

**Faculty Senate Resolution 08–16**

**“Establishment of Memorial Day as a Holiday for LSU Faculty, Staff, and Students”**

*Sponsored by Senator Edward Laws*

*WHEREAS*, the faculty, staff and students of Louisiana State University have a long and proud history of military service; and

*WHEREAS*, that service continues today, and is plainly evident in the ROTC corps, and students, staff, and faculty who are members of National Guard and Reserve units; and *WHEREAS*, Memorial Day is a day of remembrance for those who have died in our nation's service; and

*WHEREAS*, LSU supports several observances of Memorial Day, but does not annually observe Memorial Day as a paid holiday for its employees; and

*WHEREAS*, LSU, as a public institution heavily dependent on State and Federal tax dollars, should observe Memorial Day fully and annually; and

*WHEREAS*, Memorial Day is regularly observed as a holiday by most major public universities in the southeast; and

*WHEREAS*, at LSU, faculty and staff are provided fourteen holidays. Half of these are used in the Christmas and New Year timeframe. The remaining seven include Martin Luther King Day, Mardi Gras, Good Friday, Independence Day, Labor Day, and two days at Thanksgiving;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the LSU Faculty Senate hereby affirms its support for observing Memorial Day as a full annual holiday for all employees, and requests that the LSU administration transfer one of the other fourteen currently observed holidays to Memorial Day.