

**LAMAR STATE COLLEGE-PORT ARTHUR FACULTY SENATE  
MINUTES – March 5, 2013  
STUDENT CENTER, ROOM 422**

**Attendance:**

**Academic**

\*Michelle Askew  
Gene Byrd  
Sally Griffin Byrd  
Damon Gengo  
Kim Jones  
Michelle Judice  
\*Grace Megnet  
Laura Stafford  
Mavis Triebel

**Technical**

\*Carolyn Brown  
\*Eursula Davis  
\*Mark Douglas  
Sheila Guillot  
Cindy Guidry  
\*Kathy Guidry  
\*Aaron Horne  
Sherry Lejeune  
\*Shirley MacNeill  
\*Mary Mulliner  
Ed Quist

**Adjunct**

James Pitre  
\*Ken Carona

**Staff**

Karon Jackson

**Guest Speaker**

Darren Bertin  
Sherry Steele

**Alternate(s)**

Jamie Clark

\*Denotes Absence

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**Call to Order**

Cindy Guidry, President, called the meeting to order at 2 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes**

Minutes were accepted as printed with a motion by Michelle Judice and seconded by Laura Stafford.

**Correspondence**

Correspondence was received by Dr. Stretcher regarding the TCCTA Great Teaching Round-Up. Grace Megnet and Shirley MacNeill sent messages that they would not be able to attend the meeting. Carolyn Brown sent a report on the Gayle Sims Scholarship.

**Old Business**

No old business.

## **New Business**

Tribute Fund: No Report.

Guest Speakers: Darren Bertin and Sherry Steele were guest speakers for the meeting. Darren distributed a flow chart showing the process involved in the new TSI test. The TSI will replace all other tests currently given (Compass, ASSET, etc.). The TSI will be uniform across the state of Texas. All students will take this exam. In addition, the state determines the scores for the test. Every school will have to use these scores. If students register before the first day of the fall semester, they will not take the TSI, they will take the Compass. Beginning with the first day of the fall semester, students will take the TSI. There will be a charge for this exam. The price has not been determined yet. Sherry Steele is currently working on creating an adult education class for students who do not meet the state standard on the TSI.

## **Committee Reports**

Academic Issues: No Report.

Awards Nominations: No Report.

Facilities: Sherry Lejeune stated that Mr. Neal had sent her correspondence regarding the purchase of a copier for students to use in the Student Center. In his correspondence, he stated (1) that there had not been any requests by students for a copier, (2) personnel would be needed to take care of the copier, (3) it would cost Student Services \$100-\$125/month to take care of the machine (which would be approximately \$1,464/annually), and (4) the library has personnel, etc. already in place for copying machines for student use.

Faculty Development Welfare: No Report.

Faculty & Campus Relations: No Report.

Finance/Compensation: No Report.

Gayle Sims Scholarship: Carolyn Brown sent a report stating that the newly-named scholarship, LSC-PA Educators Memorial Scholarship, now has \$950 in the account.

## **Ad-hoc Committees:**

Social Committee: No Report.

Relay for Life: Kim Jones reported that our team has reached Silver Team Status. We have raised \$4,500 for Relay for Life. We are just a few dollars away from reaching the Gold Team Status. Registration has

started and Kim asked that faculty encourage students to join the team. She said that registration ends on March 27. In addition, on March 27, the campus will begin the annual Easter basket auction. All proceeds will go to the Relay for Life. Concessions will be handled by the Relay for Life team during the Distinguished Lecture Series on April 15.

The faculty senate will donate a basket to the auction. Ed Quist was asked to head up this ad-hoc committee. All members are asked to donate items for our basket.

TSUS Update: Mavis Triebel reported that 14 people were present for the update. Elections were held and Mavis Triebel was elected president for another two years. Dr. Moore said that the legislative session is better than previous sessions. There is more money for the state. There is \$11 billion in the rainy day fund. The legislature is supporting performance funding over formula funding. Fixed tuition and a \$10,000 degree were discussed also. Concerns over concealed handguns were discussed.

TCFS Update: In the last two years, Texas has noticed that we are not attracting new businesses. We are not providing the best prepared students for jobs. In Texas, only 23 percent hold degrees. House Bill 25 (Performance Funding) and House Bill 29 (Fixed tuition) were discussed. The Coordinating Board is doing less scrutinizing on new programs being developed. The Core Curriculum has been lowered to 42 hours. The new Core Curriculum is to be implemented by fall of 2013.

LUB Faculty Senate: Mavis Triebel attended the Lamar University Senate meeting. She stated that there are three candidates in the running for the President position. Discussion was held on the problem with the faculty handbook. There is only one faculty member on the committee and 30 administrators. They will also be putting *Robert's Rules of Order* on their website along with their Senate information. They are paying \$25,000 to link Blackboard and Banner.

LIT Faculty Senate: No Report.

LSCO Faculty Senate: No Report.

Executive Committee Report: Dr. Sam Monroe, Dr. Gray Stretcher, Cindy Guidry, Michelle Judice, and Sheila Guillot met to discuss events on campus on February 26, 2013.

Items discussed included:

- The Board of Regents meeting was good for the campus. We received approval for our four new programs. These programs have gone to the Coordinating Board for approval. They are:
- AAS in Medical Coding
- AAS in Graphic Design
- AAS in Sound Design for Visual Media
- Certificate in Live Sound in Electronics
- We received approval to buy the 2.2 acres across the street. We need final approval from the Coordinating Board. The purchase will be used for either parking or dormitories.

- The dormitory project continues to progress. The Port Arthur EDC and the Port Arthur City Council approved amending the city statute to say “student housing” versus “affordable housing.”
- We have a contract with the Academic Partnership. This is a great opportunity for the campus. Dr. Stretcher has done a great job with this program. Several programs—Criminal Justice, Business Administration, Teaching, and General Academic Studies—will give us further outreach through more online programs.
- The online nursing program has been so successful for the campus.
- The legislature is still in session. On February 13, we met with the House Committee. The atmosphere is different from the last six years. It is much better, more positive, and forward looking.
- House Bill 1 has provided us with a \$1.6 million increase for the two-year biennium.
- Senate Bill 1 has provided us with a \$1.7 million increase for the two-year biennium. Interest has been shown in paying the \$500,000 premium for the campus.
- The Tuition Revenue Bond request to expand the nursing building looks promising. The building would be increased by 5,500 square feet.
- The basketball team is still in the regular season. They qualified for the Region 14 tournament in Tyler. On February 26 they play Jacksonville.
- The softball team is doing better than they were. They have won a few more games.
- The Gulf Coast Gala will be held on April 27. The guest entertainer will be Tony Orlando.
- The Planning Committee Hearings will be held on March 27-28. The plans are due to Dr. Stretcher by March 6.
- There will be a new placement test beginning with the first day of the fall semester. We will use the new state test instead of the Compass test. The state will establish cut scores for the new test. We will not be able to change the scores.
- We are continuing to work on the core curriculum for the academic degrees.
- Citizen Bee is next Thursday night (March 7).
- We are finishing up the SACS report (due April 1). We will hear the results from this report by June and will get our accreditation confirmed.
- We are working on the nursing programs—we need to hit an 80 percent pass rate this year; we are at 79.4 percent pass rate right now.

Refreshments were provided by Sherry Lejeune, Karon Jackson, Kim Jones, and Damon Gengo.

Being no further comments, the meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Sheila Guillot, Secretary

