Call to Order
President Rick Breslin called the meeting to order at 3:35pm.

Call of the Role
Secretary Miriam Joseph called the roll.

Approval of Minutes
The minutes of the February 15, 2005 Faculty Senate meeting were approved.

President’s Report
R. Breslin stressed the importance of attendance at all Senate meetings, noting significant votes on the schedule of the April 26th meeting.

New Faculty Senate Attendance Policy: Effective with the April 26th Senate meeting, there will be no excused absences if no substitute attends. Senators were reminded of the Senate Bylaw that says that senators will forfeit their seats if they or a designated alternate misses two meetings during one academic year.

ITS Appropriate Use Policy: The proposed policy revision will be discussed today and voted on at the April 26th Senate meeting.

Senate Bylaw Amendments: Proposed amendments regarding Faculty Senate representation following reorganizations will be discussed today. The amendments will be voted on at the April 26th Senate meeting.

Academic Integrity Report: This document, prepared by the Senate Academic Affairs Committee, is very important and will be discussed at the April 26th Senate meeting.

Senate Vote on Faculty Manual Revision: Senators were reminded that the revised Faculty Manual will be put to a Senate vote at the April 26th Senate meeting. Senators will be asked to provisionally approve the Manual with authority ceded to the EC for approval of subsequent changes made prior to the May 2005 Board of Trustees vote.

Salary Study: The determination of how to do this is yet to be made. Discussion will begin at today’s meeting.

Proposed ITS policies on Personal Computer Security and Software Standards: Remain under review by a joint Senate-ITS committee, co-chaired for the Senate by Don Hardaway. Other faculty involved in this effort are Senators Steve Harris and Dennis Tuchler.

Search Committee for new VP for Development: Fr. Biondi has requested names of faculty who might serve on this search committee. Senators should send their recommendations to R. Breslin or any EC member within the next 10 days.
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<td><strong>New Building Updates</strong></td>
<td>Groundbreaking for the new School of Medicine Research Building is planned for around June 1st. There is no news on the status of fundraising for the arena.</td>
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<td><strong>Aquinas Institute Move</strong></td>
<td>The Institute is moving off-campus to a building at Laclede and Spring. O'Neil Hall may be used for classroom space.</td>
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<td><strong>Parking and Towing</strong></td>
<td>A new policy will be in effect as of April 15th. Cars will be towed only in exceptional circumstances, with other violations to be addressed by fines.</td>
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<td><strong>Presentation on Banner System and Pre-Registration</strong></td>
<td>J. Jaffrey explained the distribution of student registration and Pin numbers. He noted that only Summer/Fall 2005 registration is affected by Banner currently; other functions, such as student grading, will be made available over the summer. J. Jaffrey and his colleagues Laurinda Smith and Ellen Weis responded to questions on topics about Pin numbers for double majors and distance students, ITS help desk staffing on weekends during registration periods, overriding Banner to add students to courses, and faculty training sessions.</td>
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<td><strong>Presentation on Best Practices Initiative</strong></td>
<td>L. Bantle explained that the need for the University to “wisely allocate its resources to maintain efficiency and effectiveness in meeting its mission and goals” is the impetus for this initiative which will promote a culture of best practices that would decrease costs, and increase revenues and efficiencies. This initiative builds upon earlier recommendations by SLU faculty, staff, and students and will continue to involve input from all stakeholders. L. Bantle’s role is to coordinate the process including the participation of University stakeholders, explore “best practices” operating at other institutions, and implement projects. A new Web site soon will be available to facilitate two-way communication about best practice initiatives. The five initiatives identified as priorities are travel, purchasing, the budget process, the capital budget process, and review of internal service providers. The ensuing discussion focused on the travel initiative. L. Bantle said that an RFP has been issued for a new University travel agency that would offer online booking and integrate University travel policies into the booking system. The goals are to capture all costs related to travel that would, in turn, help in the negotiation of related corporate rates, streamline the expense report process, and improve customer service. L. Bantle and Gary Whitworth, Director of Financial Planning &amp; Budget responded to questions that included whether travel-related monies saved would be put toward the travel function or the general operating budget, whether the new travel agency would accommodate travel by means other than airline, restrictions on airline choices, whether non-economic considerations would be taken into account in making faculty travel plans, what is meant by “best” and for whom, what is planned regarding the capital budget process, and how faculty can be involved in the “best practices” initiative. R. Breslin recommended, and L. Bantle and G. Whitworth concurred, that the EC would appoint an ad hoc group to work initially with L. Bantle; that group could eventually become a standing committee. At its next meeting, the EC will discuss formation of an ad hoc committee.</td>
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<td><strong>Discussion of Salary-Related Issues</strong></td>
<td>R. Breslin reported that SLU faculty salaries now rank at the 50th percentile of AAUP salary levels. He said that the EC will identify and charge some group to work on this through the summer and prepare a report for discussion in September. He also said that Fr. Biondi recommends that the Provost and CFO also serve on this committee.</td>
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Senators raised the following issues and concerns in response to R. Breslin’s request for input:

- Faculty recruitment needs to be better supported financially;
- There should be gender equity in salaries;
- Salaries should be reviewed not only from an overall perspective, but also from the standpoint of rank and unit (R. Breslin noted that the Provost has established salary floors for the different ranks and has offered to support a salary study);
- Examine the escalation of health insurance costs vs. salary increases;
- Need for improved start-up funding to make SLU more competitive in recruitment and retention of faculty;
- Investigate salary compression/inversion among faculty;
- Recognize link between recruitment of new faculty and retention of veteran faculty;
- Make tuition exchange programs more widely accessible.

