



The Faculty Senate of Louisiana State University

Kevin L. Cope, President

c/o Prof. Kevin L. Cope, Department of English, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70803
Telephone 225-578-2864 • E-mail encope@LSU.edu

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Dr. Maureen Westgard
Director, Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana
P. O. Box 94123
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

Dear Dr. Westgard,

On behalf of three organizations—the Faculty Senate of Louisiana State University, the Council of Faculty Advisors of the LSU System, and the Association of Louisiana Faculty Senates—I am requesting two items of information and am submitting one request.

As you know, the term of one member of your Board, Dr. Jerry Baudin, is expiring on December 31st. Presumably, Dr. Baudin's seat will be open for election. A review of your election procedures and schedules (which are somewhat less than readily accessible) indicates that you should have distributed a call-for-candidates postcard by this past February 26th. I've inquired of several university administrators, committee members, and faculty members and have found no evidence that this postcard was distributed. I'd therefore appreciate it if you would report the date of transmission of this card and to whom it was sent. Given that dozens of queried plan members and campus executives know nothing of this card, it seems likely that TRSL is not in compliance with its election procedures.

Second, the faculty governance officials of Louisiana's higher education institutions are concerned about the difficulty about communicating with plan members so as to discuss and otherwise develop educated opinions concerning the upcoming elections. I would therefore like to request a copy of the electronic mailing list that you use in your email distributions to your higher education clients. Because you are a state agency, you should seek transparency by encouraging communication among your members so as to promote the

betterment of your organization.

Third, a request. Your election procedures (page five) indicate that the TRSL Board has the authority to modify election schedules. Given that a breakdown in communication has resulted in the failure to notify members of the availability of a Board seat in the upcoming election, I am requesting an extension of the filing deadline for candidates until June 15th so that faculty may find and nominate a suitable candidate for Dr. Baudin's vacated seat. Even this is a quick schedule given that your higher-education customers embark on research travel during the summer, but we are willing to compromise so as to expedite the election.

Thank you for your assistance.

With best wishes,

Kevin L. Cope

LSU Faculty Senate President and Chair, LSU System Council of Faculty Advisors