

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 20, 2019
Harrison Board Room, Foundation Building



Attendance

Faculty Senate Executive Committee members present:

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| 1. Mandi Lopez (President, VCS) | 4. Fabio Del Piero (Secretary, PBS) |
| 2. Ken McMillin (Past- President, AG) | 5. Julia Ledet (Member-at-Large, Science) |
| 3. Joan King (Vice-President, Food Science) | 6. Marwa Hassan (Member-at-Large, Engineering) |

Parliamentarian: Louay Mohammed

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

1	P	Fereydoun Aghazadeh (ENG)	25	X	Doug Gilman (SCI)	49	P	Megan Papesch (HSS)
2	X	Priscilla "Lilly" Allen (HSE)	26	X	Marwa Hassan (ENG)	50	X	Tracy Quirk (Coast)
3	X	Aly Aly (ENG)	27	X	Katherine Henninger (HSS)	51	X	Maria Rethelyi (HSS)
4	X	Kayanush (Kai) Aryana (AG)	28	A	Tara A. Houston (MDA)	52	X	Kirk Ryan (VCS)
5		Michael Banks (BUS)	29	X	Stuart Irvine (HSS)	53	P	Bhaba Sarker (ENG)
6	P	Chris Barrett (HSS)	30		Kelli Scott Kelley (AD)	54		Stephen Shipman (SCI)
7	X	Inessa Bazayev (MDA)	31		Yunjung Kim (HSS)	55	X	Chassidy Simmons (HSS)
8	X	Dorin Boldor (ENG)	32	X	Roger Laine (SCI)	56		Shane Stadler (SCI)
9	X	Jeffrey Brooks (Law)	33	X	Elecia Lathon (HSE)	57	P	Kristen Stair (AG)
10	X	Konstantin Busch (ENG)	34	X	Lauren Lazaro (AG)	58	X	Suzanne Stauffer (LIB)
11	P	Cassandra Chaney (HSE)	35	X	Julia Ledet (SCI)	59	X	Jared Soileau (BUS)
12	X	Chantel D. Chauvin (HSS)	36		Vincent LiCata (SCI)	60		Rachel Stevens (HSS)
13	X	Senlin Chen (HSE)	37	X	J. Michael Martinez (HSE)	61		Brenton Stewart (HSE)
14	P	Prosanta Chakrabarty (SCI)	38	P	Juan Martinez (PBS)	62	X	Judith Sylvester (MCOM)
15	X	Jin-Woo Choi (ENG)	39	X	James Matthews (SCI)	63	P	Matthew Vangel (MDA)
16		Joe Clare (HSS)	40	X	John Miles (LIB)	64	X	Meredith Veldman (HSS)
17	X	Brett Collier (AG)	41	X	Mustajab Mirza (VCS)	65		Nan Walker (Coast)
18	X	Brandi Conrad (HSE)	42		Laura Martins (HSS)	66	A	Wei-Hsung Wang (Energy)
19	X	Theda Daniels-Race (ENG)	43	X	William Monroe (Law)	67		Sonja Wiley (BUS)
20		Jeff Davis (AG)	44	X	Carl Motsenbocker (AG)	68	X	Cathy Williams (AG)
21		Michael Desmond (AD)	45	X	Ioan I. Negulescu (AG)	69		Donghui Zhang (SCI)
22	X	Levent Dirikolu (CBS)	46	X	Robert Newman (BUS)			
23	X	Peter Doran (SCI)	47	A	Pius Ngandu (HSS)			
24	X	Edward Gibbons (HSE)	48	P	Rafael Orozco (HSS)			

Guests:

Emmanuel Owvor-Smith	Nicole Roth	Lois Kuyper-Rushing	Clay Benton	Brian Antie
Tammy Millican	Roger Husser	Stanley Wilder	Jane Cassidy	Stacia Haynie
Arend Van Gemmert	Matt Lee	Anna Bartel		

Public Comments on Agenda Items

None.

Consideration of the Minutes from October 29, 2019

Moved by Stuart Irvine and Suzanne Stauffer.

Approved unanimously with potential corrections.