Senators should send their comments and suggestions to EC members by March 31st.

**ITS Appropriate Use Policy**

J. Griesbach provided background about the existing policy, which was approved in Fall 2002 by the President’s Coordinating Council (PCC) without Faculty Senate input, prior to current VP/CIO Ellen Watson’s arrival at SLU. In addition to J. Griesbach, Roger Goldman (Law), Don Hardaway (Business), and EC members Matt Mancini and J. Griesbach also worked on the policy revision. J. Griesbach stated that the draft policy distributed to senators today gave rise to inclusion of a strong privacy rights section in the Faculty Manual revision and must be approved by the Faculty Senate, as well as by Fr. Biondi and the PCC. A representative from the General Counsel’s office worked with the Senate/ITS group in drafting the proposed policy. J. Griesbach noted that it is a greatly changed document that eliminates as much open-ended ITS discretion as possible. The Senate will vote on the policy at the April 26th Senate meeting. M. Joseph will email the proposed policy revision to senators, who were asked to send their comments and suggestions to EC members by April 8th.

**Faculty Senate Bylaw Amendments**

M. Joseph reviewed the proposed bylaw amendments concerning Faculty Senate representation.

Proposed Bylaw Article II.2.e:

*In the case of a merger of schools or other units with Faculty Senate representation, the number of senators allocated to the merged entity will remain the same as the pre-merger total provided that the faculty assembly (or comparable body) of the merged entities commits in its bylaws to allocate the number of senators in a manner that reflects the pre-merger representation. Such allocation will be fixed for a period of 5 years (unless earlier review is requested by the faculty assembly of the merged entity), upon which time representation of the merged unit shall be as set out in Article II.2.d.*

*If the faculty assembly of the merged entity declines to commit to this allocation, the number of senators will be allocated based on the total number of faculty of the merged entity as set out in Article II.2.d.*

J. Griesbach observed that this new bylaw does not specify how election of senators is to occur and that, while this has been left to the discretion of the merged entities, the EC expects and encourages them to vote as a whole.
Faculty Senate Bylaw Amendments (continued)

M. Joseph noted that Bylaw Article II.2.a. also will require amendment, i.e.,

*The faculty of each of the following groups shall elect their senators: Allied Health Professions, Arts and Sciences, Business, Health Sciences, Law, Libraries, Medicine, Nursing, Parks, Professional Studies, Public Health, Public Service, and Social Service. Each Faculty may determine who may vote in the election of their Senators.*

She said that the Senate would need to amend this bylaw in Fall 2005 if the Board of Trustees approves the reorganization plan involving the College of Public Service, School for Professional Studies, and the School of Social Service.

M. Joseph observed that the existing wording of Bylaw Article VI.6. provides latitude such that no changes need to be made regarding Senate standing committee structure, i.e.,

*The standing committees of the Faculty Senate ordinarily will be composed of one representative from each of the groups identified in II.2.a.*

M. Reinking suggested that wording be added to proposed Bylaw Article II.2.e. to require that the merged entities vote as a whole. J. Griesbach provided the rationale for the five-year fixed allocation period.

The proposed amendments will be voted on at the April 26th Senate meeting. M. Joseph will email them to senators in advance of the 14-day notice required by the Senate Bylaws.

Faculty Manual Revision Update

R. Breslin stated that “crunch” time is approaching and that most of the new text is to the faculty’s advantage. Draft #5 will be posted on the Senate Web site on March 29th; the changes since Draft #4 will be highlighted in color. The *Manual* revision will be voted on at the April 26th Senate meeting. Senators should send any comments by email to EC members by April 8th.

M. Joseph

Senators

John A. Slosar Shared Governance Award

J. Donnelly presented a document outlining eligibility for and the process governing nominations and the selection of an award recipient. The deadline for nominations is April 8th. She will add this information to the document and send it via email to all SLU faculty. Nominations are to be sent to J. Donnelly.

J. Donnelly

Coro Leadership Center Award

R. Breslin noted that Fr. Biondi was selected to receive this prestigious civic award and suggested that, in the spirit of shared governance, the Faculty Senate send him a congratulatory note. The EC will frame this statement at its next meeting.

EC

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Miriam E. Joseph
Executive Secretary