Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes  
Thursday October 5, 2017  
Student Senate Room, LSU Student Union

Attendance

Faculty Senate Executive Committee members present:
1. Ken McMillin (President, Animal Science)  
2. Mandi Lopez (Vice-President, Vet Science)  
3. Joan King (Secretary, Food Science)  
4. Kevin Cope (Past President, English)  
5. Arend Van Gemmert (Member-at-Large, Kinesiology)  
6. Gundela Hachmann (Member-at-Large, Foreign Languages)  
7. 

Parliamentarian: Louay Mohammed

Senators present (X = Present; A = Alternate; P = Proxy):

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<th>Senator Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>William Adkins (Math/Sci)</td>
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<td>Kwame Agyemang (Kinesiology/HSE)</td>
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<td>Fereyndoun Aghazadeh (Mech Ind Eng/Eng)</td>
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<td>Priscilla Lilly Allen (Social Work/HSE)</td>
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<td>Austin Allen (Landscap Arch./AD)</td>
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<td>Aly M. Aly (Civil Environ Eng/Eng)</td>
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<td>Paul Anderson (Foreign Language Lit./HSS)</td>
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<td>Paula Arri (Philosophy &amp; Relig Studies/HSS)</td>
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<td>Christopher Austin (Biological Sci/Sci)</td>
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<td>Chris Barrett (English/HSS)</td>
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<td>Dorin Bolder (B AE/Eng)</td>
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<td>Brett Bouthwell (Music/Music &amp; Drama Arts)</td>
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<td>Christine Corcos (Law/Law Center)</td>
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<td>Jeff Davis (Entomology/Ag)</td>
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<td>Charles Delzell (Math/Sci)</td>
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<td>John Devlin (Law/Law Center)</td>
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<td>Cyndi DiCarlo (Education/HSE)</td>
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<td>Levent Dirikolu (Compar Biomed Sci/Vet)</td>
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Guests:

Robert Doolos  
Matt Lee  
Ernie Ballard  
Rick Koubek  
Thomas Glenn

M.E. Hart  
Juana Moreno  
Ravi Rau

Consideration of the Minutes from September 9, 2017

Moved by Suresh Rai and seconded by Jianan Wu  
Approved unanimously with potential corrections.

President’s Report

1. New senators introduced themselves.
2. Ken McMillin and Kevin Cope met with Bryan Benchoff, Vice President of Institutional Advancement. They talked about where the foundation might be headed.
3. Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSEC) met with the General Education Study Group. There will be changes announced later in the semester. It concerns what outcomes we actually want students to achieve and that fits very well with the Strategic Plan direction. Matt Lee is in charge of the area.
4. Ken McMillin met with Dean Massey of the Graduate School about the Graduate School Task Force.
5. Ken McMillin met with the Provost several times to discuss several matters. FSEC meets with him monthly. We met with him about the strategic plan, the budget, LSU360 status, the ombudsman status, binding arbitration, and some difficulties with our admission process.
6. Ken McMillin met with Sandi Gillian, Associate Vice Provost for Institutional Effectiveness. He will talk about the Administrative Process Improvement Committee (APIC).
Q&A Summary:

Andrew Sluyter
What is the status of PS-36?

Ken McMillin
It is coming and it is in the general counsel’s office right now. There are a couple of other legal type documents that require their review. They have been hiring other positions to move paperwork more rapidly. The associate general counsel has been on the job for only a week and is looking at this. They are looking into filling other staff positions within the general counsel’s office. In discussions with the Provost if it doesn’t come quickly then it would be unfair for faculty members to have to use the new revised policy.
LSU Strategic Plan 2025 – Dr. Koubek, Executive Vice President and Provost