Mary Werner, Chair of the LSU Board of Supervisors Address

Mary Werner thanked Mandi Lopez for her introduction and the Senate for their questions. The invitation extended to Ms. Werner is the first time in university memory that the Chair of the LSU Board of Supervisors has addressed faculty senators. Ms. Werner let the Senate know that she had just attended the newly elected governor's public speech where he illustrated his priorities in the next legislative session. She stated that the most important aspect of her involvement on the LSU Board of Supervisors is the interaction and knowledge gained from attending student, faculty, and school invitations. LSU is comprised of its students, faculty, and staff. The buildings, press, and administration are secondary. From the questions sent, Ms. Werner prepared the following remarks on faculty compensation. It consists of

three major parts: salary, benefits (mostly health insurance), and pension. LSU is below other southern regional schools in terms of a competitive salary. This was attributed to post-recessional decisions from the state to discontinue previous higher educational funding amounts. One of the goals of the LSU Board of Supervisors is to increase faculty salaries and make them nationally competitive. LSU should be a leader in compensation, not a follower. Salary issues are second behind covering mandated costs. Faculty pay raises depend on a stable budget. Ms. Werner is encouraged by the election of the governor and his support of higher education; however, she voiced her concern on the make-up of the LA legislature. She emphasized that she will be leading the charge on behalf of LSU's needs. Ms. Werner continued with faculty health benefits and pensions, particularly the problems and concerns regarding ORP. LSU completed the incremental steps in getting employer ORP contribution to 6.2% of the employee's salary, the maximum allowable by state law. The UAL is a set of liabilities inherited prior to 1989. The mechanism to pay it off was created as a payroll tax based on every institution's salary expenditure; a historic vestige that is covered by all employees. This year's UAL contribution rate as required by state law must cover 22.2% of employee salaries. If LSU was not required to pay the UAL, this money could be used for faculty raises and additional faculty and staff. Those funds would be not able to be used to increase employer contributions to ORP unless the state law is changed. There is no solution for ORP issues yet, however, the governmental relations team and the administration formed a working group to sift through ideas. The UAL will be paid off in 2029 and pensions are being ascertained and looked at for that time. Ms. Werner explained that the Board of Supervisors will be starting to build relationships with the new legislators and discuss LSU needs. Infrastructure is also a priority for the Board of Supervisors. LSU A&M accounts for more than \$600 million in deferred maintenance, 61% out of all other campuses. The Board of Supervisors expects the state bond commission to approve the renovations of several buildings on campus: Art Studios and the Huey P. Long Field House. The new additions to the Vet School and Food Science will be added to the approval. They are also seeking funding for instructional science labs, Vet School accreditation, and deferred maintenance. The Board of Supervisors made the decision to replace the library, however, due to the scale of the project, it will be related to the rest of the state's capital outlay program, excluding highways. There is interest and they will continue to develop the concept. Ms. Werner also outlined her concerns on the IT infrastructure. Last year's estimates for IT replacement were around \$100 million. Problems, concerns, and global communications prevent the university from delaying or addressing issues. The scope of the IT environment and its condition is a challenge for board members to understand. A replacement on the scale would place pressure on an already tight budget. A conversation with the state will begin this next fiscal year on addressing this need. This conversation will be added to faculty salaries, pension, and deferred maintenance. Their challenge is to try and find funding to achieve these large-scale dreams. Ms. Werner continued by explaining Board of Supervisor priorities. She expounded on the procedures from budget requests submitted to the Office of Budget & Planning and are then sent to the board. Capital Outlay projects will be based on life safety first, facility condition, and reported demand. Academic affairs overlay programmatic needs which are then sent from the President to the board. Policies and legal items go through governmental affairs. They will then create a list of possible legislation. The Family Leave Policy is one of those items. The President interacts directly with the board on strategies and tactics on organizational efforts, as well as policy, budget, and capital to determine political viability, coalitions, partnerships, and other needed actions. Ms. Werner assured the Senate that the BoS has a competent governmental relations team and that all board members are politically experienced. LSU is still making up loses under the Jindal years and with a solid, stable state funding source, they will be able to make future advancements. There is a budget surplus of \$500 million, more than the expected \$300 million. Ms. Werner advocated three specific items for LSU. Those determinations will not be made until the end of the year and budget discussions begin. She also relayed that more federal grant dollars are going to quantum science, cyber defense, and biomedical, especially cancer treatments and sea level rise. Those alignments and specific needs have been enumerated in the strategic plan. LSU has also contributed to the state's economic developments such as IBM, EA Sports, and DXC technologies. We can do more than partnering where it's congruent to building our programs here. The BoS is continually looking 5-10 years ahead, as the budget allows. Ms. Werner circled back on the Family Leave Policy. She understands this issue as a single, working mother and two older parents. LSU and the state must move forward from just child care, to a policy that takes care of working families. Ms. Werner is committed to working with the President to discover new ways to move this conversation forward. This will be an issue that they will continue to work on this to bring to the legislature. The BoS learned how to move the conversation forward from the previous attempt. Issues involving working families, working mothers, working single fathers, equal pay, and family leave need to be addressed and cannot be prolonged further. In closing, Ms. Werner stated that it is an honor to serve as the chair of the LSU Board of Supervisors.

