February 20, 2001


CALL TO ORDER: President John Slosar called the meeting to order at 3:35 PM.

CALL OF THE ROLL: Executive Secretary Miriam Joseph called the roll.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the January 30, 2001, Faculty Senate meeting were approved with the following correction: Page 4: First Heading: Change the word “with” to “will.”

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE BY JOHN SLOSAR:

- Slosar reminded senators of the core curriculum survey conducted by the Senate’s Academic Affairs Committee and the survey’s finding that most respondents were in favor of a core curriculum of one form or another. The Senate asked the committee to meet with Provost Sandra Johnson to discuss the implications of the survey. Slosar read committee chairperson Ellen Carnaghan’s report to the Senate about that meeting.

As instructed by the Faculty Senate, the Academic Affairs committee met with Provost Sandra Johnson to discuss possible action to promote the kind of University-wide undergraduate core curriculum that the majority of faculty who responded to our survey supported. Sandra Johnson rejected the idea of a committee to design a University-wide undergraduate core that would then be submitted to the full faculty for discussion and a vote. She made it clear that any decisions about core curricula had to occur at the school or college level. Consequently, the Academic Affairs committee has decided to ask the curriculum and core curriculum committees in schools with undergraduates to meet with us to discuss our findings.

Sharon Homan, a member of the committee, said the committee would contact school and college curriculum committees and offer to make informational presentations of the survey findings to those groups.
Steve Harris registered an exception to Slosar’s characterization of the survey results. He noted that there was a consensus within the College of Arts & Sciences Faculty Council that the survey did not reveal among its respondents a majority in support of a university core curriculum. Harris noted that other interpretations of the survey results exist that contradict that characterization.

- Reported that the subcommittee on the revision of the Faculty Manual (Slosar, Kathryn Kuhn [chair, Governance Committee], and Andy Lonigro) met with the provost and agreed to set up a joint faculty-administration task force in each of two areas, i.e., Physician Services and Extramural Activities. Slosar said that the “one day a week” provision for consulting probably will stay in the Manual, but that reporting requirements will be tightened up and the definition of “one day of week” will be clarified. The task forces will make recommendations back to the Senate and the provost. The subcommittee’s next meeting with the provost is scheduled for February 23, 2001.

- The SLU North Central Association Task Force on Faculty has asked that senators respond to the brief questionnaire distributed on its behalf at today’s Senate meeting.

PRESENTATION OF SLATE OF NOMINEES FOR SPRING 2001 FACULTY SENATE ELECTIONS—John Slosar

Slosar noted that in 2001-2002, he will serve the Senate as past president in an ex officio, nonvoting capacity, that Randy Sprague will become president, and that the terms of current EC members Toby Benis (A&S) and Daphne Demello (Medicine) will continue for another year. The terms of Andy Lonigro (Medicine) and Fred Wolinsky (Public Health) expire this year.

On behalf of the Executive Committee (EC), Slosar presented the following slate of nominees for election at the April 17, 2001 Senate meeting:
For Secretary (one to be elected): Jeanne Donnelly (Allied Health) and Ian Redmount (Parks)
For Executive Committee (two to be elected): Rick Breslin (Public Service), John Griesbach (Law), Dorothy James (Nursing), Andy Lonigro (Medicine), and Fred Wolinsky (Public Health).

There were no additional nominations from the floor.

REVISION OF THE FACULTY SENATE BYLAWS

Miriam Joseph (chair) and Jeanne Donnelly of the Senate Governance Committee's Ad Hoc Committee on the Senate Constitution and Bylaws Revision, and Slosar led the presentation of the latest proposed revisions to the Bylaws. Joseph reviewed the recommended amendments, described in the document Faculty Senate Bylaws: Further Amendments, Recommended by the Senate Executive Committee, to the Proposed Revised Text Dated January 30, 2001 [Appendix A]. A motion to accept the amendments as presented in this document was made and approved unanimously. Next, a motion was made to accept the revised Bylaws dated January 30, 2001, with the just-approved amendments, as the Bylaws of the Faculty Senate. The motion was voted on and approved unanimously. Slosar thanked the subcommittee for its work.
GENERAL COMMENTS--John Slosar
Slosar said that he was very pleased by the cooperative and enthusiastic responses he received when he contacted the nominees for the open Senate positions to see if they would accept their nominations. He called it an indication of the newfound vitality of the Senate and went on to note some of the Senate’s recent accomplishments including the work of the Grievance Task Force and discussion of important issues in the Faculty Manual.

NEW BUSINESS
A question was raised concerning the elimination of staff positions at the Medical School. Tom Dahms and Randy Sprague related that, to their knowledge, most of the reductions were in the University Medical Group but that some also occurred in the basic science departments.

In response to a question concerning faculty salary increases, Slosar stated that he expected the actual percentages to be discussed in the forthcoming budget presentation.

REPORT ON THE FY2002 UNIVERSITY BUDGET --Rob Altholz, Vice President-Business and Finance, and Sandra Johnson, Provost
Altholz and Johnson focused on the university's general unrestricted budget of about $200M. The total SLU budget is about $400M, the difference accounted for by SLUCare, designated and sponsored programs, and restricted funds.