He said he appreciates all the work the Faculty Senate does. The partnership that we have with Office of Academic Affairs (OAA) and Faculty Senate is great. When they put the strategic plan together, it was important to have a plan that was worth of the faculty the staff at LSU. If you look at the accomplishments and commitment that faculty have at LSU for this state, for the people, for the region and the world, they truly deserve a plan, you all deserve a plan that is worry of you. It was 23 months ago where the deans talked about what is special about LSU that would drive people here and the word that came out was leadership. The students that graduate all have to be leaders in the state. We all have to be leaders in the state in regards to our academic forte and abilities. After listening to the focus groups, he got that we were all saying it is not about me which was impressive. What wasn’t in there is that we want to be great; it was that we are here for a reason. We know you can go elsewhere and we know we went through a time where faculty raises weren’t hot. He gets all that. We didn’t leave because of the heart and soul of the mission of the university and that came out in the strategic plan. It is quite authentic. He challenged us to go look at other major flagship university strategic plans and ours is like no other. The areas you picked are ones that the governor would expect if he put together a strategic plan for the state. We need to look at improving health, education outcomes, be concerned about our coast and environment, we have to look at the diversity of our economy to increase the number of jobs that require college and post graduate degrees, and that require and we have a unique arts and culture in this state that is there to celebrate as a major asset to the state. When developing the strategic plan we had to look at what are the areas that this flagship needs to put their shoulder behind for the people that we serve, while at the same time we don’t just say we are a super-regional school. We are not just going to focus on Louisiana. We want LSU to have a world class reputation so students at Michigan, Ohio and Pennsylvania that go to University of Michigan, Ohio State and Penn State don’t have any better opportunity for education than at LSU. That is what we all put together in the strategic plan that was the vision. This plan is uniquely LSU. This plan is now in writing. This is a book of great ideas. There are ten initiatives and this is great, but what are we actually going to do. The President had about forty initiatives on the table to decide upon. The initiatives in the document are not an exclusive set. The colleges were asked to come up with their own initiatives and strategic plans for five initiatives that would be easily translatable into case statements for a business plan. These were asked to be done by the middle of December. There will be 75 initiatives to turn into case statements next semester and then the foundation will launch their $1.6 billion campaign to obtain philanthropic support to give us the resources we need to do these things. It’s not about us, we are just the vehicle at LSU to do things important to people. That will launch sometime maybe at the end of 2018. They haven’t told him yet. There are three ways to fund this. The second piece is the university and some money has already been put into initiative, for instance the Center for Collaborative Knowledge and Coast and Environment is going. Some of these will be funded by the state through the Office of Governmental Affairs when we make our case. It’s a pie chart about how some of these things will be funded. Some of our initiatives may not be attractive philanthropically. He wants us to know that that is okay. There are other vehicles to be able to resource these. We will start ramping that up in January or February. There is an important pivot in January. The ten business plans will go the University Planning Council and ten will be decided upon. No one will be in or out; it will be a matter of you is first, second, etc. The Past Chair of the Faculty Senate is the chair of the University Planning Council. Kevin Cope will be chairing that process for the sequencing of the university initiatives. All of that is happening with regard to the external initiatives. There are also the internal initiatives. Matt Lee is working on the general education piece and Jane Cassidy is working on the HRM piece on enhancing the quality of life for employees here. He said since the day he started here that he wanted LSU to be the best place in Baton Rouge and Louisiana to work. There is a charge about service quality, so if someone calls we will have someone to answer them. Student success is the fourth pillar that Kurt Keppler is looking at. We made a conscious decision to not be the lowest price provided of higher education in Louisiana. It is a losing game for us. The President has faculty as his highest priority. We have to be excellent. OAA information coming forward is about excellence. The alternative is not as pleasant; we heard about losing 70% of our budget and not having football team. We said we will get smaller to protect the core of excellence. This is us, this is authentic, and this is really what LSU is. You might not agree with some of the information in there, the essence of it is us.

Ken McMillin
He encouraged new faculty to attend lunches with the Provost. He wants those faculty to know how important they are to LSU. He asked that we encourage new faculty to go.

Provost Koubek
Ken McMillin is attending the lunches with the Provost to show we are working together.