Q&A Summary:

None.

President King Alexander Address on Student Mental Health

President Alexander addressed the Senate on the three attempted suicides over one weekend at LSU. The administration has begun looking into this issue by contacting colleagues around the nation. Research is inconclusive on why this issue has recently resurfaced, however, he iterated that the holiday season, family issues, finals, prescription drugs, etc. may be many of the contributing factors. Student mental health was a top issue at the national meeting of Land Grant Universities. President Alexander urged the senators to be cognizant of this issue with students and to get timely help as necessary through health other student services. He also urged senators to let their colleagues know.

Q&A Summary:

Priscilla Allen: Just a comment. Thank you for bringing this very real and unfortunate reality to us. Social workers receive lots of training in crisis and many times students don't understand that talking about suicide does not prompt suicide attempts. In fact, the opposite is true. Talking about it helps.

President Alexander: Thank you.

Mandi Lopez: Thank you for those comments Professor Allen.

President's Report

1. Mandi thanked Ms. Werner for speaking to the Senate and reiterated that her visit is the first in university memory that any member of the Board of Supervisors has presented and addressed faculty directly. She thanked the senators for their questions and hot topics for Ms. Werner's consideration. She also thanked the Executive Committee for compiling all concerns into a few pointed questions. Mandi Lopez hopes that this becomes an annual and/or bi-annual occurrence to exemplify cooperation and good intentions among the LSU hierarchy.
2. Dean Queen from Music and Dramatic Arts kicked off the Deans as Scholars seminar with an outstanding presentation on November 6. He lectured, sang, and directed opera as part of this talk and all within a single hour. Dean of College of Sciences, Cynthia Peterson is scheduled for February 19.
3. During last meeting's presentation by Ombudsperson Retha Niedecken, the confusion and frustration regarding leave and all its caveats was clear. Administration response was immediate and serious. As a start, faculty have the opportunity to present concerns on leave in writing and submitting via the suggestion box and online on the Faculty Senate website. The Executive Committee will collect and compile to distill into topic categories to be addressed at Senate meetings.
4. Many faculty found the email phishing test distributed by IT to be in poor taste and genuinely offensive. The Executive Committee will be following up on this particular item with LSU leadership.
5. Knowing that there will be no faculty raises this year, the Executive Committee along with Standing Committees are exploring other potential economic incentives. Some suggestions include short term pay increases for an increase in workload, tuition and fee remission for faculty children and spouses, and increases in employer contributions to retirement. The Executive Committee welcomes all ideas. The Benefits Committee will be re-presenting a previously submitted Resolution at the next meeting on the topic of tuition and fee remission.
6. The tuition remission tax on student salaries paid through grants, 36%, is counter intuitive to recruit and retain trainees, and works against the sustained faculty advocacy for reasonable and livable conditions for our graduate students. Lack of standard operating procedures and inconsistent application across colleges has been discussed with VP of ORED, Sam Bentley. He will be working with the Executive Committee on this issue.
7. The Smoking, Tobacco, Inhalant and Vaping Committee is fully populated by the Office of Academic Affairs. Mandi Lopez acknowledged Professor Judith Sylvester on her campaigns on smoking, tobacco, and now vaping.
8. The Faculty Senate Library, Benefits, and Budget & Planning Committees are all filled and launched. The Executive Committee commends those committee members as well as those of the Adjudication Committee for their dedication and service. These cooperative endeavors contribute to our LSU's ability to consistently rise above the dynamic challenges of our contemporary academic environment.
9. The time and effort required for meaningful service far exceeds any measurable standard. In most institutional paradigms there is research and teaching. There are no real metrics for service and generally undervalued. Without service, the concept of faculty governance is a guaranteed failure. The Executive Committee has requested additional consideration on this component of faculty contribution by administration.
10. The Faculty Senate initiated policy statement on Academic Freedom will be working its way through administrative channels.
11. Professor McMillin will be forming a committee to update Faculty Senate bylaws. Volunteers are welcome.
12. Troy Blanchard is the new Dean of HSS and the Executive Committee is involved in the search for the Dean of Human Sciences and Education. Please attend the open forums. There is always something to be gained from scholars and leaders in any discipline.
13. Conflict does arise between faculty members and administration. Most challenges can be avoided with third party intervention with the presence of a peer advisor during meetings. The Faculty Senate will keep a list of advisors by their administrative assistant and shared with faculty upon request. We are seeking volunteers. Peer advisors do not participate in meetings. They are there to observe and help to recap discussions with the faculty member.
14. The Faculty Senate voted for a sweater soiree directly following the December 3 meeting.

