

**Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, November 8, 2016**  
**Student Senate Room, LSU Student Union**



**Attendance**

*Faculty Senate Executive Committee members present:*

1. Kevin L. Cope (President, English)
2. Ken McMillin (Vice-President, Animal Science)
3. Bill Daly (Past President, Chemistry)
4. Joan King (Secretary, Food Science)
5. Mandi Lopez (Member-at-Large, Vet Science)
6. Lillian-Bridwell Bowles (Member-at-Large, English)
7. Paul Hrycaj (Member-at-Large, Libraries)

Parliamentarian: Louay Mohammed

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

1	X	William Adkins (Math/Sci)	23	X	David Donze (Biological Sciences/Sci)	45	X	Steven Pomarico (Biological Sci/Sci)
2	X	Fakhri Al-Bagdadi (Comp. Biomed Sci/Vet)	24	X	Brooks Ellwood (Geol and Geophys/Sci)	46	X	Laura Riggs (Vet Clinical Sci/Vet Sci)
3	X	Austin Allen (Landscape Arch./AD)	25	P	Kenny Fasching-Vamer (Education/HSE)	47		Tracey Rizzuto (SHREWD/HSE)
4	P	Paul Anderson (Foreign Language Lit./HSS)	26	X	Mette Garde (Physics/Sci)	48		Laurel Romeo (TAM/Ag)
5	X	Frank Anselmo (French/HSS)	27		Angeletta Gouridine (English/HSS)	49	X	Christopher Rovee (English/HSS)
6	X	Paula Arai (Philosophy & Relig Studies/HSS)	28	X	Gregory Griffin (Eng/Eng)	50	P	Michael Russo (LSU Libraries/HSS)
7		Christopher Austin (Biological Sci/Sci)	29	X	Gundela Hachmann (Foreign Lang Lit./HHS)	51	X	Carlos Slawson (Finance/Bus)
8		Emily Beasley (Kinesiology/HSE)	30		Aixin Hou (Environ. Studies/Coast and Envir.)	52	X	Daniel Sheehy (Physics Astro/Sci)
9	X	Brett Boutwell (Music/Music & Drama Arts)	31	X	Paul Hrycaj (LSU Libraries/HSS)	53		Alan Sikes (Theater/Music Dramatic Arts)
10	X	Lillian Bridwell-Bowles (English/HSS)	32	P	Yongick Jeong (Mass Comm/Mass Comm)	54	P	Andrew Sluyter (Geology Anthro/Sci)
11		Konstantin Busch (EE & Comp Sci/Eng)	33	X	Lisa Johnson (Kinesiology/HSS)	55	X	Kevin Smith (Chemistry/Sci)
12		Areendam Chanda (Economics/Bus)	34		Brendan Karch (History/HSS)	56	X	Arash Dahi Taleghami (Petro Eng/Eng)
13		Joseph Clare (Political Sci/HSS)	35	X	Ingeborg Langohr (Pathbio Sci/Vet Med)	57	X	Sabrina Taylor (RNR/Ag)
14	X	Jon Cogburn (Philosophy Rel Stud./HSS)	36		Keri Larson (Inform Sys Decision Sci/Bus)	58	X	David Terry (Comm Stud/HSS)
15	X	Christine Corcos (Law/Law Center)	37	X	Catherine Lemieux (Social Work/HSE)	59		Jose Torres (Sociology/HSS)
16		Belinda Davis (Political Sci/HSS)	38	X	Kanchan Maiti (Coast Stud/Coast and Envir)	60	X	Arend Van Gemmert (Kinesiology/HSE)
17		Jeff Davis (Entymology/Ag)	39		Alison McFarland (Music/Music and DA)	61	X	Dottie Vaughn (Math/Sci)
18	X	Fabio Del Piero (Pathbiol Sci/Vet Med)	40	X	Jean McGuire (Management/Bus)	62	X	Muhammed Wahab (Mech Industr Eng/Eng)
19		Charles Delzell (Math/Sci)	41	X	Ken McMillin (Animal Sci/Ag)	63		Gregory Watson (Architecture/AD)
20	X	Margaret Denny (Education/HSE)	42	X	Louay Mohammed (Civil Environ Eng/Eng)	64		John Westra (AgEcon/Ag)
21	X	John Devlin (Law/Law Center)	43		Evgueni Nestrov (Chemistry/Sci)	65	X	Hsiao-Chun Wu (Elect Eng Comp Sc/Eng)
22	X	Cyndi DiCarlo (Education/HSE)	44		Jim Ottea (Entomology/Agri)	66		Yejun Wu (Library Information Sci/LHSE)

