

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
Monday March 16, 2016
Student Senate Room, LSU Student Union



Attendance

Faculty Senate Executive Committee members present:

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| 1. Kevin L. Cope (President, English) | 2. Ken McMillin (Vice-President, Animal Science) |
| 3. Joan King (Secretary, Food Science) | 4. William Adkins (Member-at-Large, Math) |
| 5. Mandi Lopez (Member-at-Large, Vet Science.) | 6. Suresh Rai (Member-at-Large, Elect. & Computer Eng.) |
| 7. | |

Parliamentarian: Louay Mohammed

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

1	X	William Adkins (Math/ Sci)	25	X	Margaret Denny (Education/HSE)	49	Jacquelyn Sue Moffit (Acct/Business)
2	X	Aghazadeh, Fereydoun (Mech Eng/Eng)	26	X	John Devlin (Law/Law Center)	50	X Louay Mohammed (Civil Environ Eng/Eng)
3	X	Fakhri Al-Bagdadi (Comp. Biomed Sci/Vet)	27	X	David Donze (Biological Sciences/Sci)	51	X Evgueni Nestrov (Chemistry/Sci)
4	X	Austin Allen (Landscape Arch./AD)	28	A	Susan Eades (Vet Clinical Sci/Vet Med)	52	Jim Ottea (Entomology/Agri)
5	X	Paul Anderson (Foreign Language Lit./HSS)	29	P	Kristin Gansle (Education/HSE)	53	Steven Pomarico (Biological Sci/Sci)
6		Frank Anselmo (French/HSS)	30	P	Mette Gaarde (Physics/Sci)	54	X Suresh Rai (EE and Comp/Eng)
7	X	Paul Arai (Philosophy & Relig Studies/HSS)	31		Angeletta Gourdine (English/HSS)	55	X Jeffrey Roland (Philos Rel Studies/HSS)
8		Christopher Austin (Biological Sci/Sci)	32	X	Gundela Hachmann (Foreign Lang Lit./HHS)	56	X Laurel Romeo (TAM/Ag)
9	X	Reid Bates (SHWRED/HSE)	33	X	Wes Harrison (AGEC/Ag)	57	P Christopher Rovee (English/HSS)
10	P	Jennifer Baumgartner (Child Family/HSE)	34	X	Aixin Hou (Environ. Studies/Coast and Envir.)	58	X Michael Russo (LSU Libraries/HSS)
11		Emily Beasley (Kinesiology/HSE)	35		Blake Hudson (Law/Law Center)	59	X Judith Schiebout (Geology/Science)
12	X	Brett Boutwell (Music/Music & Drama Arts)	36		Sherif Ishak (Civil Environ Eng/Eng)	60	P Stephen Shipman (Math/Science)
13	X	Lillian Bridwell-Bowles (English/HSS)	37	X	Yongick Jeong (Mass Comm/Mass Comm)	61	Alan Sikes (Theater/Music Dramatic Arts)
14		Konstantin Busch (EE & Comp Sci/Eng)	38	X	Joan King (Food Sci/Ag)	62	X Linda Smith Griffin (Libraries/Lib)
15	X	Areendam Chanda (Economics/Bus)	39	X	Ingeborg Langohr (Pathbio Sci/Vet Med)	63	X Sabrina Taylor (RNR/Ag)
16		Joseph Clare (Political Sci/HSS)	40		Keri Larson (Inform Sys Decision Sci/Bus)	64	X David Terry (Comm Stud/HSS)
17	P	Lauren Coates (English/HSS)	41	A	Catherine Lemieux (Social Work.HSE)	65	X Arend Van Gemmert (Kinesiology/HHS)
18	X	Kevin Cope (English/HSS)	42	X	Mandi Lopez (Vet Clinical Sci/Vet)	66	X Dottie Vaughn (Math/Sci)
19	P	Jon Cogburn (Philosophy Rel Stud./HSS)	43	A	Kanchan Maiti (Coastal Stu/Coast and Envir.)	67	X Muhammed Wahab (Mech Industr Eng/Eng)
20	X	Christine Corcos (Law/Law Center)	44	X	Kenneth Kip Matthews (Physics Astro/Sci)	68	Gregory Watson (Architecture/AD)
21		Belinda Davis (Political Sci/HSS)	45		Andrew Maverick (Chemistry/Sci)	69	X John Westra (AgEcon/Ag)
22		William Daly (Chemistry/Sci)	46	P	Alison McFarland (Music/Music and DA)	70	X Hsiao-Chun Wu (Electric Eng Comput Sc/E
23		Jeff Davis (Entymology/Ag)	47		Jean McGuire (Management/Bus)	71	Yejun Wu (Library Information Sci/LHSE)
24	X	Fabio Del Piero (Pathobiol Sci/Vet Med)	48	X	Ken McMillin (Animal Sci/Ag)	72	X Jun Zou (Interior Design/AD)