Q&A Summary:

Aly Aly: My question might be slightly irrelevant to your report; however, I would like to know feedback about the assessment of our educational impact on undergraduate and especially graduate students once they graduate. This would require us to collect data and communicate with students for each individual unit. We are aware of those very successful students, however, those are only a few. Is this being done at other units? If we do this, it may need another resource to collect data. Will it be the current underpaid staff? These are open questions to everyone, and I wonder if some units are already doing this type of assessment. Is there a potential for us to do this at a higher level?

Mandi Lopez: Is your question on an assessment of graduates?

Aly Aly: The assessment of the quality of our graduates. We need more data for continuous improvement.

Marwa Hassan: I will share with you what we do in my department. What you are requesting is required for our accreditation. I'm assuming it's required by your department?

Aly Aly: Yes. However, the data did not make for a meaningful report.

Marwa Hassan: In my department, it is the job of the graduate coordinator and the undergraduate coordinator to collect data. I was the graduate coordinator for 6 or 7 years. What we did, was develop a survey and sent it to all alumni and employers that hire out students. We collect the data and make a self-assessment report. I thought that you had something similar, so maybe check with your unit head. This is a requirement for our accreditation, so you must have this information.

Aly Aly: So, the results should come from the unit?

Marwa Hassan: Yes, at the unit.

Mandi Lopez: Please don't leave soon after the meeting so that I can catch the specifics of your question and we will certainly follow up.

Aly Aly: Thank you.

Mobility Implementation Plan, Roger Husser, Assistant Vice President, LSU Planning, Design and Construction

Roger Husser was joined by Tammy Millican, Greg LaCour, and Arend Van Gemmert. They have made this forty-minute presentation numerous times and assured the Senate that they would do their best within ten minutes. Roger began the presentation by outlining the meaning of mobility: transforming LSU transportation in how everyone gets to, from, in, and around campus. The Mobility Implementation Plan covers parking, transit, pedestrians, bicycles, and other modes of transportation. The current issues on campus is that safety and mobility on campus is not being met and recruitment and retention are being hampered. Roger posed the question: what if we do nothing? Enrollment growth and new buildings are not possible as well as the inability to fix the safety and access issues for faculty, staff, and students. The Mobility Implementation Plan stems directly from the core master plan devised approximately two years ago. The plan helps clarify the details of how to accomplish their part in the master plan. It is driven by safety and equitability. The Mobility Committee sent a survey to all faculty, students and staff with over 3,300 respondents. Using that data, meetings with campus stakeholders, transportation and mobility experts, and community partners, the outline of the mobility plan was created. Parking will be adjusted on campus, implementation of more efficient transit systems, improvements in the bicycle network, pedestrian safety and access, enhanced communication in and around the campus community, increased electric vehicle charging stations, and adding more micro-transit systems are some of the components of the mobility plan. Roger explained that adding more parking garages would drive parking pass costs up astronomically. Parking and Transportation is an auxiliary group not subsidized by the state. Therefore, their revenue is generated by parking pass costs and student transportation fees. Utilizing surface parking lots already in use on campus is more efficient and cost effective. There were many financial models and scenarios generated by the Mobility Committee in order to understand the feasibility of creating improvements. The current model is not financially sustainable. One of their main goals was to find ways where faculty, staff, and students could choose not to bring cars onto campus. They have proposed a blended scenario in which student transportation fees and parking fees will incrementally increase. They will be providing new amenities and offerings over the course of several years as well. The new parking system will be performance-based with closeness and convenience to the core campus being the driving cost factor. There will be a zone system based on demand and performance to create more viable options that are not currently available. The mobility plan will start in the core campus and move outwards over the course of five years while simultaneously improving the transit system starting in year one. There are also capital improvements that overlay the mobility plan called streetscapes. The street, sidewalks, lighting, bicycle paths, and landscaping will be improved for better mobility and access. Some of these developments have already been implemented with Nicholson Drive and Pleasant Hall. Other parts of the plan are also being moved forward such as the gotcha bikes program and commuter crew, connecting with the city of Baton Rouge to create a social space for people to find other commuters to campus from their neighborhoods. Flixbus has also been added where faculty, students, and staff can travel by bus to other cities inside and outside of Louisiana for a small fee. Roger ended the presentation by outlining three common questions asked by faculty, students, and staff. The first question involves the fee increases. Parking and Transportation can only provide services and amenities that they have the revenue to do. The second question was about building more parking garages. Roger answered this by stating that LSU has the land area to provide parking more cost effectively without charging unrealistic fees. The last question was about restricting freshman from having cars on campus. That many only temporarily solve part of the problem but is not a solution to all the issues surrounding mobility, safety, and access in and around campus.

