

Loyola Marymount University

Faculty Senate Minutes

January 31, 2008

Collins Center

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Present: John Dorsey, Ellen Ensher, Rudy Fleck, Vicki Graf, Paul Harris, Christina Hennessey, Amir Hussain, Yvette Lapayese, Blake Mellor, Jennifer Offenberg, K. J. Peters, James Roe, Jonathan Rothchild, Susan Scheibler, Beth Serlin, Patrick Shanahan, Seth Thompson, and Phillip Wander.

Excused: Jeffery Davis, Patricia Douglas, Charles Erven, Sonny Espinoza, Jok Madut Jok, Lily Khadjavi, Gary Kulek, Chun Lee, Damon Rago, Nina Reich, and Mel Mendelson.

### **Welcome**

President Peters called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. A moment of silence was observed.

Call for approval of the January 17, 2007 meeting minutes.

### **Approval of Minutes**

**Motion 1: Approval of 1/17/08 minutes.**

**Motion passed: 16 for, 0 opposed, 0 abstain**

### **Announcements**

- The ESOF wiki page with the archived reports can be accessed at <http://LMU-ESOF.wikispaces.com>. This is one of the hardest working committees on campus and their reports are excellent.
- ManeGate will be replaced within one year. A document explaining the steps that will take place was provided. The new system will be open sourced, less expensive and supported by other universities. The switch over will be complete by Christmas.
- St. Roberts – earthquake safe? This question was brought to the attention Lynne Scarboro who found research providing convincing evidence of safety. St. Roberts has had permits pulled in last 12 years and nothing has been brought up. Further investigation into this will continue.
- Stone Soup welcoming Provost Burcham Feb 19 (3:30-6:00) The new provost is making the rounds and he has proven to have an open door policy.
- The LMU intellectual property policy committee has been announced:  
Joe Hellige, VP Research and Graduate (Chair)  
Drew Bridges, University Counsel  
Marilyn Beker, Film and Television  
Fr. Martin Connell, Education  
Rudy Fleck, Art and Art History  
Lee Petherbridge, Law  
Jeff Sanny, Science and Engineering  
Seth Thompson, Political Science

The committee includes two faculty senators, the lawyer for the trustees, and an intellectual property specialist from Loyola Law School.

- Honors Program Director Application deadline is February 5, 2008, at 5pm.
- Jok Jok needs a replacement for the Spring.

### **Reports**

#### **1) WASC Study Report**

- Dr. Margaret Kasimatis joined the senate to discuss the WASC special visit scheduled for April 2-4 2008. She began by emphasizing this is a focused not a general visit. The provided cover letter outlined the four issues the report provides evidence of progress on. These issues are Creating a Culture of Evidence,

Linking Long-Range Financial Planning to Learning, Enhancing Whole-Person Education and Education in Service of Faith, and Creating a Learning Organization. She is now in the process of presenting the report to various groups to get a sense if the report addresses these issues.

- The report tries to tell a story and describes the changing nature of LMU. There has been a 35% faculty increase over 8 years and significant reorganization of administration. The university is taking a long term approach focusing on building infrastructure and creating processes to handle ongoing changes. There is not a lot of tangible evidence, but it does show seriousness.
- Specific evidence includes reflection on data and using it to guide improvement. One great example is the revision of the core curriculum process. Also mentioned were capacity building activities, progress linking financial planning to learning, and forwarding whole person education through activities such as Mission Day and last years mission survey. Under creating a learning organization, we are working towards our big goals as a university. The building of infrastructure and development of the Climate for Faculty to Thrive Report demonstrates the reflection on data and planning for improvement.

## Discussion

Q. There is a long list of exhibits in the report where are these?

A. The final draft with all of the exhibits will be posted shortly on the website with hyperlinks.

Q. What is the end point of the timeline for information included in the report?

A. The report is still constantly being updated including debriefings.

Comment: Since there is some disconnect with the budget process, the report could include the addition of the new Provost and what his role will be in the process.

Q. Is there an external review of WASC?

A. Yes, they just went through a review.

Q. I suspect that they didn't look at the academic resources allocated to the WASC review?

A. WASC has been a leader in transforming the review process and they view their primary goal as helping the university. WASC is us; the reviewers are faculty and administrators from other universities. The same way you want your research to be subject to peer review, we want the university subject to the same review process.