Guests:

Jane Cassidy	Andrew Mahtook	Robert Doolos	Sandi Gillian	Barbara Reonas
Matt Lee	Andrew Mullet	Clay Benton	Bill Demastes	

Consideration of the Minutes from February 22, 2016

Motion to approve by Mike Russo, seconded by Arend Van Gemmert.
 Approved unanimously with potential corrections.

President's Report

1. The freedom of expression resolution has been discussed by the Provost with the President and it is under consideration to be turned into a policy or placed into an existing policy.
2. People were alarmed when financial exigency had been mentioned by President King Alexander perhaps as a tactical maneuver. It raised concern of the status of the financial exigency requirements. In 2006 under the direction of Chancellor Sean O'Keefe the Faculty Senate had developed financial exigency plans that were endorsed by both Chancellor O'Keefe and Vice Chancellor Chuck Wilson. We investigated where they had gone and found out that they are under consideration in the Department of Finance and Administration. Before we have new threats we will have some kind of policy in place.
3. The Master Planning working group had a summary meeting last week to get some information on the progress of the master planning firm, NBBJ Consultants. On March 10th there was supposed to be a consultation with faculty, but it was cancelled due to weather.

4. There is work being done on the PS-36 and PS-104 policy revisions. The Faculty Senate Executive committee will meet with Vice Provost Jane Cassidy and the policy revision committee soon about the progress. The work is going at an admirable pace.
5. The budget committee will be developing a long range plan for the university rather than being reactive.
6. The Faculty Senate Executive committee has been talking to student government about the syllabus database.
7. The Faculty Senate Committee on Committees has been looking at filling committee positions and seeking nominations for officer positions.
8. Faculty Senate sent a delegate, Joan King our secretary, to the national meeting of the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA).
9. It came to the attention of the Faculty Senate Executive committee that some schools in the university are encouraging or outright mandating recording of lectures so they are available for students any time anywhere. We will be bringing this subject up with the Provost. The copyright status in the university is a little vague. A lecture is protected by an advisory letter by President William Jenkins in the 1990s. It is unclear where it stands. We will try to get clarification on the question of copyright ownership of lectures and on the authority of colleges to mandate the taping of lectures which is something that needs to be settled very quickly.
10. At the state level the Conference of Louisiana Colleges and Universities, a gathering of faculty leaders and university leaders from all of higher education institutions in Louisiana took place at the Pennington Conference Center. With the encouragement of the Commissioner of Higher Education the Association of Louisiana Faculty Senates is going to join the Conference of Louisiana Colleges and Universities. Thus becoming a full member on a parallel with other institutions.

Q&A Summary:

John Devlin

The Law Center has copyright experts that might be able to help.

Comments from Andrew Mullet, Speaker Pro Temp of Student Government regarding the development of the online syllabus repository with Robert Doolos, Assistant Vice President for Enrollment Services

They have looked at creating a university wide database where faculty can place their syllabi so that students and other faculty could look at them to see what is required by those courses. This will help students to be better informed when scheduling. He had met with Provost Bell and Dr. Gil Reeve who were positive about the idea. They then met with Robert Doolos and faculty members to work out kinks. The database is completed and now available. Faculty members can upload syllabi to the database, put in their course rubric and number and it will be submitted and will be checked for accuracy for rubrics. Robert Doolos said there is no end date for the syllabi. The database is not for the current semester. This is to access syllabi for prior semesters and faculty will be able to update the past two years. It is strictly voluntary and they hope we use it to see what faculty have done in the past. Andrew Mullet said when students went to schedule they had limited information about the courses available in the catalog and from other students. Having information actually from the faculty will help students decide how to arrange their schedule. It will help faculty during that first week not to have so many changes by students dropping and adding.

Q&A Summary:

Kevin Cope

Please explain how this will be implemented and when it will become active.

Andrew Mullet

It is accessible at lsu.edu/syllabus. It is not live yet. All LSU students and faculty will be able to log into it through their MyLSU account. There will be a button that says create syllabus, with other information such as course title, semester, rubric, and your name. The system will check for the rubric.

Linda Smith Griffin

When do you expect it to roll out?