Q&A Summary:

Priscilla Allen: Thank you for your effort to make improvements despite cost. I was expecting to hear how we meet the needs of persons with disabilities on our campus. Is that a separate issue? Students have done research on how bikes interfere with the mobility of persons with disability. What are we doing for people who have these difficulties?

Roger Husser: Yes. That is an absolute paramount part of this plan. I mentioned access which is specifically for persons with disabilities. Once you have had time to review the plan in its entirety, you will see it. We will make sure it is enhanced in the final report we are working on. There will be an entire section on accessibility. When we think about improving sidewalks and those things on campus, that inherently improves accessibility for those that have special needs.

Priscilla Allen: Are the sidewalks for bikes?

Roger Husser: They are for pedestrians and for those with disabilities.

Judith Sylvester: It's not just bicycles, it's the skateboards and scooters.

Roger Husser: Yes.

Priscilla Allen: But thank you. We know you are working hard on it.

Roger Husser: This is absolutely about accessibility.

Mandi Lopez: So, is there a place where the Faculty Senate members can access your full presentation?

Roger Husser: Yes. We will provide the full presentation and email contacts. Dr. Van Gemmert is a representative of the Faculty Senate and they may reach out to him as well.

Arend Van Gemmert: This presentation is online, and the link can be sent to all senators. Accessibility is mentioned more than in our shortened presentation.

Mandi Lopez: Is there an opportunity for feedback?

Roger Husser: Absolutely. That is why we are here. This plan is still in the works. We are still gaining feedback and this presentation here today will grow into a final report.

Arend Van Gemmert: If I may add, what we are hoping is that Faculty Senate is looking at this and the resolution from the mobility steering committee and find ways to support this plan. The Staff Senate and Student Senate have supported resolutions and faculty will be the third stakeholder that is important to this plan.

Gregory Upton: Have you considered Baton Rouge's long-term plans? What is the contribution of this to Baton Rouge?

Tammy Millican: We have met with DVW, DOTD, and a group that is working on the rapid transit bus. We have looked at their plans to make that what we're doing fits. That's how we started working with them on commuter crew. Construction on the interstate will be begin in about two years and there will be a time that the Dalrymple exit will be closed, affecting those coming in and out of campus. We are trying to be proactive and plan for those instances. The final report will be outlining those parts.

Mandi Lopez: Professor Sylvester is the chair of the Budget and Planning Committee, so, I would suggest meeting with her and that group to discuss this plan in more detail.

Judith Sylvester: Do you have a timeline for the plan?

Roger Husser: There are about eight slides following this one by year that show what we expect to happen. The largest components, park and go and price-based system, will start August 2021. When you have access to the full presentation, you will be able to see this timeline.

Fabio Del Piero: It seems like the improvements to the LSU lake will occur soon. Are people in charge of the project in touch with you?

Tammy Millican: We have LSU representation on that master plan.

Fabio Del Piero: Do we have any viability, or any say in that plan.

Roger Husser: Absolutely. We own the lakes. Others are interested because the Baton Rouge community benefits from them as well and that is why they have been leading the effort. We have and will continue to have a seat at the table on what becomes of those lakes.

Alan Sikes: I'm very glad that you are interested in improving Tiger Trails. The locator app system is not working. When you call the transportation office to ask about bus locations and when the app will be fixed, there are no answers.

Tammy Millican: Transload just went to 4G and when they did, they crashed the system. There is an issue with Verizon in this area. They are sending IT staff from Transit to Baton Rouge this week to work out the issue. One of the parts of the mobility plan is analyzing bus routes. There are too many stops and slowing it down. If we don't want students to bring vehicles to campus, then we need stellar and reliable services. Park and go will have a building with Wi-Fi, restrooms, vending machines, with buses arriving and leaving 7-8 minutes.

