

Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting 10am, 29 January 2024 135F Thomas Boyd Hall

Approved Minutes of the Meeting

Attendance:

Present:: Inessa Bazayev (President), Daniel Tirone (Vice-President), Parampreet Singh (Secretary), Kyla Kazuschyk (Member-at-Large), Kevin Ringelman (Member-at-Large), Michelle Osborn (Member-at-Large), Tricia Cobb (Administrative Assistant)

Absent: Mandi Lopez (Past President)

A regular meeting of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee convened at 10:00 am on Jan 29, 2024 at the 135F Thomas Boyd Hall at the LSU campus, the President being the Chair and Secretary being present. There were no public comments. The minutes of the last meeting were adopted following a motion by Ringelman.

Tirone moved to suspend the rules to add three new items at the top in the new business: (i) What Every Faculty Member Should Know from the January Faculty Senate meeting, (ii) Provost's Town Hall, and (iii) the Broadcast email. Passed unanimously.

President's updates: (i) Retirement bill aiming to address switch from ORP to TRSL was filed in the Louisiana State Legislature by Representative Frieiberg but it differs significantly from the Faculty Senate Resolution 23-05. Bazayev and Tirone will discuss the issue with Vice President of External Affairs John Walters and Chief Administrative Officer Kimberly Lewis; (ii) Bazayev met with Vice President of Enrollment Management Danny Barrow and discussed Pre-Scholars Academy and the Future Scholars program; (iii) Bazayev is working on identifying faculty who can help in designing the planned survey with the student government; (iv) Bazayev and Tirone met with the Budget and Planning committee and discussed the issue of faculty raises; (v) HR has reached back to Bazayev with faculty census numbers; (vi) Assistant Vice Provost for Policy & Administration Ryan Landry and Registrar Clay Benton would like to attend FSEC meeting next week to discuss Workday for Students; (vii) Provost's Office has informed that little can be done on the nextSource benefits as they are not controlled by LSU; (viii) ORED is revising PM-11. Bazayev and Tirone will discuss upcoming changes with the Office of Academic Affairs.

The first item of unfinished business was Grammarly. Singh discussed inputs from the ad hoc FSIT committee. FSEC thanked ad hoc FSIT committee for its valuable inputs on this important matter. Committee discussed that it does not customarily weigh in on software acquisition but what is uncertain is whether these licenses would be extended for students' use which is where one needs to be careful with academic policies. Singh informed that the enterprise licenses at this stage are planned only for faculty and staff. The issue of lack of AI policies on this matter was also discussed.

Singh informed that ITS plans to switch off AI option till the policies are in place. Tirone moved to inform ITS that acquisition of an enterprise license for Grammarly for faculty and staff is not part of the charge of this committee as the Faculty Senate is not customarily involved in decisions regarding individual software packages and have no structural role in the process within ITS. However, Faculty Senate is open to questions which may relate to the appropriateness of the use of this software for teaching and research if faculty bring it to the Faculty Senate in the future. Passed unanimously.

The committee then discussed ASH propoals. Ringelman moved to approve the proposal to modify remote participation policy for defense of graduate students. Passed unanimously. Tirone moved to put the ASH proposal on changing the timeline for incomplete grades as the agenda item in the Faculty Senate meeting in February. Passed unanimously. Committee then discussed the request for changing the concentrated study period. Bazayev will discuss this issue further with Cathleen Williams who chairs ASH committee.

The first item in the new business was What Every Faculty Member Should Know from the January Faculty Senate meeting. Tirone moved to approve the draft after minor revisions. Passed unanimously.

The committee then discussed Provost's Town Hall. Bazayev informed that this event is postponed to a later date in the semester.

The next item of business was the Broadcast email. Tirone moved to approve the following content: President's Report, What Every Faculty Member Should Know, Faculty Survey on Educational Technology, Grammarly, Provost's Fund Symposium, Provost's Town Hall. Passed unanimously.

Tirone moved to suspend the rules and consider International Visitors Policy, Graduate Student Evaluations and Graduate Student Insurance as the next items in the agenda. Passed unanimously.

The committee then discussed revisions to the International Visitors Policy notified by the Office of Academic Affairs. Tirone moved to refer the matter to the Policy Committee for a review. Passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was Graduate Student Evaluations. Bazayev updated on discussions with Senior Vice Provost Jane Cassidy. Ringelman noted various difficulties with the evaluation process. Committee members discussed ways to mitigate these issues.

The committee then discussed some of the budgeting issues with Graduate Student Insurance.

Ringelman moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:38 am. Passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Parampreet Singh, Secretary