Budgeted Amounts, SCH's, FTE Faculty Positions, Personal Services-BOR4, Part-time/Overload Expenditures, Formula Funds, 2-factor performance cuts by college; 3-factor performance cuts by college, and 2) System Formula Group Name and Numbers by the following factors: Lower-level undergraduates, Upper-Level undergraduates, Masters Level, Doctoral Level, and Special/Professional certificates.

President Sylvester **called the meeting to order**, at 12:30 p.m.

Secretary Steckline **called the roll**.

As per the Faculty Senate Resolution to honor the lives and service of faculty who pass away, a tribute to Professor Harry Hale, Department of Sociology, who died almost exactly a year ago, was presented by Senator Steckline. The tribute follows: *Harry Hale was a dear person to many people. Quiet, gentle, dedicated, student-focused, family-oriented—are all words that come to mind as I consider my association with him as a resident of Stubbs Hall. He was always smiling, always happy to engage in a quick conversation, and always available to his students. “IF you don’t find me at school, be sure you call me at home if you have a question.” I know he called home everyday to talk to Ruby, his wife who suffered and suffers from health problems. He called home to check on her, and I often saw them at Taco Bell grabbing a quick lunch. I never knew Harry Hale as a young teacher, though I have colleagues who did, who remarked on his personal journey beyond a mindset that did not seem quite ready to accept “girls” in the academy, as students or colleagues, to being proud of the excellence of any student exemplified in his classes and the many student organizations and professional organizations Harry was mindful of over the years. Up until about three weeks before his death, I never saw Harry Hale take the elevator unless he was transporting a media cart to a classroom, as he always took the stairs, and moved quickly, softly, and determinedly through the world. For about two months prior to his death, Harry seemed pale, paler than usual, and over the past two weeks had many occasions of breathlessness moving the short distances between car and building, office to office, classroom to classroom, but his determination to be where he thought he should be drove him past his seeming endurance. While he assured all who spoke to him that he’d been to his doctor, that he was “taking it easy,” Harry’s sense of responsibility to others is one of my final images of him. Harry Hale was dedicated to ULM and his profession. Of the many students who have taken classes from Harry Hale, I have never heard one speak disparagingly of him, only with appreciation, and genuine liking, and with expressions for the value of intergenerational learning. Of all the ways there are to die, I think passing in one’s sleep, and doing what you love right up to the end, are wonderful markers of a life well-lived, and time well-spent.*

**The Minutes of the FS March 15, 2012 meeting were approved** with one correction to include the title “Dr.” in front of reference made to Eric Pani in the Executive Board report (under Committee Reports). (Walker/Stockley). **The Minutes**

of the Called FS March 22, 2012 meeting, with President Nick Bruno and Dr. Benny Blaylock, were approved with some minor corrections in codes of address, and syntax, and a vote on whether to include a statement regarding the actual reason for calling the meeting was taken in response to the motion to insert the following statements (Hill/Arrant): The Senate raised issues concerning the performance and responsiveness of the Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs. President Bruno stated the present meeting was not the venue to discuss performance issues. The motion carried with a vote of 15 in favor of the inclusion of these statements, and three against. With these corrections the minutes were approved (Walker/Hill).

#### **Committee Reports :**

A. The **Executive Board** of the Faculty Senate met with the Deans of the University and Dr. Eric Pani on April 17, 2012 from 12:30-2:00, in the Library. We were told that we'd met the requirements of the GRAD Act, and this was good news. The Budget news however was disheartening, and what we were shown would be the focus of President Bruno and Dr. Eric Pani's invited visit with the FS later in the meeting. It was noted that this budget was made available to ULM on Saturday, April 14, 2012, that the Dean's had it Sunday, that they shared their information with Department Heads on Monday, April 16, and the EB was seeing what was/is known on Tuesday. The Deans addressed what their immediate responses have been, and Dr. Pani outlined the next steps being proposed in terms of college vetting via budget and steering committees.

