Meeting

Regular meeting of the full senate, 3:15 PM, 3rd Floor Simulation Center, Tulane University Medical School. 50 members were present.

Presiding: The chair, President Cowen.

Attendance:

Ex Officio: S. Cowen, M. Davies, M. Bernstein, B. Sachs, T. Lorino, Y. Jones, G Chavez, C. Adams

Deans: R. Marksbury, C. Haber, N. Altiero, R. Marks

A. B. Freeman School of Business: H. Sujan, M Sujan, J. McFarland

Newcomb-Tulane College: M. Kalka

Architecture: None

Continuing Studies: L. Green, K. McLennan

Law: R. Scalise, C. Hancock, J. Carriere


Medicine: L. Morici, R. Reitan, M. Kahn (as proxy for D. Mushatt and K. DeSalvo), S. Landry, A. Betancourt

Public Health and Tropical Medicine: H. Long, S. Hassig, J. Lefante, N. Mock

Science and Engineering: P. Colombo, C. Walker, D. Mullin

Social Work: L. Pearlmutter, M Lewis

Student Senators: E. Nicoll, B Hambley, M. Lewis,

Staff Senators: None

Senators at Large: V. John, M. Kahn, J Ruscher, D. Mullen (as proxy for J. Tasker), V. Mayer (as proxy for T. Tornqvist)

Absent Voting Senators:


Minutes:

The minutes of the April 25th meeting were approved without amendment. The minutes are posted on the Senate Wiki under both the April and May meeting agendas.

President’s Report

The President reported that as of May 1, 2011, 1,726 deposits had been received for undergraduate admission, a number that was likely to go up by 50-60 more. The final number of the entering class is expected to be in the low 1600s because of the phenomenon known as “summer melt”. The credentials of the incoming class were outstanding: 48 states are represented and 20 countries. Provost Bernstein added that plans are already underway to allocate extra funds for the purpose of
recruiting adjuncts to cope with the larger-than-expected class.

community members who have expressed interest in this issue.”

The amendment was seconded by L. Pearlmutter.

Two guest students spoke on behalf of TUPAC urging that a more far-reaching labor code of conducted be adopted than that suggested by the Committee on Social Issues. R. Marksbury opposed the amendment, pointing out that Sodexo workers are free to unionize and arguing that it is not for the Senate to get involved in these issues.

After a motion was made to call the question, the amendment passed by a vote of 26-12. It was noted that the motion was to accept the report, not to endorse it.

After a motion to call the question in relation to the main motion, the motion as amended passed.

The President then said he wished to make three comments: 1) To require the Secretary to post on the Senate Wiki all the correspondence that he had received in relation to this matter, so that all points of view on this issue could be made public; 2) At the first meeting in the Fall of 2011, the Committee on Social Issues will have to report back to the Senate on the course of action that it plans to take; 3) The Trans-Africa Council Report referred to by one of the student speakers had been passed on to legal counsel and the President will circulate a memo drawn up in response.
NEW BUSINESS

1. Second Reading, Amendment to the By-Laws; By-Law III, Section M

M. Davies provided a second reading of the proposed amendment, which would insert a current “standing rule” into the by-laws with respect to the membership of the two sub-committees of the Research Committee.

The amendment was adopted unanimously.

2. Second Reading, Amendment to the Constitution; Article V, Section 3

M. Davies provided a second reading of a proposed amendment to the Constitution, which would insert a current “standing rule” into the constitution which would read, “Faculty positions and standing committees of the University Senate are reserved for regular faculty members whose teaching and/or research activities constitute a majority of their University responsibilities.”

The amendment was adopted unanimously.

3. Second Reading, Amendment to the Constitution; Article VI

M. Davies provided a second reading of a proposed amendment to the Constitution, which would insert a current “standing rule” into the constitution which would read, Section 1: "Regular meetings of the University Senate are limited to senators and invited guests”; Section II: “(b) An open meeting of the University Senate could be called by the chair or by two thirds of the voting membership of the University Senate. (c) Open meetings of the Senate may be audio-taped and video-taped only by the secretary of the Senate.”

The proposed amendment to Section 1 re-words the text to further clarify that it is the Chair of the Senate, and not the Secretary, who may postpone a Senate meeting based upon insufficient business to be conducted.

The amendment was adopted unanimously.

4. Second Reading, Amendment to the Constitution; Article V, Section 5

M. Davies provided a second reading of a proposed amendment to the Constitution, which would insert a current “standing rule” into the constitution which would read, Section 1: “(d) Formal records of formal actions of Senate committees are to be made available to the Chair of the Senate upon request.

The proposed amendment to Section 5 also strikes, “with a sufficient number of copies for distribution to the Senate membership,” as paper distribution has been replaced by electronic communication.

The amendment was adopted unanimously.

5. Second Reading, Amendment to the Constitution, Article II, Section 7

M. Davies provided a second reading of a proposed amendment to the Constitution, which would insert a
current “standing rule” into the constitution which would read, Section 7: “(d) Elected senators whose schedules determine they will be unable to attend three or more meetings of the senate should be replaced according to procedures determined by the division from which they are elected. The Dean of the division should notify the secretary of the Senate the name of the replacement and duration of the term prior to the first meeting the replacement is scheduled to attend.”

The amendment was adopted unanimously.

6. Senate Approval of the LEED Document

V. John presented the LEED Document, “Green Building Design and Construction Standards& Guidelines”, which clarifies the University’s commitment, standards and practices for sustainable design and building. The contents of the document were endorsed unanimously.

Adjournment

Having no additional new business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Martin Davies
Vice President and Acting Secretary
Tulane University Senate

Acting Secretary’s Note: All written reports mentioned in the minutes, together with the full text of approved Handbook revisions and other policy changes, and the correspondence referred to by President Cowen, are available on the Tulane University Senate Wiki location at: tulanesenate.pbworks.com.