Adelaide Russo: Another issue that needs addressing is the way in which the current buses are ruining the roads. The road maintenance cannot be maintained.

Tammy Millican: That is an issue we are aware of. We don't have the funding currently to fix the roads because there have been no permit increases since 2008. The cost to maintain the roads has continued to rise, but we have no additional revenue.

Academic Calendar, Clay Benton, Registrar, Office of the University Registrar

Clay Benton began with background on the calendar changes and decisions. Last August, Academic Affairs formed a committee of administrators to discuss issues on declining summer enrollment and to reduce the barriers for faculty to teach online courses in addition to their on-campus classes. LSU Online's structure is comprised of 7-week modules that run separately from the traditional academic calendar. This misalignment caused issues with faculty wanting to teach in both environments. The Office of the Registrar was asked to work on calendar options to help alleviate these problems. In order to have enough meeting minutes to meet the current definition for a credit hour, there were not enough weeks in the year to have six, eight-week modules and still have holidays that we recognize on campus. Several drafts were created as well as looking at peer institutions with large online presences like Arizona State University and the final draft was submitted. There were conversations with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee to discuss several issues. The calendar was then sent to the deans, directors, department chairs, assistant deans, and some auxiliaries. After feedback and discussion, the newly revised calendar was approved. The traditional Fall semester is unchanged with 15 weeks and a week of exams. B and C sessions are now going to be 7 weeks and 1 day. They used to be 8 full weeks and have been shortened to directly match the online environment. Those B and C sessions do not have the full 2100 minutes of instruction, so, those classes must be 25% web-based. These sessions are sparsely populated and do not affect a wide range of students. Winter session remains unchanged. Spring semester mimics Fall; 15 weeks, 1 week for exams, and the two sub-sessions aligning with online modules. There will no longer be a spring or summer intersession starting 2021. This decision was a result of declining enrollment. In its place there will be two summer sessions, both lasting 5 weeks and 1 day. This aligns with the online summer modules. The goals for these changes are to keep the instructional time to meet the Carnegie unit definition and the LSU PS-45 outline of what is a credit hour while also reducing teaching online barriers. This change will go into effect Fall 2020.

Q&A Summary:

Adelaide Russo: What is the effect on study abroad programs?

Clay Benton: We reached out to that department and they did not provide any direct negative feedback. We will certainly work with them on this. We are aware of specific units where there are going to be challenges. We will work with those units as needed. We will also reach out to Dr. Lopez for faculty representation at those times.

Priscilla Allen: I will have a lot later regarding this issue and my faculty have assembled a work group and a memo to outline how this is especially problematic for social work. We have the most online programs in the university for graduate students. I want to inform you that 5 weeks is untenable for a licensed profession whose 960 hours must be field based. There is no way to fit that requirement. Why the 5 weeks?

Clay Benton: Right. I did meet with Denise multiple times to discuss some of the field programs. We are looking at options to work through these issues. HSE was one of the colleges that provided very thorough responses and have passed them to Academic Affairs. We will be working with each unit individually.

Priscilla Allen: So, why the 5 weeks?

Clay Benton: The traditional cadence for online is 7-8 weeks, but they don't take holidays or breaks observed by the physical campus. That total is 48 weeks. The breaks the university takes, prevents us from aligning with online directly. Other peers that we looked at, have those shortened summer weeks because that then allows them to fit 6 modules into a 52-week year. The goal is to make summer directly align and therefore it needs to be condensed.

Carl Motsenbocker: At other institutions, spring break is in the middle of the semester. It looks like it will be the 11th week for the 2020-2021 calendar. I realize that we get Mardi Gras off, but that is not really a break for us or the students. About two decades ago, we were asking questions about why we don't align with BRCC or local school systems. That is a real issue that has not been resolved.

Clay Benton: There is a Faculty Senate resolution that asks that spring break be concluded before April 1. We typically try to align spring break with Easter. So, when Easter is late, we try to divide Good Friday from spring break so that we can have that break take place before the start of April.

Carl Motsenbocker: So, you are following Faculty Senate resolution? So, if we resolve that it should be in the middle of the semester?

Clay Benton: We will revisit that. We are trying to avoid the break being right before finals.

Carl Motsenbocker: The students need a break in the middle of the semester, not towards the end.

Marwa Hassan: I am following up on Dr. Allen's comment and this is just for consideration. There are many issues with the 5-week session, one being that you have to work a 14-week curriculum into 5 weeks. This is going to be a problem. If faculty are okay with working through breaks and holidays, wouldn't keeping the 7 weeks be a better solution?