B. **Faculty Advisory Council** (composed of representatives from all UL System Faculty Senates) passed a resolution modeled after ULM's FS resolution opposing Jindal's changes to higher education's retirement system, and forwarded that resolution to the Senate Retirement Committee. The FAC is scheduled to meet again Tuesday, April 24, 2012.

C. **Academic Standards** put together a quick poll for faculty and students regarding the proposed change to the grading system to include plus and minus grades, and will report the results at our next meeting (May 17, 2012).

D. **Elections** announced new senators in the College of Arts and Sciences as Jana Giles and Lesli Pace, with Christine Strunk being re-elected. The new senator in the College of Business is Hollis Bray. The new senator in the College of Pharmacy is David Caldwell. The Senate thanked Joseph Feldhaus for his years of service to the Faculty and Senate, particularly his work on the Constitutions and By-laws, Faculty Welfare, and Elections Committees.

E. **Faculty Welfare** was charged with investigating the proposed changes to Faculty Face-book, and other Social Media use policies.

F. **Faculty Handbook** recommended that the FS approve that the Executive Board of the FS continue to work on revisions to the handbook for completion and approval in lieu of the whole senate, through the summer, and/or to bring significant revisions to the attention to the FS at the first meeting of Fall 2012 for full Senate action.

#### **New Business:**

President Bruno and Dr. Eric Pani arrived at 1:10 p.m. in response to the invitation to address the FS about the budget. While many Senators were forced to leave due to class schedules and appointments at 2:00, those who were able to, stayed to 2:40 to listen, absorb, and begin translating the impact of what was shared. President Bruno began with a brief discussion of some of the things from our last meeting that he had given attention to: salary recovery and indirect cost returns to departments/programs, incentivizing research and the formalizing of these policies in a *white paper*. He then sketched the places where University money swims: the three pools known as the operating fund, auxiliary funds, and restrictive funds, explaining what aspects of the University's functions reside in which budget pools. He also explained how some "traditional revenue sources" are being threatened (dual-enrollment computations, and non-resident online student computations in the ways in which the Board counts enrollment figures). Dr. Eric Pani distributed a large sheet with state formula categories on it, and explained how these are averaged and calculated. The

discussion over this emphasized strategic targeting of programs that provide the University with the biggest return, what the actual % of the formula that is actually returned/given to the University (42%), and the increased value of post-baccalaureate degree certificates as counting as graduate credit hours. The encouragement was for proposals for certificate programs. Dr. Pani then turned our attention (shortly before 2:00) to the second large sheet, and we were guided through the general fund budgeted amounts spanning 2009-2010, 2010-2011, & 2011-2012; the SCH totals by colleges over the same three years, with notation of changes done in percentages showing red for decreases, black for increases; the FTE Faculty Positions by College, and their changes were noted in the same fashion, for Fall 2009, Fall 2010, and Fall 2011. Budgeted Personal (shouldn't that be personnel?) Services-BOR 4 (Salaries and other compensations) were shown by College for the same period with a notation of changes done in the same fashion, for the Fiscal years 2010, 2011 & 2012, juxtaposed with the Part-time/Overload Expenditures shown for those same three Fiscal years. The final chart on the left side of the page, reported Formula Funds for the Colleges, for 2009-2010, 2010-2011, 2011-2012, with the changes by college noted in percentages, as negative (decreased) or positive (increase). These charts were the lead up to explaining how and by what factors the decisions on how to distribute the cuts by College had been made, and the right side of the page showed a 2-factor performance based cut, vs. a 3-factor performance based cut, and how these percentages were seen as equitable. In the center of this big page were two small charts that essentially were used to show us that the College of Pharmacy does not factor into the Performance-cuts, the other Colleges have, and how these Performance Cut percentages are part of the 2-factor and 3-factor master plan. Dr. Pani noted they are open to all ideas, invited conversations and meetings with him, and advocated his open-door policy.

President Bruno and Dr. Eric Pani were thanked for their visit, and the meeting adjourned at 2:43.

Respectfully submitted,

C. Turner Steckline, Faculty Senate Secretary

- **\*indicates excused absence;**
- **Name/Name indicates Moved/Seconded**
- **\*\* indicates hard copy provided as well**