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Board hears concerns of Black Faculty/Staff Caucus



Anthony Barthelemy

Too often, LSU's black students and faculty find themselves struggling to survive in a "frequently hostile environment."

The LSU Black Faculty and Staff Caucus came before an LSU Board of Supervisors committee March 31 to ask for help with the problem.

Speaking for the caucus, English professor Anthony Barthelemy said "distrust, anger, and

frustration . . . distracts students, black and white, from their primary purpose."

But, he said, blacks do not want "to point fingers, name names, or recapitulate outrages.

"We come today with the same goodwill and constructive intentions with which we approached Chancellor Wharton and Interim Chancellor Bogue," he said. "While we want to discuss our problems, we seek only solutions, we desire only respectful and positive input."

Chancellor Grady Bogue told board members LSU is already working to solve some of the problems voiced by black faculty and staff members. He submitted to the board a seven-page report which noted that LSU "has made a major effort, particularly in the past decade, to increase minority enrollment and minority faculty representation. These efforts are ongoing, and additional avenues to success continue to be proposed and implemented."

Bogue's report also listed several specific goals being considered to further enhance black representation on campus.

Barthelemy said two recent "conspicuous appointments" of blacks to acting administrative positions have been made. Otherwise, he said, black faculty and staff are "genuinely concerned about the lack of professional advancement" of blacks at LSU.

Specific goals are being considered to further enhance black representation on campus.

"Those appointments aside," he said, "the situation at LSU is not very encouraging. Currently, there are no blacks at the vice- or associate vice-chancellor level and only one acting dean."

Many black employees feel that in spite of impressive qualifi-

cations, they are systematically passed over for promotions," he said.

Black faculty and staff would like to see LSU establish a center similar to the University of Mississippi's Center for the Study of Southern Culture, Barthelemy told committee members.

"Surely," he said, "the state that gave birth to jazz, zydeco, Louis Armstrong and Ernest Gaines, and hundreds of other celebrated artists and authors can compete with Mississippi as a center for the study of African-American and Southern culture.

"We sadly hide our light under a bushel," he said. If LSU would establish such a center, "LSU could recruit first-rate scholars from around the world to come here and study."

Barthelemy said black faculty and staff are pleased that Chancellor Bogue plans to name a task force to investigate the climate for black students at LSU.

"Caucus" cont'd. on page 3

Plan eliminates financial barrier

An LSU Board of Supervisors committee has approved "in principle" a plan that would make a college education available to all Louisiana students who can meet tougher academic standards, regardless of their ability to pay, beginning in 1993.

Members of the board's Faculty and Studies Committee, at a March 31 meeting, approved "the Taylor Plan," the brainchild of New Orleans oilman Patrick Taylor, an LSU alumnus and former member of the Board of Supervisors.

In broad strokes, the plan would provide that Louisiana colleges and universities "no longer reject any qualified applicant because of that applicant's lack of

financial resources."

As explained in Taylor's resolution, the qualification standards would include some minimum requirements. Beginning in 1993, applicants to LSU, LSU-S, and the University of New Orleans must have completed the 17 1/2 high school credit course requirements now in effect, with a 2.5 grade point average and must have scored at least 18 on the ACT.

The Taylor resolution says that "any Louisiana student meeting the above requirements who clearly indicates a lack of the necessary financial resources to attend college will be admitted."

Board members, the president, "Plan" cont'd. on page 5

Reminder on "cafeteria plan"

April 29 is the deadline for employees to enroll in the "cafeteria plan," a federally regulated program that establishes the ability of employees to pay for their life, health, dependent life, and catastrophic illness insurance premiums on a pre-taxed basis.

The open enrollment period and effective date for the "cafeteria plan" (originally November 1-30 and January 1) have been changed to coincide with the dates for HMOs and State Employees Group Benefits, according to the Marjorie Whitehead, employee benefits officer. "Every year open enrollment will be held in April, with the effective date July 1."

Employees are required to sign forms to enroll or to cancel the plan, Whitehead said. This form was recently mailed to employee residences by the Office of Human Resource Management.

Elective changes in employee benefits should be made during the month of April to be effective July 1, she advised. Once employees enroll in the "cafeteria plan" such changes can not be made for a year.

According to Whitehead, non-elective changes throughout the year (those governed by the group insurance) will be allowed under the "cafeteria plan." Such changes include coverage modifications because of deaths, births, or participant eligibility.

PEOPLE AT LSU

Ron Abernathy, associate basketball coach, was inducted into the Morehead State University Hall of Fame on March 31. Abernathy finally faced his alma mater as a coach in Hawaii when the Tigers defeated Morehead in the Chaminade New Year's Classic.