Q&A Summary:
None.

Campus Law Enforcement – Major Bart Thompson, Acting Chief of Police

He did 30 plus years at the Baton Rouge police department. He graduated from LSU. He spent 33 years with Baton Rouge and then came to LSU. This is a busy time for them with football. They have three major investigations ongoing. They are 100% full manpower wise. They have 70 officers allotted and in office. They have formed two committees, the outreach committee that does programs at colleges and with students. They have time to just be seen. Dave Hanson who was in the marines. They did a couple years ago was adopt a dorm. They put an officer at each dorm location and they attend all meetings and activities. That has worked out really well. In the third year students have moved to off-campus. After the abduction they put three female officers as contact people. In January 1 they will have body cams on all officers. That offers safety and transparency. The same department that the city uses will be used. The will apply to get credited by ALLIA. It’s a 13 month program with 160 standards that they have to hear to. They do a site assessment every three years. He thought there would be less standards than the city but there were more. They also have 1000 cameras on campus and they will have license plate cameras. It will automatically run for any felon. They will also put one at Chimes. They have a security and safety committee with the athletic department and includes risk management and covers the parade grounds. They are looking at what is happening around the country. They have already gotten suggestions and concerns from faculty that they recovered after the parade grounds incidents. Their number one goal is
the safety of the campus. Our footprint gets bigger and bigger and crime in the city gets bigger and bigger. We run the line in the sand at our grates. Although lately we had a few incidents, we really don’t have that many issues.

Q&A Summary:

Brooks Ellwood
Were there any problems during the Homecoming parade?

Bart Thompson
No problem, the parade is smaller.

Judith Sylvester
Last Friday night there was an armed robbery and the suspect was heading towards Kirby Smith. What is the policy to give an all clear?

Bart Thompson
There was a robbery and they bailed out of the car at Kirby. They cannot give an all clear because they couldn’t find the suspects. It would be on their website, and an email would go out but only if it’s a true all clear.

Arend Van Gemmert
Are the license plate cameras switched off during the day?

Bart Thompson
They are not turned off. At night when the campus is quiet, we are the business because all of you aren’t there as eyes. They have those in their cars before and they can check into any database. They had to take city court off due to too many misdemeanors.

John Tombes
Does your training include mental health training?

Bart Thompson
They have mental health training with DHS. In fall they do not train. They will continue that. He spoke with a mental health counselor at LSU and it is an issue as to how many students have problems.

Mandi Lopez
He applauds their ability to cover so many people. Spoke of us are obligated to be here during games. What are your thoughts in facilitating as our crowds grow?

Bart Thompson
They are just as frustrated. We have friends here and friends over there. Everything is going towards the south. There are a lot of universities that if you aren’t a ticket holder you go come on campus. They want to work with us all. How are students going to cross Nicholson?

Ken McMillin
The chief is not in charge of parking, so if you do have a need to be on campus during game day, you have to go through Jeff Campbell’s office. If there is an emergency then Chief Bart and his people will help you.

Bart Thompson
The Business School allows them to have an office. If there is an explosion in the stadium then the city police is close. They bring in everyone related to football. Call 578-3231 for issues that happen during football games. They rush several four legged patients to the vet school.

Senator
The cameras will pop up crimes, but not misdemeanors. What about records? All the license plate readers go into the system. It is stored so should an event happen all the agencies can pull up that information. Sharing amongst police is possibly one of the best systems.

Old Business

Election of FS Executive Committee members from new Faculty Senators

Ken explained what we do as an Executive Committee and how many committees we are on. We try to keep the pulse of the faculty during interim periods in between Faculty Senate meetings.

