Faculty Executive Committee Meeting  
27 October 2022  
3:15pm, School of Music Board, Virginia Howard-Martin Board Room

Present: Inessa Bazayev (President), Daniel Tirone (Vice President), Parampreet Singh (Member-at-Large), Kevin Ringelman (Member-at-Large; recording minutes for today), Mandi Lopez (Past President)

Absent: Meredith Veldman (Secretary), Kyla Kazuschyk (Member-at-Large)

Guests (arrived 4:00 p.m.): Gundela Hachmann – Chair of Faculty Senate Library Committee  
Lois Kuyper-Rushing– Associate Dean of Library Sciences

The meeting was called to order by Bazayev at 3:15 pm.

Public Comments: None

FSEC Minutes from 20 October 2022: Tirone moved to approve, Singh seconded; motion passed unanimously.

President’s Updates:

1. The Provost’s presentation at the previous Faculty Senate meeting has generated quite a lot of correspondence from faculty. Bazayev is not yet permitted to share the proposal from the Provost’s office.

Tirone: Motion to take up business out of order and discuss zero-budget university model; seconded by Singh; passed unanimously.

New Business

Zero-based university budget model

Bazayev: We would like to inform the faculty of the Provost’s zero-based budget model.

Tirone: This would be best accomplished by having individual Senators reach out to their respective units and ask for feedback on the model, and having them collate responses and summarize in reports to FSEC.

Singh: But do we have time? The timeline the Provost released has instructions to Deans being distributed by Oct. 28.
Tirone: It seems that the appropriate sequencing is to do some fact-finding with the faculty so we can discuss with President Tate and the Provost at the upcoming FSEC meeting, wherein we can ask them to do a town hall with the faculty to field questions and address concerns. [FSEC reviews the Graduate Student Finance Implementation Plan posted by the Provost this afternoon and collaboratively drafts an email to the faculty to call their attention to these important changes]

Tirone: motion to authorize Bazayev to draft an email on behalf of FSEC informing Senators of the Provost’s plan, and to solicit their reports to FSEC by mid-day next Wednesday; Singh seconded; motion passes unanimously

Tirone: Roy Heidelberg agreed to serve on the new zero-based budget committee as a faculty representative. The Provost has communicated that they have already selected 3 Boyd professors.

Tirone: moves that we propose Chrystal Johnson and Victor Stater for the Provost’s zero-based budget committee; seconded by Singh; passed unanimously.

Tirone: moves that we take up the library business at this point in time; seconded by Ringelman; passed unanimously.

Library Committee
Gundela Hachmann – Chair of Faculty Senate Library Committee
Lois Kuyper-Rushing– Associate Dean of Library Sciences

Hachmann: The library committee has only met once this semester because vacancies have not been filled. Regardless, two concerns:

1. ORCIDs – University is concerned with our rankings. LSU has fallen dramatically lately. One the issues that Stanley Wilder has identified is that many faculty members are not using ORCIDs. ORCIDs are unique identifying numbers for faculty, that link their papers back to them, and that are accessible across multiple platforms. When faculty do not use the ORCID, they produce scholarship that is not connected to them, and thus when U.S. News and World Reports conducts their rankings, our research productivity does not show up. This can be fixed if faculty just established and used their ORCIDs.

2. The new library building is written into the Master Plan. It will be located in the center of a new quad, just across where the airplane sits next to Tiger Stadium. The new library will be expensive (on the order of $150M), and some faculty on campus have the mindset that we do not need a library because so many resources are available online. We need to advocate for the need for a library with physical copies of research material. By March we anticipate a cost estimate, but of course this is contingent on determining what exactly we want this facility to be for. The old building was built in 1959 at a low building standard and is beyond renovation; it will be imploded.

3. We do not have library resources. Budget is eaten away by excessively expensive subscriptions to e-journals. There is very little money to buy books and expand the collection, and therefore the library has diminishing utility to faculty. Instead, faculty...
are buying their own books and keeping their own personal libraries. Recall the Faculty Resolution 22-05 passed last semester in support of the LSU library. There is some action by administration to increase the finances annually to keep up with inflation...this clearly won’t address the inability to expand the collections. 40% of the interlibrary loans processed are for the humanities, because LSU literally does not have the money to buy the books that other universities have. Using interlibrary loan is a pretty slow process, and it is time-consuming for personnel to process. The library does have funds to buy individual books for faculty, and they can reach out to library staff to do so.

Tirone: moves to revisit the previous item regarding the faculty selection for the Provost’s committee on zero-budget model
Tirone: moves to reach out to Sophie Warny to see if she is interested in serving; Ringelman seconded; passed unanimously.

Tirone moves to adjourn; Bazayev seconded; meeting is adjourned at 4:58 p.m.