Adam T. "Ted" Bourgoyne, Jr., professor of petroleum engineering, has received the Society of Petroleum Engineers' Drilling Engineering Award for 1989. Bourgoyne, Campanile Professor of Offshore Mining and Petroleum Engineering, was cited for his dedication to the training of drilling engineers, his leadership in well control and blowout prevention research and technology transfer, and his authorship of the textbook, *Applied Drilling Engineering*.

Dale Brown, head basketball coach, was voted his fourth SEC Coach of the Year honor at LSU when UPI awarded him the honor this year. Brown won his 300th career game as a college head coach during the 1988-89 season and has coached in 510 consecutive games for the Tigers. He has a record of 317-193 and is only 23 wins from surpassing the legendary Harry Rabenhorst as the all-time winner at LSU.

Doris Collins, associate director of residential housing, has been elected president-elect of the Association of College and



Glissant

Damico

University Housing Officers-International, a three-year term on the Executive Board of ACUHO-I. She served as treasurer from 1984-87.

Dinos Constantinides, Boyd professor of music, has been invited by the president of the Music Teachers' National Association to judge two categories of competition at the national MTNA convention April 3 and 4 in Wichita, Kansas. Constantinides will judge MTNA national competition in chamber music and the Collegiate Artist string division.

Sandy Damico, clinical supervisor and instructor of speech pathology, has been named 1989 Woman of the Year by the Pelican chapter of the American Business Women's Association. Damico, who came to LSU in 1985 with more than 10 years' experience in speech pathology with public schools, is responsible for a special project that uses computers and other devices to help those with speech handicaps to communicate more

readily. She also directs the Deep South Conference in Communication Disorders, organized each year by LSU students and alumni. Her selection allows her to be considered nationally as one of the group's "Top Ten Business Women of 1989."

Edouard Glissant, LSU Foundation Distinguished Professor of French and Italian and director of the Center for French and Francophone Studies, was the subject of a recent lecture series and symposium, the 12th Puterbaugh Conference on French and Hispanic Writers, at the University of Oklahoma. The conference was given television coverage by a crew from Martinique, Glissant's native country.

Paulette R. Hebert, assistant professor of interior design, has won several awards from the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America for her lighting designs. The winning designs were for the Premier Center vestibule building in downtown Baton Rouge, for an entertainment area in a Baton Rouge home, and for the Hahn Shoe Store in McLean, Virginia. Hebert has been with LSU for three years and owns a lighting design firm in Baton Rouge.

Jim Helm, English instructor, was invited to present a paper at the Central Renaissance Conference at University of Missouri-Kansas City on April 6-8. The subject of Helm's paper is assumptions about aging in Renaissance culture and literature.

Jesse M. Jaynes and Elizabeth Zimmer, assistant professors of biochemistry, were recently accepted as members of the American Society of Experimental Biology in the section of biochemistry and molecular biology.

Howard Karger, associate professor of social work, has been awarded a Fulbright Award for the 1989-90 academic year. He will spend the year as a visiting fellow at Bar Ilan University in Israel.

James E. Miller, assistant professor of epidemiology, was one of three researchers awarded a grant under the USAID/USDA/CSRS Collaborative Research and Special Constraints Grants Program. Miller, M.J. Stear of the University of

Nebraska, and K.O. Babatunde of the International Livestock Center of Africa, received a two-year grant of \$89,372 for their proposal "Sheep major histocompatibility system relationship to susceptibility to nematodes." Their proposal was one of five selected and will investigate the possible genetic basis for resistance in certain sheep to *Haemonchus Contortus*. Others involved in the study are **Mark J. Newman**, assistant professor of veterinary immunology, and **Paul E. Humes**, professor, and **Kenneth L. White**, assistant professor of animal science.

Lois Rector, Lab School kindergarten teacher and state president of the Louisiana Association on Children Under Six, **Rosalind Charlesworth**, associate professor of education, **Nancy Crom**, teaching associate Lab School, **Jean Mosley** and **Pam Fleege**, graduate assistants in the College of Education, and **Sandy White**, Lab School kindergarten teacher, recently attended the annual conference of the Southern Association on Children under Six. The Southern and Louisiana associations work for the implementation for developmentally appropriate teaching practices for very young children.

Music symposium held

Professors of music education from major universities in the United States and Canada participated in the prestigious Symposium of Research in Music Behavior held recently at the School of Music.

Cornelia Yarbrough, professor and coordinator of music education studies in the School of Music, is one of nine founding members of the symposium. In addition to Yarbrough, others from LSU invited to take part in the program were **James Byo** and **Jane Cassidy**, assistant professors of music education, and doctoral students **Wilma Benson** and **Judy Bowers**.



A farewell reception was held recently for associate vice-chancellor **Roland Dommert** (center) who accepted the position of chief executive officer for the American Veterinary Medicine Association, effective April 1. At left and right, **William Richardson**, associate dean of the College of Agriculture, and **Billy Seay**, director of the Honors Program, were among the many well-wishers in attendance.