Meeting
Regular meeting of the full senate, 3:30 p.m., Simulation Center, School of Medicine. [Note: this meeting marked a return to the tradition of holding a spring meeting on the downtown campus.]

Presiding: The chair, President Cowen.

Attendance
Ex Officio: Cowen (pres/chair), Long (vice chair), Bernstein (provost), Sachs (svp, dean SOM), Lorino (CFO), Y. Jones (exec vp, Barrera (chair, SAC), Mackin (secr), Wiese (parl)
Deans: Query (Libraries), MacLaren (NTC), Marksbury (SCS), Haber (SLA), Buekens (SPHTM), Altiero (SSE)
A. B. Freeman School of Business: M. Sujan (also proxy for H. Sujan)
Newcomb-Tulane College: Kalka
Architecture:
Continuing Studies: Green, McLennan
Law: Davies, Hancock
Liberal Arts: Hill (proxy for Masquelier), Cole (also proxy for Rothenberg), Mayer, Thompson
Medicine: Reitan, Doucet (also proxy for Mushatt), S. Landry, DeSalvo, Betancourt
Public Health and Tropical Medicine: Hutchinson, Hassig, Rice (proxy for Lefante)
Science and Engineering: Colombo, Walker, Tasker
Social Work: Pearlmutter
Student Senators:
Staff Senators: O’ Dwyer (proxy for Hayes)
Senators at Large: Kehoe, Kahn, Carroll, Lesmond, John

Invited Guests: Wilson (chair, Athletics), Tornqvist (chair, Libraries), McMahon (vp, info tech), Mitchell and Lopez (assoc provosts), Conwell (chief of staff)
Absent Senators: Clinton , DeNisi , Schwartz, Griffin, Marks, McFarland, V. Jones, Bernhard, Scalise, Horowitz, Bunnell, Schmehl, Lewis, Leverage, Wendt, Aronson, Blainey, Platner, Ruscher, Robins, Purington

Agenda Changes
President Cowen requested approval for three changes to the agenda: The election of a senate secretary and the annual reports of the committees on Information Technology and Physical Facilities would be postponed until the next meeting. Those changes were approved unanimously.

Minutes
The minutes of the meeting on February 1, 2010, were approved without change.

Elections
Senator Martin Davies was elected vice chair by acclamation. His two-year term will begin in academic year 2010-11.
The following senators were elected to the Committee on Committees for two-year terms, also beginning in academic year 2010-11:
Mita Sujan, A. B. Freeman School of Business
Lance Green, School of Continuing Studies
Aline Betancourt, School of Medicine
Paul Columbo, School of Science and Engineering

President’s Report
President Cowen began by asking Benjamin Sachs, senior vice president for health sciences and dean of the School of Medicine, to explain the facility in which the senate was meeting.

Vice President Sachs said that the floor on which the senate was meeting contained the Center for Simulations and Team Training. Simulations included an emergency room, an operating room, and a labor and delivery room. The facility also included clinical offices, computerized manikins, one-way glass observation areas, and videotaping capabilities. The center is used for training students and faculty. He explained that the faculty members also had to keep their skills honed.

The second part of the center, team training, was based on concepts developed by NASA, the Air Force, and others to improve safety and management of resources. The training also made use of simulations. On the floor below, Dean Sachs said, were classrooms, but these classrooms were not the usual lecture halls. Because medical science changes so rapidly, the emphasis was on learning for life, that is, learning to continue to learn. Using interactive software, the students practice team-based learning, problem-based learning, and just-in-time learning.

After Dean Sachs completed his description of the facility, President Cowen recommended that the senators tour the building after the senate meeting. The president said he had no significant information to present since the last meeting, and he then took questions from the floor.

Senator Pearlmuter asked how units could plan now for hiring after the freeze ended. President Cowen said that deans were developing multi-year hiring plans and reviewing those plans with the provost. He said that the administration was still weighing how long the freeze would last. He noted that many peer institutions had resorted to reductions in faculty size, rather than a freeze.

Committee Reports

Committee on Athletics
Professor Wilson, chair of the committee, summarized the committee’s written report, which had been distributed to the senate. He said the committee had no appeals from student athletes. As chair of the committee, he had attended board meetings on athletics. The chief issues discussed were restoration of the remaining programs required by the NCAA and athletic facilities.

Committee on Libraries
Professor Tornqvist, committee chair, discussed his written report, which had also been previously distributed to the senate. He addressed the two major topics of that report: expansion plans for the Howard-Tilton Memorial Library and issues concerning collections and budgets involving all of the Tulane libraries.

The Howard-Tilton Library still requires remediation from the effects of Hurricane Katrina. The plan is to add two floors to replace the basement, which, together with its contents, was heavily flooded. Funding for that plan will depend upon negotiations with FEMA. An additional issue is the general shortage of space in Howard-Tilton. Solutions to that problem remain in the planning stage. Professor Tornqvist noted that the opening of the learning commons on the ground floor had been very successful and plans were underway to repeat the concept elsewhere.

Professor Tornqvist reported comparative statistics on budgets for collections and personnel. Among 113 members of the Association of Research Libraries, Tulane ranked 84th in expenditures for library materials and 109th in total salaries and wages. He said the short-term goal was to keep up with the level of inflation in materials, which was running at about 8 percent a year. Additionally, some personnel issues needed to be addressed.

Finally, he noted some concerns about the professional libraries that required attention, particularly in business and law.

Senator Carroll asked about plans to expand the learning commons. Dean Query said those plans would eventually involve making most of
the first floor, with the exception of technical services, into a learning commons. He reemphasized the popularity of the commons with students.

Senator Carroll followed up by asking what effect those plans would have on faculty and graduate student carrels. Dean Query said he did not expect a net gain or loss in carrels.

**Committee on Student Affairs**

Senator Kahn gave a brief oral report on behalf of the committee he chairs. His written report had been previously distributed to the senate. He said most of the committee’s work had focused on the new Student Code of Conduct, which the senate had discussed at length in its previous two meetings. He said his committee had also reviewed plans for a second residential college and for a “Tulane Community Care” program, involving a position in the office of student affairs to identify students at risk and take preventive action.

**Adjournment**

With no new business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m., allowing the senators to tour the facility.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Mackin, Secretary

**Secretary’s Note:** All written reports mentioned in the minutes, together with the full text of approved Handbook revisions and other policy changes, will be available on the senate Web site, http://www.tulane.edu/~usenate/.