*Guests:*

Jane Cassidy	Matt Lee	Robert Doolos	Barrett Linam	Katie Gagliano
Colorado Robertson	Ed Nobles			

**Consideration of the Minutes from October 11, 2016**

Motion by senator Arend Van Gemmert, seconded by Hsiao-Chun Wu.  
 Approved unanimously with potential corrections.

President's Report

1. The Faculty Senate anticipated the motions of state and has begun a dialog about keeping live a mascot on campus.
2. There have been slow ups and lack of communication problems related to persons holding H1 and J1 visas on campus. We have spoken to the Provost about the issue as it constitutes an academic and research problem and it is under consideration and investigation by the Provost.
3. We have also talked about the possibility of arbitration at LSU as a possible means of conflict resolution when there is a problem between an employee, including a professorial employee and the university. This proposal has progressed fairly far, and after conversations with Dan Layzell and Provost and the proposal was advanced to the University General Council for further comment. There are a large number of universities that do offer that as an option in extreme cases.
4. There is an uptick in letters related to disabilities. This is a delicate subject. The Director of the Office of Disability Services will meet with Faculty Senate Executive Committee on December 1 about criteria for granting an accommodation letter to the qualifications of persons doing evaluations and number and frequency of accommodations.

5. There was a ground breaking ceremony for the Nicholson Gateway development. There have been questions raised about it, particularly with what kind of commercial services and outlets will be there. The faculty expects there will be cultural if not academic dimension to the businesses put in that spot.
6. The length of commencement has shortened and attendance levels have dropped and we are slipping away from the high level of dignity of the ceremony. There is a new commencement study committee being put together by the President's office. That is a good sign since the Faculty Senate has asked year in and year out for general improvement in the quality of commencement speakers as well as the character of commencement itself.
7. We have had extensive conversations about the image of the university on game day from high visibility of inmate labor to the terrible condition of the campus after game days as well as quick back to back games scheduled throughout Thanksgiving time. He believes that it will ultimately lead to the formation of some committee to look at the problem. The administration has recognized that this is a problem.
8. The Chief Information Officer position has been transformed into the Chief Technology Officer position. This is presented as an opportunity to intensify the infrastructure of the university but also raises question as to whether the person in the position will be more concerned with the operational side of the university or with support of the academic side. We suggested there should be an academic liaison between the Chief Technology Officer and the Office of Academic Affairs.
9. The WorkDay crisis continues unabated, but late in October there was a contingent of consultants from WorkDay central who met with Finance and Administration dignitaries. They have recognized that we have a serious problem.
10. At the middle of the year the line is that there will be a faculty pay raise. There is reluctance of one person who has the authority to allow an agency to grant a raise, the Lt. Governor, Jay Dardenne to make special cases. We have renewed our delegation with the LSU System office and central administration urging the important of explaining to the Lt. Governor that the universities are not agencies like any other and that the cost of losing faculty is in itself formidable and hence a raise would be a good idea.

#### ***Q&A Summary:***

Steven Pomarico

Are you involved in the discussion of live mascots?

Kevin Cope

It hasn't happened yet. He expects so, yes. He asked President Alexander about what form the committee should take, whether he wanted a working group of faculty or a large forum or something in between. He had not heard back, it usually takes three or four days. He asked for suggestions.

Steven Pomarico

The person who knows the most about past mascots would be Dr. Baker from the Veterinary School and his inclusion in that discussion might be valuable.