Nominations: Fereydoun Aghazadeh and Aly Aly

Elected: Aly Aly
New Business

First Reading, Resolution 17-06, “Consultation with Faculty Before any IT Changes”, Sponsored Charles Delzell (Mathematics), Juana Moreno (Physics and Astronomy), A. Ravi P. Rao (Physics and Astronomy)

Read by Charles Delzell

LSU Faculty Senate Resolution 17-06:
Consultation with faculty before any change in IT policies

Charles Delzell (Mathematics), Juana Moreno (Physics & Astronomy, Center for Computation & Technology), A. Ravi P. Rau (Physics & Astronomy)

Whereas computing resources are essential for faculty to conduct their teaching, research and service, so that significant changes must be discussed and voted on by appropriate faculty bodies, including the Faculty Senate and the faculty of affected departments, and

Whereas Policy Statements PS 107 (Computer User Responsibilities) and PS 114 (Security of Computing Resources) were revised in 2016 without input from faculty, and

Whereas in January 2017 a committee of 17 members, of whom only two were faculty members, was convened to rewrite multiple policy statements, including PS 6.15 (Use of Electronic Mail) and PS 6.20 (Security of Data), and

Whereas the proposed new PS 6.15 would require the central retention of every faculty mail message, and would forbid the operation of departmental mail servers, even over the objections of the limited faculty representation on the committee, and

Whereas many departments operate their own electronic services with features not provided by the central system but which are needed for the smooth operation of their units,¹ and

Whereas the original, 2007 version of PS 6.15, which is still in effect, explicitly allows for such flexibility, including departmental naming conventions for mail addresses and use of departmental servers, and

Whereas the current (2007) PS 6.15 further states, correctly, that not all faculty mails are public records, and that the archiving of any mail that is the sole copy of a public record is the responsibility of the individual employee, and

Whereas on November 22, 2016 LSU’s Office of Internal Audit issued a report entitled “E-mail security & retention,” with no input from faculty, which recommended a forced migration of users from departmental mail to central mail, and

Whereas the audit based its recommendation on vague citation of various laws,² unsupported speculation on the likelihood of legal consequences of deleting mail, and a limited questionnaire that it had sent to the IT staff of the targeted departments in 2015, and

Whereas in April 2017, the Chief Information Security Officer commanded those departments operating independent mail servers to begin a forced migration of their users to the central system, and communicated his intent to disable network access to departmental mail and list servers by December 15, 2017, and

Whereas overtures by the College of Engineering, the Law School, and the Center for Computation and Technology to make their servers retain mail have simply been brushed aside, and

Whereas many researchers in academia use a variety of systems other than Windows that are not supported by the Microsoft Office 365 platform chosen to meet the internal meeting and calendaring needs of administrative offices,

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¹ Examples of features missing from central mail: long-term mail forwarding for early career researchers who are moving between institutions; long-term backups for recovering deleted mail; administrative mailing lists for department use with efficient membership updating; full support for standards-compliant mail protocols used by researchers on Unix-style systems; support for the mail clients chosen by many science researchers; business continuity, in that department-level addresses and associated mail is not lost because an employee changes jobs; address auto-completion with results limited to one department; and, ability to send and receive mail using addresses that fit the culture of the discipline (e.g., across the United States, mathematics departments have a fairly standardized naming convention of name@math.institution.edu).

LSU’s participation in the recently acclaimed international collaboration LIGO, researching gravitational waves, involves over 1000 researchers from several dozen institutions across the world who exchange data and discussion across a wide variety of electronic platforms, students and faculty often switching between institutions while remaining in a collaboration that stretches across decades. Imposing proprietary protocol and software choices upon users, taking away forwarding, backups, nimble mailing lists, and address conventions serves only to hinder and impede researchers’ participation in such collaboration. For example, this collaboration led to a Nobel Prize for LSU Adjunct Professor Rainer Weiss, whose mail address at MIT (weiss@ligo.mit.edu) is of a style that, were it at LSU, would be discontinued by ITS.