Clay Benton: That is certainly up for discussion. The issue becomes the academic processing that occurs on the back end of sessions. Summer would be expanded and push Spring semester up to early January. We are constantly working on calendars and the next version might be different.

Marwa Hassan: We never reached 8 weeks. It was always 7 weeks with 2 for submission of results. You can restart the session right after another.

Clay Benton: That one day is for financial aid purposes, so it must be a technical class day. The processing takes place after submissions and it is impossible to do a quick turn around in the system. The undergraduate levels are extensive.

Lauren Lazaro: For summer sessions, why do we have to have 2 sessions? Why can't we have 1, 7-week session?

Clay Benton: The whole point of the redesign is to align with online modules. The cadence of online is 6 modules over the course of the year to ensure accelerated matriculation. In order to align with that, we have to have 2 sessions in order to get 6 across the full calendar.

Lauren Lazaro: Some agriculture classes are unique. The classes are for students as well as the community. Having a 5-week session will make this difficult. What are we supposed to do?

Clay Benton: When we sent the calendar out, those are some of the issues that we wanted to be aware of. I recognize that it does not go to all faculty, but department chairs and deans. Those are issues that we are going to discuss with individual units.

Suzanne Stauffer: San Jose State has a very large online program. They have all of these sessions, but they also have a 10-week session. Can we propose that as a solution? There can be a B and C and also a 10-week session if you are not part of LSU Online. Those units that are unable to fit a 16-week seminar into 5 weeks and 1 day can have that 10-week option. Can we do that?

Clay Benton: That is a great comment and observation. This has been discussed previously. My understanding that for now, this is what we are going to attempt.

Mandi Lopez: All of your comments are vitally important. Write them down and we will forward them to discuss.

Elsevier Update, Stanley Wilder, Dean LSU Libraries and Lois Kuyper-Rushing, Associate Dean LSU Libraries

Stanley Wilder introduced Lois Kuyper-Rushing as the overall manager of the process since April. Lois reminded the Senate that on April 23, 2019, Resolution 19-05 was passed in which the Libraries sought to reduce their \$2 million contract with Elsevier and to subscribe to journals on a title by title basis. We have been working on deciding the list of journals. There were two factors in determining titles: greatest usage and requests from faculty. There is now a preliminary list where 75% of the titles are based on usage models and 25% is based on faculty needs. There is a faculty group from mostly STEM areas that serve on a Task Force Committee. The preliminary list is awaiting final approval from Academic Affairs and at that point we will begin negotiations with Elsevier. We will share the list with faculty when it has been finalized. Elsevier pricing may have changed which may result in the list to also change. In conversations with our colleagues at Iowa State, who have just finished their Elsevier negotiations, they noted that there was slightly more reception to the idea of having lower costs. Until the list is finalized, we cannot make it public.

Q&A Summary:

Inessa Bazayev: How are you addressing the journals in the humanities?

Lois Kuyper-Rushing: Right now, we are not changing any journals in the humanities. We are focusing on Elsevier.

Senlin Chen: You said that the list was not finalized. Are you still open for suggestions?

Lois Kuyper-Rushing: That is finished. We are no longer taking recommendations.

Peter Doran: In my department, we suggested cutting Elsevier altogether.

Senator: Is this a multi-year contract or deal?

Lois Kuyper-Rushing: This is a year by year contract.

Senator: So, next year you will be asking for recommendations? The list will change?

Stanley Wilder: Yes. This lowers the stakes for what we are doing right now because we can make corrections.

Brett Collier: Are we beginning to consider renegotiating other contracts? Elsevier is not the only problem. Is this on the radar?

Staley Wilder: LSU is in a leadership position and we are in uncharted waters. Our only obligation right now is to make the system that we proposed work. Our attention is focused solely on this project. We want to make sure that we use this year to guarantee that there is no adverse impact on your research agendas.

Volunteers for Peer Advisors, Brooks Ellwood, Professor, Geology

Brooks Ellwood gave an overview of what entails being a peer advisor. What several people have noticed for several years, that is not just unique to LSU, is conflict or tension between faculty and/or faculty and administration. There are three factors that are commonly cited when a peer advisor is requested: some faculty members feel threatened by other hi-performance faculty, that some of what happens is political, and that much of this is sexist behavior. At LSU, faculty have been advising other faculty for about 20 years as members of AAUP. Those members have been standing in for faculty when needed as well as sitting in meetings with deans or chairs. The faculty member that sits in as the advisor, often buffers behaviors and de-escalate situations. There have been some legality questions concerning peer advisors sitting in on meetings. There is nothing illegal. In the past, they have never been excluded from meetings. Brooks called on volunteers from the Senate.

