

**Minutes of Faculty Senate Meeting
Thursday, October 15, 2009
Admin Rm 2-91, ULM Campus
12:30-2:00 p.m.**

Senators Present: J. Anderson, D. Chandler,

3. A sign-up sheet will be circulated among senators for snacks and drinks for the designated date.

Meeting dates will be Oct 28 (2-4 pm) and Oct 29th (11-1pm). A sign-up sheet for food was circulated.

Faculty Advisory Council: Senator Rhorer reported that the next meeting will be Oct 23 in

- 4. Student Success:** President Walker read Senator Brown's report in her absence. The committee is currently working on recommending a self-study looking at the first and second year experiences of students. The key considerations that have been discussed and are being further researched are: integration to build stronger relationships, extension of University 101 to include the second semester, programs needed to combat home-sickness, retention, advising, and withdrawals without advisor approval. The task force has requested data on the following: non-returning students by parish, average financial aid of beginning students, ACT averages from 2006-2009, average GPA after first semester, developmental statistics compared to returning and non-returning students, and drop/fail/withdrawal rates for: Math 093, 111; Biology 114, 120; English 090, 101; and Chemistry 107.
- 5. Curriculum Review:** Senator Chandler reported that the committee is looking at articulation. Chandler reported that they discussed the impact of raising ACT scores at the University to allow students with lower ACT scores to go to CC.
- 6. Revenue Generation:** Senator Parker reported that the committee is working on policies for generating funds from consulting to ensure ULM to get a percentage and faculty to get most. Currently, ULM does not have a mechanism to collect. FS went into Executive Session upon motion by Senator Matusiak with a second by Senator Rhorer. Motion to return to general session (Matusiak/ Rhorer). Senator Grinnell reported that in Germany and at other universities in US ways to increase revenue was to offer 1st semester free for freshmen. The students returning have great retention.

Unfinished Business:

Memoriam to Cynthia (Cindy) Dopson Morris Bennett

We worked alongside Cindy Morris Bennett from August, 1998 until her death in December, 2007. The nursing profession will continue to be influenced by Cindy for many years. Not only because of the many students she helped to educate, but because of her daughter Kylie Morris Brown who will graduate from ULM in December 2009 with a B.S. in Nursing. The administration, faculty, staff and students solute Cindy Morris Bennett for her contribution to the profession of nursing and her excellence as a nursing faculty member.

New Business:

ULM Faculty Senate Resolution: President Walker presented a draft of an ORP resolution. A suggestion for addition was to include that our retirement fell short of social security (SS) benefits. Senator Rhorer reported that ORP does not post retirement funds until 7 days. Other senators noted that this has often taken up to 14 days after it is withheld from our checks for the money to be deposited with ORP carriers. There is no built in disability coverage for members in the ORP plan as compared to those in the state teacher retirement plan. Faculty can purchase disability coverage at 50% of their salary. Concerns were discussed that the retirement is less than SS plan and that upon hiring we have to declare which option we want without full knowledge of the options. Senator Feldhaus asked if the concerns regarding ORP were being presented to Bob Eisenstadt. Senator Wilson expressed concerns as to why ORP has to go through TLRC. This question and concern is being raised and will go to FAC. This will require legislative action. Senator Rhorer reported that Prentiss Ferguson from Louisiana Federation of Teachers occasionally