Kevin Cope

He cannot conceive why they would not include Dr. Baker or someone Dr. Baker selects.

#### **Presentation by Cynthia Peterson, Dean of the College of Science**

She talked about her leadership role as a dean. She practices a collaborative form of leadership and tries to solicit input from a variety of sources in decision making. She tries not to be a totally top down person but tries to listen and think carefully in decision making. Her role is one of advocacy of students, faculty and staff in the college. She just had her monthly meeting with the Provost and she keeps her role as an advocate for the college as a guiding principle in those meetings also. She values communication. It's hard to communicate effectively as one would like. She is working on it from a variety of perspectives. She values integrity and transparency. She has engaged the college policy committee in drafting by-laws for the college. They asked why does the college need by-laws. She said there are university level policies that play out in certain ways in the college. They looked at by-laws from other units in LSU and outside. They put the by-laws to a vote too prematurely at first. They are once again trying to finalize the by-laws. They have 206 tenure track faculty and 43 instructors. There are 1500 undergraduates and 500 graduate students. They had concerns across the university with recruiting freshmen this year, but the university came out better than we thought at one point. In the College of Science the freshmen enrollment was up by about 158 students. Their grant funding was at \$28 million for the last fiscal year. It is fairly stable. Teaching breakdown in the college Biological Science is 38% majors, chemistry 10% majors, Geology & Geophysics 20% majors, math 5% majors, and Physics & Astronomy 12% majors with the majority of teaching hours being for students outside the college, from 59% for biological sciences to 82% for math. The amounts of teaching of students outside the college are out of balance to those majors taught. She believes she has a strong case to grow the faculty in the college. Her goal was to grow about 10%. Their numbers have not changed dramatically from two years ago. They hired 2 new faculty members in biology, 2 in chemistry, 1 in geology and geophysics, 2 in mathematics, and 3 in physics and astronomy. They recruited faculty from fantastic institutions across the United States, including Yael, University of Chicago, Cal Tech, MIT and Princeton. They are recruiting highly qualified faculty. It is an expensive effort, the startup was \$4.9 million overall. They have several searches on going. She wants to retain great faculty. Identifying resources goes beyond startup. One issue of concern that she has is competitive federal funding. She initiated a bridging grants program which is now in ORED. A new program in the college involves a series of workshops for new faculty, with sessions on sponsored programs, grant writing workshops, panel discussions with recently tenured faculty, faculty in 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> year, with tenured faculty, workshops on teaching, student engagement and active learning. Each new faculty received a book on teaching and learning from her as they get started in their new career. She was tasked to help organize a statewide research summit in collaboration with Research America, based in Washington DC. Senator Cassidy was honorary speaker. It was focused on biomedical research. It was a statewide event.