Robert Doolos

We expect to have it fully functional by the end of this semester and they are looking for faculty to test the system by uploading syllabi. Faculty will be able to upload syllabi. They don't have a method to allow graduate student teachers to upload. It will have search ability for students by course number or rubric or term. If interested and you want a presentation, he can bring it to your department to cover how to use it.

Arend Van Gemmert

Is this instead of the community moodle database? Is this a replacement or will it be annexed?

Robert Doolos

It will be in addition to.

Senator

The purpose is not for current syllabi, but you are entering by semester and year you taught it, so you are not putting up a generic syllabus. How can students use it as reliable to ascertain that is the kind of course the student wants?

Andrew Mullet

The faculty has the right to change course content, etc., but by providing the syllabi for the past couple of semesters, it is to prevent issues from changes in the syllabi during the semester. After a couple of weeks into the class if the faculty decides to change something in the class, the student could say it was like the previous semester syllabus until they made the change. After that semester is past they could see the history of the course and see how it has evolved. If there were more drastic changes they could see that as well.

Robert Doolos

It may be possible to just add a syllabus and not have it linked to a certain term?

Lillian Bridwell-Bowles

What is the difficulty in placing the syllabus for the current semester?

Robert Doolos

Your colleagues said they did not want that because there may be good reason to change your syllabus as the semester goes on, so the recommendation was not to do that.

Lillian Bridwell-Bowles

It is critical to tell students that these syllabi may not be up to date because she changes her syllabi every semester.

Andrew Mullet

There will be a disclaimer with something like ‘this is a resource for students and faculty to use with the knowledge that this is past information and changes are obviously available.

Lilian Bridwell-Bowles

She puts her syllabus on moodle before class begins so students could look for the most up to date one.

Arend Van Gemmert

They are adding their syllabus in the current year. If you don’t want them to see it at the moment, the faculty could upload it but not let the students see it yet.

Robert Doolos

The ITS is busy with the WorkDay issues, so resources are very limited.

Arend Van Gemmert

Is this being done in Moodle or a different platform?

Robert Doolos

A different platform.

Briefing by Associate Vice-President for Operations Sandi Gillilan regarding the proposal process for bidders seeking to manage the Child Care Center

They are exploring opportunities to find an external vendor for the child care center. They have issued a solicitation and they have a committee who is reviewing those received. This is a committee lead by the group and she is not personally involved in it. They are asking lots of questions of the vendors. If they have a vendor they want to consider there will be an open presentation so faculty and the community at large can find out more about it. There is also an internal candidate, the College of Education, for the partner. Legally they can’t have a public party compete against an external candidate. Revised Statute 3967 prohibits that. If upon presentation they decide they want to award and negotiate with the vendor, they will do so. If we don’t go to an external vendor, they will cancel the solicitation and at that point they will entertain the internal bid. There is an item going to the Board of Supervisors on Friday, if they go to an external vendor they need to give the President authority to sign the contract. If they don’t go with a vendor, there is no action to take.

Q&A Summary:

Senator

Why was the vendor given the first chance at it?

Sandi Gillilan

She doesn’t know, she came in later to the process.

Arend Van Gemmert

They you come back in the future and tell us why?

Sandi Gillilan

That question has come up and we can come back to discuss that further.

Kevin Cope

Ken McMillin and he will meet with Dan Layzell, VP for Finance and Administration and try to find out the origin of that issue.

Update and invitation from Senator Jeff Roland regarding the LSUnited retirement plan petition and public comment drive

Jeff Roland

On Friday they will present the petition for retirement to the Board of Supervisors. The ORP is an embarrassment. Two thirds of the faculty are on this plan. We are contributing 5.3% of our salaries towards this account. The flagship 20/20 peers average is 13.34% including ORP and social security. There are other institutions like ours without social security, at Mississippi State University they contribute 13.25% to their ORP for their faculty. LSUnited decided they need to start making noise about this. They set up a petition which has about 525 signatures, from all colleges and the law school. They will deliver copies to the Board of Supervisors on Friday and make statements to get them to pay attention to the retirement issue. If you are close to retirement you begin looking to see what you will have. You are in a race to see if you will die or run out of money first, this is not a good thing.