- Update of FY01:
  - General Operating Fund forecasted to break even
  - U.S. News names SLU a national best value
  - New Freshman Class
    - 1,398 on Frost and HSC campuses
    - Average ACT score is 26.1 (continues to increase)
    - Admit rate is 69.3% (continues to decrease)
    - 52% of freshmen came from more than 60 miles outside the St. Louis area
    - 90% of freshmen lived on campus this fall
- With a 6.8% tuition increase for FY01, SLU’s gross undergraduate tuition rate remains in the middle of Jesuit institutions and competitive with other private institutions.
- The President’s Coordinating Council (PCC) focused on these variables while developing the budget: Tuition rates, Discount rates, Compensation, Fixed or unavoidable costs, and Reductions and reallocations.
- FY02 tuition, room, and meal plan increases were presented. The undergraduate tuition increase will be 6.9%. Housing rates for double rooms will increase between 14.5% and 19.2%, depending upon location. Altholz that some of the housing increase reflects the physical improvements to the facilities. The average meal plan increase will be 3.0%.
The FY02 Freshman targeted class size is 1,360. The average ACT score is anticipated to be between 25.0 and 26.0. The admit rate is expected to be at or below 68% and should continue to decline. The targeted discount rate for incoming freshmen is 41%. SLU’s overall discount rate in FY01 is 24.5% and is expected to be 26.6% in FY02, keeping it comparable to other U.S. News Best Value institutions. The FY02 operating budget reflects a 2.1% increase over the FY01 budget. The increase is due primarily to increased new student financial aid in FY02 totaling about $6.6 million.

Compensation:
- 3.2% increase for full-time and part-time staff plus about $100,000 to establish a new minimum salary of $18,512 for full-time staff
- Including the second year of SLU 2000 funds (about 2.3%), an overall increase of 5.5% increase for full-time faculty (excluding UMG)
- An additional 0.5% retirement contribution for employees under 55 years, moving all employees, as of July 1, 2001, to 8.5%.
- SLU will realize significant savings from increased employee payments for prescription drug co-payments and health insurance deductibles and a significant increase in the employee contribution to the University Primary Care Plus Plan.

Fixed costs (i.e., mandated costs, interest, contingency, and depreciation) are budgeted at $3.4 million. The contingency for FY02 is expected to be $1.2 million.

Reductions and reallocations are budgeted at $1.8 million.

The FY2002 approved General Fund Operating Budget is $199,944,000 (vs the FY2001 year-end forecasted budget of $192,239,000).

Q&A: Johnson stated that the UMG is projected to have an $8 million deficit this year and that position reductions taking place (about 35 of them) will occur in the UMG, not in the academic or research areas. Another three positions were eliminated from the basic sciences, but for reasons other than the UMG deficit. She noted that the overall university operating budget is not in deficit, but that expenses need to be held down. She said that the institution has attempted to do this all along, and that positions will continue to be cut, especially in overhead areas and in departments that are unnecessary. Johnson said that SLU was not engaged in a cost-cutting frenzy, but has to determine where it can cut expenses to keep tuition increases down and to refresh programs.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Miriam E. Joseph
Executive Secretary
Appendix A

Faculty Senate Bylaws

Further Amendments, Recommended by the Senate Executive Committee,
to the Proposed Revised Text Dated January 30, 2001

Article II.2.a. -- Update the reference to the former school of Business and Administration in Line 2. Its new formal name is the John Cook School of Business. Since none of the other schools are referred to in this paragraph by their formal names, simply use “Business,” i.e.,

The Faculty of each of the following groups shall elect their Senators: Allied Health Professions, Arts and Sciences, Business, Law, Medicine, Nursing,...

Article IV.7. -- Clarify wording beyond first sentence (which was amended at the 1/30/01 Senate meeting)
i.e.,

If the complete substance of the proposed motion has been given at the previous meeting or in the call of the present meeting, the motion to rescind requires a majority vote of those present and voting. If the complete substance of the proposed motion has not been given in a previous meeting or in the call of the present meeting, the motion to rescind requires a two-thirds vote of those present and voting.

Article IV.6 -- Strike this paragraph; it is unnecessary.
Robert’s Rules says that the parliamentarian simply is advisory to the chair of the meeting or any other person at the meeting who seeks his/her advice. Only the chair rules and can choose to ignore the parliamentarian’s advice. Since the parliamentarian has no authority, this paragraph serves no purpose. The chair may appoint a parliamentarian if he/she wishes at any time.

Article VI.7. – Add clause to last sentence, stating when new officers take office, i.e.,
At the April meeting each year, the Senate will formally elect the officers and other Executive Committee members from among these nominees, and their terms shall commence at the end of this meeting.

Article IV.4. – Add clause to last sentence, extending eligibility for election for a full consecutive term, i.e.,
The newly elected President shall complete the remaining term of President and is eligible for election to a full consecutive term.