It was shared with directors of NIH and NSF and another NSF person. They conducted a statewide survey on a number of topics mostly focused on biomedical areas. Very high percentages want the state to be leaders in different areas, one being agriculture and one being education. Two thirds of Louisiana citizens want federal and state government to support research at universities and STEM is important. A significantly higher level of LA citizens compared to general United States population say research should be supported by the federal government. More than the general United States population, Louisiana people know where research is conducted. LSU is ranked at the top with 35% identifying LSU. In 2014 Louisiana ranked 25 in USA states in population, but rank in attraction of NIH money was 30 and NSF rank was 34. The college refreshed their strategic plan this year. It is posted on their website. The main tenants are the Flagship 2020 goals. They will reconsider their strategic plan again with the new university plan keywords. In her first year she planned to develop a comprehensive master plan, prioritize short and long term recommendations, build consensus among academic units and programs, catalogue existing conditions and compare to benchmarks, make data driven recommendations, and enable team based learning and research. She wanted to increase spaces for collaborative work. She engaged an external forum to help with this plan. They had over 100 participants. They had a number of different committees, with students, staff, faculty, outside collaborators, facility services, etc. They set out a timeline. They have a summary of the report on their website. They shared it with several master planning committees including the capital campaign. They have begun gathering data through the Olinde Career Center for graduates. They obtained surveys tailored to each department and those at the college level. 85% of graduates said science in courses was high quality. 78% said teaching facilities were adequate, and 80% said faculty members were accessible and easy to talk to. 71% of students would like more 4000 level courses. The data she has showed we are not retaining students in science, based on data for ACT scores and GPAs. They will be looking into the issue and get a better grasp on this. Isiah Warner and she are Co-PIs on a grant about inclusion and understanding their retention. For the new source of funds from the student excellence fee she asked for input from the college faculty. They were able to refurbish common spaces with furniture. They funded upgrades to classrooms, and pedagogical revisions in teaching labs. They were able to support professionals in residence with software used in industry. They were able to provide instructional technology and field trips in Geology & Geophysics. The physics learning assistant program was supported, and CXC program was supported. They are pursuing broader outreach in science. They can advertise for an additional advisor for the college. They were able to add TAs in all departments across the college. They launched a College of Science blog, called the Pursuit to broadly broadcast their work. She has had a focus on diversity and inclusion in the college. They had a diversity committee which pushed for a number of modifications to search processes. She hired an Assistant Dean for Diversity, Kia Wilson. They are working hard on paying attention to diversity across the board, students, staff and faculty. She attended the Council of Arts and Sciences and an award was given to Sylvester James Gates for outstanding outreach, a professor in physics at the University of Maryland College Park. He is active theoretician. He is an African American male physicist who had an editorial in Science magazine. It was a response to Justice Robert's question, What Unique Perspective Does a Minority bring to a Science Class. She is proud to be the first female dean of the college.

#### ***Q&A Summary:***

Muhammed Wahab

What do you do to attract your graduate students? Are they from overseas, are they the current students? In engineering they go to industry or other colleges.

Dean Peterson

Their students do not have the same salaries as engineering students. Recruiting is done at department level. The Assistant Dean for Diversity has ideas on how to increase diversity in graduate students. Each department has a recruiting weekend to show off what is going on. She pays attention to stipends. She was happy to see stipend increases recently.

Muhammed Wahab

How are you able to support the students?

Dean Peterson

They are supported at department levels and some are on grants. It varies between departments. At the college level she is trying to take advantage of the opportunity to raise endowed funds that can support graduate students. They would like to have more graduate students.

Kevin Cope

He was astounded at the number of credit hours from students outside the college. Down at the Board of Regents math, science, etc. are an obstacle to success of students. Are those hours in General Education courses?

Dean Peterson

Not all of them. A lot is General Education, but it is not all General Education. A lot of engineering students take their courses.

Austin Allen

You had a number of faculty come in. What are strategies for new funding with that increase in faculty?

Dean Peterson

We have faculty retires so vacancies arise. Before she arrived on campus she asked department chairs to think of a hiring plan that is for more than one year, that looked at department priorities and ORED priorities and to have discussions about it and develop longer than a one year plan. She had that before she started so she asked the departments to write a justification for what they need. It is not one dimensional and also includes teaching. They have to think about what the startup would be. Just hiring to replace vacancies is not a good strategy.

Presentation by Ed Nobles and Colorado Robertson, Joseph Givens (Finance and Administration) on risk management, liability and their pertinence to the faculty

Ed Nobles

He has been here 18 months, prior to here he was at the University of Iowa which is of a similar to size of LSU, and then he was at University of Maine system for 14 years. LSU separated from the state risk management program. He described risk and the mission of the unit. They are involved with every department in the university, in the key areas operational, financial, strategic, compliance, and reputational. He covered key steps to analyze a risk. He gave an example of the climbing wall which someone was injured on. They do risk identification, analysis and management. They can help anyone with risk management issues. If you sign a contract on your own you assume that risk yourself so you want to go through the right channels for signing. They spend a lot of time with claims. If you are listed on a lawsuit as an individual they will be there to assist with the process and they also work with the attorney general's office. They try to get the best outcome for the faculty and the university as a whole. For workers compensation they re-worked their program, when someone is injured, an employee calls the nurse on the 24 hour hot line instead of a claims investigator unless it is an emergency then the person should go to the emergency room.