Kristina Armistead

They tried to deal with the issue of instructor salaries before. They collected numerous speakers and spoke to the board several times and she is paid more now than she was before and believes this is a direct result of speaking to the board. They were listening and asked questions. It is important to come to the board and speak. She asked if any of us would go speak to the board. She wants us to speak about how it affects our personal life and also about hiring in your department and how it affects retention at LSU. They need personal stories that grounds it into context for the board. The time is 10 am Friday at the University Administration Bldg. in front of Lod Cook Hotel. You may have a conflict with teaching but you can submit it in a letter and someone can read it on your behalf. Public comment has to be tied to an agenda item and they will show you how to tie an agenda item into the statement. The comments are limited to 3 minutes. Most people read their statements to make sure they are 3 minutes. You may be cut off at three minutes if you speak free wheel. They had 3 speakers last time, but there were 15 people speaking for the Pete Maravich statue. That sends a message to the board that the LSU community cares more about a statue than retirement issues. She asks us to consider speaking. You can contact her or Jeff Roland.

Q&A Summary:

None.

Ken McMillin

You have to register for comments.

Kristina Armistead

You can register before 8 am, but let her know by tomorrow so she can register you.

Kevin Cope

In regards to the statue, that was a \$200,000 expenditure. The university is falling behind 12% per year on its contribution which is about \$6,000 a year so with a ten year doubling period you are losing out on one half million to a million dollars.

Gabbie Triche Academic Affairs Chair for Student Government

They looked into not having three mid-terms in 24 hours, modeled after the final rescheduling policy already in place. The mid-terms week has been taken off; they changed it to any time during the semester for having a three tests within 24 hrs. The courses have to be a combined 7 hours of credit and assignments have to add up to more than 45%, so students are not just trying to get a quiz moved. Projects and papers will not be able to be rescheduled because you have weeks of noticed to get those done. She had a college of engineering form as an example. It has information about the course schedule, the faculty signs off on the test, but is only a verification that the test exists. The student services office of the college will talk to the faculty to see who can change the test. The form has been reviewed by Jane Cassidy, Barbara Reonas and the Associate Dean of the College of Engineering. Her email is gtrich3@lsu.edu

Presentation by Vice-President K. T. Valsaraj concerning the strategic planning and other efforts of the Office of Research and Economic Development

We all have a lot of issues at LSU and we hear about negative things, but research is an area where faculty have done a tremendous job. Despite cuts our research profile has held up well and is almost the same level as two years ago. He is a thirty year veteran of this university and he has seen the good and the bad. He is proud to represent us as a faculty in the research area. Three years ago when he first got into the office he looked at research priorities and where we were headed. They looked at past research performance and who was doing what. They then developed a strategic plan as part of the Flagship 2020 document and to develop certain metrics for the LAGrad Act. So they came up with a strategic plan for their office which is on their website. There are three strategic goals, enhance research initiatives that they would be putting resources into, develop and enhance expertise and economic development, and communicate well. They had sub goals within each goal. They have a retreat every year and invite faculty from all colleges and have a faculty senate representative and various deans there so that they can review the plan and see if they are following the plan. They reported on all things they have done. He recalibrates every year to see where they are and what changes they need to make. One of the strategic visions was to develop focal areas for development based on past research of several years. They came up with seven topic areas, individual behavior in community, communication and expression, biotechnology and biological research, coastal efforts, energy, materials science and engineering, and high performance computing. Each area is represented by four colleges or more. There are a significant number of faculty members to call upon when they go after large

multidisciplinary grants. They have been successful. He does not believe in going after fads. If we do not have the deep bench here we cannot go after that with the limited resources we have. We go after areas we excel in now. He has a council on research where every college is represented which meets every month and advises him on the conduct of the Office of Research. They are tasked with revising that strategic plan to support the revision to the ongoing Flagship agenda. The research and creative aspects there will still have to be supported by his office. The council decided they will take upon this task and they will be holding town hall meetings to receive feedback from the faculty to see how they can implement those areas in a revised plan. This is to look at specific areas we are developing and to see how they can support new initiatives that are ongoing that they do not yet know about. There will be email and discussions from the council on research about how this will be facilitated. Steve Beck has been working with the council to see how to implement this.

Steve Beck

They are trying to set up dates for some town hall meetings to give ideas. They are also setting up an online survey through Qualtrix to get feedback on any changes or additions they need to do.

K. T. Valsaraj

We will hear from the Provost about town hall meetings on revising the Flagship agenda itself. This will support the Flagship agenda.

Q&A Summary:

Sabrina Taylor

You are already promoting good areas, so others with new ideas will be left out. There is a lag time also with some faculty leaving and new faculty coming. How do you plan on handling that kind of change over time?