² Laws that have not changed in any relevant way since 2007, when LSU’s General Counsel reviewed the current PS 6.15.
Therefore be it resolved that the Faculty Senate recommends that LSU cease and desist its ongoing forced migration of users to central mail and its dismantling of departmental mail servers, and allow for the reversal of all such actions that have already been carried out, and

Therefore be it further resolved that the Faculty Senate recommends that PS 107 and PS 114 be restored to their pre-2016 versions, and any modification of University IT policies be preceded by consultation with the Faculty Senate and with faculty from affected departments, and that any committee discussing ITS policies include ample elected representation of faculty, including faculty knowledgeable in both IT and legal fields, and faculty from affected departments.

2 Laws that have not changed in any relevant way since 2007, when LSU’s General Counsel reviewed the current PS 6.15.

Motion to move into discussion by Brooks Ellwood and seconded by Suresh Rai.
Unanimous vote to move into discussion.

**Q&A Summary:**

Suresh Rai
IT has three advisory committees, a faculty advisory committee, teaching, infrastructure and support and, research. He is in the iT governance counsel and trying to identify how to get faculty involvement.

Juana Moreno
There was only two committee members and most are IT staff and the head of the committee.

Ken McMillin
Ask Ballinger rearranges IT, the oversight committee that Suresh serves on and when the new committees come into being. There has to be some connection with the previous committees. Spoke IT staff are not too open to new ideas like Ballinger is.

Dorin Bolder
Who thought this was a good idea to take the IT our of departments?

Charles Delzell
This has been going on for decades but some IT persons do not want independent servers.

Dorin Bolder
In BAE they spent three weeks trying to handle network computers, because the help was not there. They want people to change to something they want but cannot do the job.

Charles Delzell
IT was blaming it on an audit and no compliance. They thought if faculty deleted emails they seemed to think you will suffer and legal penalty.

Dorin Bolder
Is there anything to support their assertions?

Charles Delzell
He has been in contact with auditing and It. The visitor from last May said there have been cases where people have deleted email. The speaker didn’t now the case. The auditor would have to look into it to find a problem. Five cents per people per year is the risk.

Suresh Rai
Can we invite Andrea Ballinger to bring the other side.

Mette Garde
The time is very soon. She doesn’t know that we need more input from IT to do this. The earlier we do this the better.

Ken McMillin
To have this before the senate it allows the FSEC to work on your behalf. Ken will contact Andrea Ballinger and meet with her and John Borne and the FSEC to look into the issue.

Brendon Karch
The obvious solution is to have your emails forwarded to some other system. Have they offered some substantive reason why we cannot do this?

Juana Moreno
No, they have not.
Charles Delzell
One of them offered, CCT, that all emails get blind copied. What if CCT doesn’t forward these blind copies to us? They don’t trust us. That is not what IT policy says. Right now it says that every employee is responsible for maintaining emails. There can be rogue employees and there can be rogue employees of IT.

Senator
We do have to work on this quickly. Now that you are saying you are planning to meet with them. She suggests that if possible that one of the three in the resolution be inviting to the meeting.

Ken McMillin
They are not convinced the university has complied with archival records. The other aspect is that all other components, like Workday also have to fit and meet security requirements. There has to be some fluidity in these things. Why can’t we keep some of the things we had instead of going to all new systems?

Senator
The resolution targets IT generally but all examples are given about email. He is talking about moving department servers to .

Juana Moreno
Before it was only about the main server, but then the issue of security of data. The issue with the use of dropbox. She complained about that and she was told her comment would be added to the policy. There is no understanding of what we do at the university, research and teaching.

Senator
He asked if some of the language could be broader to deal with IT issues as a whole.

Charles Delzell
You are right most of this is regarding email.

Brooks Ellwood
The very serious issue if the lack of faculty input in these PS statements. We worked a lot on PS-36. This is an agency looking at issues that affect faculty. This totally outside what faculty do. We need faculty input to buffer what changes occur without faculty input.