Colorado Robertson

When he was here before, about 5.5 years ago, they used to just process the paperwork and send it to the state. They had to find a way to finance these losses at the university. The state used to cover it with insurance for commercial enterprises. With LAGrad Act 2.0 risk management had big success due to the program and changes in the insurance program. They started this process back in 2011 and finished in July 2016. He covered benefits to an autonomous risk management program. One is related to insurance. We participate in a risk pool created by colleges and universities. One had insurance written particularly for faculty, staff and students. They were able to enhance the program and save money. The university doesn't have to rely on FEMA anymore to get back on our feet quickly. They have saved \$7.6 million compared to what they would have paid to state. There are four types of insurance programs, property, workers comp, liability, and accident and travel. Educator's Legal Liability covers faculty, staff and administrators in failure to educate, Title IX violations, negligent instruction, failure to supervise, inadequate academic guidance or counseling, etc. Another type of insurance is for over-the-side and field equipment coverage. If there is loss of equipment the state would do a subtraction for aging, etc. but risk management will pay the amount needed to buy a new one. International travel insurance and assistance services are also covered. There are some things that require high risk. It provides medical evacuation. They provide it to students and faculty.

***Q&A Summary:***

Mandi Lopez

What liabilities does the university have for athletic games?

Colorado Robertson

They cover football games. Athletics pays a large check of liability. It is allocated based on true exposure. They have a special penalty built into their risk that athletics has to pay.

Mandi Lopez

What about damage to university itself?

Colorado Robertson

They have not seen much damage. They do have property insurance as well. They would try to get reimbursement and then seek subrogation.

Fabio Del Piero

You mentioned FEMA vs autonomous insurance plan. Is it already active and how much we saving?

Colorado Robertson

FEMA is not an insurance policy. FEMA requires the university to buy a certain amount of insurance program. The state was required to have a \$50 million deductible. The university won't have to wait to see if risk management of state will do something to see if FEMA will cover it.

Fabio Del Piero

How many times do we use this insurance?

Colorado Robertson

We had problems with flooding in August with \$1 million of damage. Also one faculty had a pipe elbow blow up near equipment that is moisture sensitive. They found money to assist him to move his lab. It is about mitigating losses also.

Sabrina Taylor

Does this cover trucks and boats as well?

Colorado Robertson

It does. If it is less than 50 feet long, it is covered.

Christine Corcos

Does it primarily cover state property and equipment?

Colorado Robertson

They might be able to cover personal property by others and has to have been used in the course of your work. It is a case by case basis.

Sabrina Taylor

Are we automatically covered for travel insurance or do we have to sign up?

Colorado Robertson

They are working with Shorts Travel to have it covered. The bottom of AS292 should have a link for it along with PM-13. The form is called international travel registry.

Sabrina Taylor

So people can choose it through Shorts?

Colorado Robertson

Let's fill in the form also. You will start getting travel advisories. July 1 the university hired an international service assistance firm to help with international travel and to supplement our insurance.

Brett Boutwell

It only applies when faculty are on university business?

Colorado Robertson

It applies only for work related travel and includes 20 days before and after.

Lilian Bridwell-Bowles

Does it also cover students studying abroad?

Colorado Robertson

It covers students on travel abroad and also doing research.

Lillian Bridwell-Bowles

Are students instructed about this?

Colorado Robertson

Academic Programs Abroad instructs students. It is also about security.

Lillian Bridwell-Bowles

She is concerned that students do not know about this. Are they given one of the cards?

Colorado Robertson

Academic Programs Abroad will do so. They will also talk to parents.

Ken McMillin

How do we find out more information?

Colorado Robertson

We have it on our website. You can also call their 1-800 number.

Ken McMillin

That 877 number that you call for a work related injury how do we know what number that is without publicizing it? Most of us think you go to the health center.