Q&A Summary:

None.

Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics, Joan King, Vice-President, Faculty Senate

Joan King is the current Vice Chair of COIA, the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics. Joan started with the history of the committee. It started in 2013 and the overall purpose is to create reform in athletics. The goals of COIA is to allow faculty to have a broad voice in the activities of campus athletics, providing ideas of lasting reform, working with other groups to ensure the academic mission of the university is being followed, and ensuring lasting reform in the NCAA. Some of the academic ideals COIA works to ensure are the academic admission standards, student welfare, field practice versus course time, financial questions, commercialization issues, and sponsorships of players. Governance between the faculty and athletic representatives is also a major component of COIA. Joan recited the mission which is to provide academic excellence, integrity, and student wellbeing in intercollegiate athletics. COIA would like to gain more faculty involvement in oversight of athletics. Student athletes are students first that adhere to academic integrity and are at the university to gain their degree. Diversity and inclusivity are important for promoting student athlete welfare. There also needs to be financial responsibility of athletic departments. There is more of an impact on small colleges to support their athletic programs. COIA also encourages transparency and open dialogue between athletic departments and faculty. There are 57 faculty senates in COIA. The schools with basketball have recently been invited to join the organization. At a previous annual meeting, a presentation on recommended best practices was given. Those included maintaining lines of communication between athletics and the faculty, cluster courses, clarifying the role of the faculty athletic representative, fostering an atmosphere of shared experiences, faculty appreciation at athletic events, faculty shadow student athletes, and general meetings. Faculty governance includes recommending the faculty athletic representative, an athletics council at the university level, shared information on the athletics budget, information on the GSR (graduation success rate), NCAA rules, faculty senate involvement in surveys, Title IX issues, and internal reviews. Some current issues are pay for play, compensation for use of a student athlete's name or likeness, and gambling on college sports. COIA's next annual meeting is Saturday, February 15. The Chief Operating Officer, Director of Academic Affairs from the Cox Center of Communication, a Senior Associate Director at the Cox Center for the Women's Basketball team, the Assistant Athletic Director for Football Recruitment, NCAA representatives, a Drake Group representative, Night Commission representative, a coach, and student athlete are some of the potential speakers. The finalized agenda will be sent out with an invitation. The registration fee is \$50.

Q&A Summary:

None.

Old Business

Revision of Courses and Curriculum Committee membership description

Courses and Curricula Committee
Faculty Senate Bylaws (discussion on highlighted changes)

Charges

1. To approve or disapprove, after review, proposed additions to, alterations of, and elimination of all courses, curricula, and degree programs submitted by colleges and schools, or referred by the Office of Academic Affairs;
2. To notify the appropriate departments and colleges and the Office of Academic Affairs regarding all decisions reached by the committee and to make recommendations concerning needed clarification, coordination, or study of the implications of proposed changes;

3. To consult, when deemed appropriate, with departments which appear to be affected by proposed changes in courses and curricula; departments may appeal decisions made by the committee; if the appeal is supported by the college curriculum committee, the matter shall be sent directly to the Faculty Senate for final determination and placed on the Agenda of the Faculty Senate for the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Senate; and
4. To conduct on its own initiative continuing studies of courses and curricula, and to make recommendations to departments concerned and to the ~~Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs~~ concerning **Executive Vice President & Provost** changes which appear to be desirable and which appear to require study by specific departments concerned or by special committees appointed for the purpose.

Membership

Eleven experienced faculty (no more than two from any college or school); one undergraduate student; **one graduate student**; chair of the General Education Committee, ex officio. The Office of Academic Affairs will provide administrative assistance at the request of the committee. (“Experienced” is defined as having had one or more years of active participation on a department, school, or college curriculum committee.)

Q&A Summary:

Alan Sikes: As an alternate, could you explain the rationale for that?

Anna Bartel: In 2015, PS-45 was revised and graduate student was removed. There was no history behind that decision. I used to work in the C&C Committee and from 2011-2015 and there was never a graduate student. I think it was just a clean-up. If you want to put the graduate student back in, we can add it because it is not a substantial change. C&C does review undergraduate and graduate courses.

Vote: **24 to keep graduate student**, 14 to delete graduate student

New Business

None

All moved to adjourn at 5:25pm.