Ken McMillin
Brooks has brought up somewhat delicate situation. There is a policy for reviewing policy statements. A lot of the groupings don’t include faculty. Now that Brooks open the door for Ken to look into that. We need a policy on how policies are reviewed. The Board of Supervisor By-Laws state that faculty develop educational policies. Certain of our administrative staff want to changes policies that help them without faculty input. He will discuss with FSEC as to how faculty can get on the list of policy review.

Jared
He understands the concerns, but he also understands that LSU has to secure the data here. He doesn’t want his data to be breached. He understands that the university can pick and chose. Departments can have issues with protecting the security of data. When we decentralize the system we create several vulnerabilities in our system. We see enough security breaches every day that we have concerns here. He believes there is expertise in those rooms when these policies are discussed.

Ken McMillin
The policies that have been developed have never been approved by the Provost. If we don’t make everyone toe the line and everyone is just changing policies, the Provost will say hey has this policy gone through their review system. One had your email frozen due to a hazard. If the faculty finds out that their email is frozen but not told why, that is an issue. Is there anybody here that does not know what LIGO is now? If the It does the polices they want to now then LGIO will not be part of the university. When one side doesn’t want to participate and just says no this is the policy. Then we have to do something. We will have an IT person represented here at our next meeting or you will know why not. We all have to do our jobs so that everyone can do their jobs as best as possible.

Juana Moreno
The department has been asked many times what are the policy and what are the steps we have to follow.

Charles Delzell
In his department some people have migrated their email to the main system. One faculty sent the email with the virus to the department system, but it was rejected. The It office exposed the Math department to the virus. Personal records could get stolen or comprised somehow. A purely centralized system is not good enough to meet the needs of the university.

Brendon Karch
On December 15th what is going to happen? Are they going to shut down all department servers? What about websites?

Juana Moreno
That is covered by the policy but emails were not covered.
Brooks Ellwood  
If they decide to close down our servers can we take the LIGO system and move it to MIT?

Juana Moreno  
If you move the server then faculty will leave.

Ken McMillin  
That was the concept of Workday and moving all our stuff to the cloud, but he has not heard anything.

Arend Van Gemmert  
Is it important to move this resolution forward now and have something in hand. Then we have can use this to get input.

Brooks Ellwood  
Do we need a motion to suspend the rules?

Ken McMillin  
His preference is to wait to have someone come speak.

Suresh Rai  
It is best to talk to Andrea and by the next meeting we will have the other side too. In his department they got rid of their server and they have been asked to switch to lsu.edu

Juana Moreno  
When they had a meeting and the auditors came they did not need faculty input, we didn’t have janitors input so why should we have faculty.

Suresh Rai  
We should have them have input. Those that sponsored the resolution should meet with Andrea and try to find out what their side of the story is.

Ravi Rao  
The centralization of the system. Already in May we discussed this issue, but nothing had changed. There therefore be it resolved is to cease and desist that faculty be consulted.

William Adkins  
He doesn’t see the need to postpone. It has been discussed before. He moves to suspend the rules and vote today. Seconded by Mette Garde.

Vote on suspension of rules to vote now: Passed with one no.

Vote on the resolution: Passed with one abstention.

APIC committee will have a section where we can document issues with the travel system. Now Short’s has changed so you can look at the flights going and coming, but you don’t get a price estimate until you make the decision. Look of the record depositor and inform us when there are problems. If it takes more time and it costs more to have this, the better case Mike Layzell has to go downtown and make the case.

Gundela Hachmann  
She encourages us to submit problems even those in the past. The administration would like to make changes but they need more evidence. The admin has to work with the legislature to do this so more evidence we have the better.

Ken McMillin  
The website is www.lsu.edu/APIC. The on campus housing policy, the fact that affects learning and it didn’t come before any faculty bodies. We discussed it extensively in the 2006 time frame and the only reason it wasn’t implemented was due to the number of beds available. They tore down all of our graduate and married student housing. Who will have priority to the new housing? The fact that the news media didn’t use the wording tat is in the edict form Student Affairs, we want the university to know that they implement polices that faculty need to have input in.

All moved to adjourn at 4:59 pm.