Ed Nobles

The health center asked us to not send employees there. They had trainings with supervisors and posters have been made up. They have cards.

Ken McMillin

You should send out a broadcast email to all faculty, staff and students with information about the number.

Ed Nobles

At this point the broadcast only has gone out to supervisors. It is a good suggestion and we will do that. This program was rushed. As part of the political maneuvering we had to take all of our old claims from the state. They reduced the claims by 624 and the cost by \$1 million.

Kevin Cope  
We will put something in the newsletter.

### Old Business

**Second and final reading, Faculty Senate Resolution 16–10, “Free Speech and Academic Freedom at LSU”,** *Sponsored by Kenneth McMillin*

Read by Ken McMillin

**Faculty Senate Resolution 16–10**  
**Free Speech and Academic Freedom at LSU**  
Sponsored by Kenneth McMillin

Whereas Faculty Senate Resolution 16-01 “Freedom of Expression on Campus” was adopted February 22, 2016 to affirm the University of Chicago and Princeton University common statement on freedom of expression,

Whereas the first amendment to the U.S. Constitution prevents laws from abridging the freedom of speech,

Whereas the core mission of the American Association of University Professors is to protect academic freedom while ensuring that higher education institutions are conducted for the public good,

Whereas the Faculty Senate expects that the university administration educate students on our institution’s commitment to freedom of inquiry and expression; to expectations of rigorous debate, discussion, and disagreement; and to reinforcing diversity as a University priority, all of which necessitate civility and mutual respect,

Whereas statements of LSU commitment to the principle of academic freedom are in the online Faculty Handbook and policy statement PS-36T Tenure-Track and Tenured Faculty: Appointments, Reappointments, Promotions, Tenure, Annual Reviews, and Enhancement of Job Performance,

Therefore be it resolved that the LSU Faculty Senate reaffirms, once again, its commitment to freedom of expression, freedom of speech, and academic freedom,

Therefore be it further resolved that the LSU President/Chancellor, Provost, and Vice President for Student Life and Enrollment demonstrate leadership by developing a clear policy on LSU’s commitment to freedom of speech, freedom of expression, and academic freedom in conjunction with faculty leaders;

Therefore be it further resolved that the LSU President/Chancellor, Provost, and Vice President for Student Life and Enrollment initiate, sponsor, and publicize forums, debates, dialogues, and other forms of discussion in consultation with faculty leaders that promote respectful, civil discourse on controversial topics affecting the University, engagement with our community, and higher education.

***Q&A Summary:***

None.

Vote on resolution: unanimously approved.

**Second reading, Faculty Senate Resolution 16–11, “Improving Graduate Student Stipends with the Aim of Reducing Graduate Student Debt and Increasing LSU Competitiveness in Recruiting Graduate Students”,** *Sponsored by Arend W. A. Van Gemmert, A. Ravi P. Rau, Jeffrey W. Roland, Fabio Del Piero, Christina Armistead, Stephanie Ganic Braunstein, Rick Moreland, Bryan J. McCann, Ingeborg M. Langohr*

Read by Arend Van Gemmert

**Faculty Senate Resolution 16–11**  
**Improving Graduate Student Stipends with the Aim of Reducing Graduate Student Debt and Increasing LSU**  
**Competitiveness in Recruiting Graduate Students**

Sponsored by Arend W. A. Van Gemmert, A. Ravi P. Rau, Jeffrey W. Roland, Fabio Del Piero, Christina Armistead, Stephanie Ganic Braunstein, Rick Moreland, Bryan J. McCann, Ingeborg M. Langohr

Whereas the administration, faculty, and staff support a living wage for graduate students;

Whereas the minimum graduate stipend at LSU according to PS-21 is \$10,800 for a 9-month appointment<sup>1</sup> which is well below the median graduate stipend of \$20,000 offered by universities around the US<sup>2</sup> and thus stipends at LSU are not competitive with graduate stipends offered elsewhere;