## 2) ESOF Report

- There is currently no official plug in for the ESOF report in the budgeting process, so we would like to create an in-formal plug-in distributing the report to faculty. Michael Mills joined the senate to address the main points of the ESOF Report. Faculty increases are equal to ½ of the CPI, and the CPI is ½ of student tuition increase. Faculty thought that the general increase was tied to the CPI to keep up with inflation, but the administration has never endorsed this view. General merit is tied to comparable universities not the CPI. The protection of purchasing power is also not considered by the university.
- Government methods of calculating the CPI have been changed several times and each time the result is a lower reported CPI compared to the previous calculation. The dollar has a value of \$.07 today as compared to 1925 and since 2002 there has been a 72% loss on composite. In terms of housing there has been a 250% increase in home prices in Westchester since 2004.

## Discussion

Q. Why is the price of tuition going up nationally?

A. There are more applicants each year creating more demand for fewer spots driving the price up.

Comment: The level of technology in classrooms and info structure are also changing. The enterprise is much different.

Comment: Some universities offer COLA (Cost of Living Adjustments) but here at LMU they do not.

Q. Does this report have a place to go?

A. President Peters will be meeting with CAO Rose and Rebecca Chandler next week.

Comment: Los Angeles is 18% higher than the comparable universities and many faculty simply can't afford to purchase a home here.

Comment: If the administration is tied to using comparables they should utilize universities that use COLA.  
Comment: I'm interested if administrator salaries have been looked at and if these are available?

Comment: The University is not protecting salaries or retirement from inflation as money can not be put in gold or commodities.

### 3) Presentation of Revised Handbook and Motions

- The timeline on this is to formally present the motions this week and mail out to all faculty by Friday. Two weeks will be allowed for revision, discussion and finally a vote. The philosophy is a disregarded handbook has no force of law and therefore must be accurate and stronger to protect faculty. There should be a strategy that the handbook you come in with is the one you will use unless the individual finds one that better suits.
- Three steps:
  1. Create a standing committee known as The Faculty Handbook and Academic Life Committee to attend to the handbook and monitor addenda.
  2. Make revisions manageable and look at only elements referenced by faculty contracts.
  3. Establish one authoritative copy published on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of July each year which will be housed in the library archives.

Comment: The four motions are sequential therefore the senate must pass according to this structure.

Comment: I applaud this revision and view the Academic Life function as critical in moving forward.

**Motion 2:** Move that the Faculty Senate direct the Faculty Senate president to draft a clear and eloquent cover letter to accompany the faculty handbook motions to be sent to the faculty.

**Motion passed: 14 for, 0 opposed, 0 abstain**

Comment: While we are waiting for the final presenter, I would like to remind everyone that that Chad Drier is giving a talk and I encourage faculty to attend.

Comment: Gender Equity study is currently underway.

Comment: This has taken too long; we need to set a deadline with Human Resources to have this completed. I will recommend a deadline of April 5, 2008.

Q: Who is looking at this data?

A: Not completely sure.

Comment: The second meeting of the Task Force on Rank and Tenure is scheduled for tomorrow and Provost Dave Burcham will be in attendance. We will be setting up a ManeGate channel for communication purposes.

Q: Has there been any response about teaching a summer course with 6 students and if the course runs if 3 are nonpaying (tuition remission)?

A: The answer is no it will not run.

Comment: Some children of faculty were awarded Arrupe scholarships, but afterwards the financial award was taken away.

Comment: Arrupe award letter receivers should contact Vicki Graf.

Comment: Dr. Stephanie August must have not been able to make it, however does anyone have any issues for Technology Trustees meeting?

Comment: As a chair I can't get a list of replacement computers for faculty. IT needs to be open with this list for faculty planning purposes.

Comment: Ernie Rose still hasn't offered a summary of his evaluation to the faculty. Do we follow through requesting feedback be presented?

Q. What is the status evaluation presentations for the Deans?

A. Two have yet to make presentations to faculty.

Comment: This whole process needs to be pushed forward. Maybe the CAO could be present at the Dean's evaluations.

Q. Who is on the senate committee on evaluation? Maybe they should address this.

A. Paul Harris, Susan Scheibler, and Phillip Wander also volunteered.

**Motion 3: Move to adjourn**

**Motion passed: 13 for, 0 opposed, 0 abstain**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00pm.

Submitted by: Patrick Shanahan

Prepared by: Robert Houghtaling