Whereas the most promising graduate students often receive offers from multiple universities;

Whereas likely the most promising graduate students tend to choose programs that offer competitive stipends, and LSU's stipend is in the lowest 10th percentile<sup>3</sup>, missing the opportunity to recruit the most promising graduate students;

Whereas the average one room apartment in Baton Rouge costs approximately \$800<sup>4</sup> per month and basic utilities cost approximately \$165<sup>4</sup> per month requiring graduate students to supplement their stipends in order to afford to live in Baton Rouge;

Whereas LSU has increased required fees for graduate students with approximately 137% since the academic year 2003-2004 when it was \$540<sup>6</sup> for the Fall and Spring semesters together to the current 2016-2017 total of \$1279<sup>7</sup>;

Whereas LSU also increased additional mandatory fees with 145% for full time graduate students taking 9 credit hours since the academic year 2003-2004 when it was \$565<sup>6</sup> for the Fall and Spring semesters together to the current 2016-2017 total of \$1386<sup>7</sup>;

Whereas financial difficulties may decrease the performance of graduate students and may even necessitate students to leave (temporarily) their program due to financial hardship, thereby negatively affecting graduation rates;

Whereas graduate student enrollment in many academic programs needs to increase in order to maintain prestige in the field and sustain graduate class offerings;

Whereas the budget constraints of departments do not allow them to increase graduate student stipends without simultaneously significantly decreasing the number of stipends awarded; and

Whereas graduate students play an integral part in the ability to meet increasing teaching demands due to increased undergraduate student enrollment in academic programs;

Therefore be it resolved that budgets for graduate student stipends be increased by at least 30 percent thus enabling LSU to keep number of years graduate students are supported and the number of supported graduate students equal to the current numbers; and

Be it further resolved that the minimum stipend for graduate students be set at 9/12th of the annual living wage before taxes for one adult living in Baton Rouge (currently \$21,023<sup>8</sup>), thereby increasing minimum stipends to \$15,800 for 9-month appointments.

<sup>1</sup> LSU. PS-21. Retrieved (9/1/2016) from <http://sites01.lsu.edu/wp/policiesprocedures/policies-procedures/21/>

<sup>2</sup> Note: the average graduate student stipend according is \$20,696.

<sup>3</sup> Gradpay. Retrieved (8/30/2016) from <http://gradpay.herokuapp.com/results/table/>

<sup>4</sup> PayScale. Retrieved (8/30/2016) from [http://www.payscale.com/research/US/Job=Graduate\\_Assistant/Salary](http://www.payscale.com/research/US/Job=Graduate_Assistant/Salary)

<sup>5</sup> NUMBEO Cost of Living. Retrieved (8/30/2016) from [http://www.numbeo.com/costofliving/city\\_result.jsp?country=United+States&city=Baton+Rouge%2C+LA](http://www.numbeo.com/costofliving/city_result.jsp?country=United+States&city=Baton+Rouge%2C+LA)

<sup>6</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, Poverty Thresholds by Size of Family and Number of Children (Data of 2015). Retrieved (8/30/2016) from <http://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/income-poverty/historical-poverty-thresholds.html>

<sup>7</sup> Fee schedules for Graduate Students 2016-2017; Last Updated on 06/30/16. Retrieved (9/22/2016) for <http://www.lsu.edu/bgtplan/Tuition-Fees/2016-2017/grad.pdf>

<sup>8</sup> Glasmeier, A.K. & the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (2016). Living Wage Calculator. <http://livingwage.mit.edu/metros/12940>

*Q&A Summary:*

Mette Garde

How many graduate students are paid at that low level?

Arend Van Gemmert

He doesn't know, but in his department many.

Mandi Lopez

Are you meaning one bedroom or one studio apartment?

Arend Van Gemmert

It was defined as a one room apartment by that website.

Vote on resolution: passes unanimously with one abstention

**New Business**

None.

David Terry moved to adjourn and it was seconded by Fahkri Al-Bagdadi.

Adjourned at 4:55 pm