K. T. Valsaraj

One mechanism that you have is through your council representative on the council to advise him on what those new areas are. Sometimes faculty go after certain areas and if they can support it they do. The recalibration is done through the Council of Research and at the end of the year during the retreat, they expect the deans to know pockets of excellence that ORED is not aware of that they could be involved with.

Steve Beck

Gus Kostolos handles sciences and engineering and they meet with deans every semester about what is new in areas of research that they could help support. Steve Beck handles the social sciences and humanities.

Kevin Cope

Many faculty members see ORED as a place far away that you would only interact with on large projects. How can those in moderate projects get involved?

K. T. Valsaraj

You hear from us about large projects. For smaller scale efforts the two associate VPs meet with every dean. If there is a specific aspect you want to meet with them about, there are proposal development teams to work on projects. If you let them know they will put those people in your service.

Steve Beck

They also have internal small research grants to help junior faculty and faculty research grants to launch interdisciplinary projects as well. Just come and talk to us. His door is always open.

Nesterov

With his past experience with major center grants, everyone likes external grants. What is unique to LSU is we have CAMD. Every time they write reviews they say we have this facility for writing these proposals. CAMD has been becoming a phantom structure. CAMD can be helpful for energy and materials related proposals. Other places have better help. How do you see increasing the role of CAMD?

K. T. Valsaraj

CAMD is not the only facility. He has no magic bullet for CAMD, it has been on life support. They are looking into how they can help them survive, unless there is a large amount of money, there is not magic bullet.

Report of the Nominating Committee

Jeff Roland as chair of the committee gave the nominated persons names.

President: Kevin Cope

Vice President: Ken McMillin

Secretary: Joan King

Member-at-Large: Suresh Rai, Judith Schiebout, Mandi Lopez, and Lillian Bridwell-Bowles

There were no nominations from the floor.

Nominations may also be done by email.

Old Business

None.

New Business

A. First reading, Resolution 16–03, “Supporting the Louisiana Museum of Natural History at LSU”, *Sponsored by Judith Schiebout*

Read by Judith Schiebout

FACULTY SENATE RESOLUTION 16–03
Supporting the Louisiana Museum of Natural History at LSU
Sponsored by Faculty Senate Planning Committee

Whereas sixteen natural history collections at LSU were named as the Louisiana State Museum of Natural History (“LMNH”) by the Louisiana Legislature in 1999;

Whereas the collections are the natural history treasures of a state exceptionally high in natural history wonders, and some of the collections also rank as world treasures;

Whereas collections and research rank high, but museum segments are generally housed in unsuitable, decrepit buildings;

Whereas the LSU collections represent millions of research dollars from NSF and other grant, contract, and donation supporters (LSU is a repository for many collections, which means that it does not own them, and could have them taken away if standards are not met, or if a tragedy happens to one collection);

Whereas failure to pursue accreditation for the LMNH may impact LSU accreditation, as subunits of accredited universities such as LMNH and LSU should be accredited;

Whereas a state Museum of Natural History at a flagship university should be attractive to major donors;

Whereas there are whole areas of grant possibilities that are precluded by the lack of unification and adequate space (a job applicant turned down at one of the LSU museums just after she earned her Ph.D. now brings in over two million dollars of grant and contract starts per year at the Florida Museum of Natural History);

Whereas LSU has relatively new leadership in many areas, and a major planning effort underway;

Whereas Provost Koubek has called for new ideas, vision, and the type of balance of science and the humanities that the LMNH represents;

Whereas a tramline is being planned between downtown and the LSU campus, which would make visitation of the major LMNH easier and its influence on the local and regional economy greater;

Whereas the Faculty Senate Task Force on Museums (2011) called for regular meetings of all the LMNH curators;

Whereas there is a public support organization for the LMNH, the Friends of the Louisiana Museum of Natural History Foundation, Inc. (formerly known as the Build-a -Museum Team) which has funded informational studies of LMNH before, such as the report of museum experts Mares and Tirrell in 2009* (the Friends are eager to support progress; Dr. Mares led Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History during its unification from scattered collections and is its current director. SNOMNH is a winner of the 2014 National Museum Medal [<https://vpr-norman.ou.edu/national-museum-medal-sam-noble-oklahoma-museum-natural-history>]);

Therefore, be it resolved that the Faculty Senate Executive Committee host a meeting of all LMNH curators to discuss curator concerns and to institute regular meetings of the curators, and that the Provost meet with the leadership of the Friends of LMNH to request a donation to bring Michael Mares, Director of the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum, for a brief visit to LSU to meet new administrators, to observe and discuss progress since the 2006 report, to discuss with the Foundation how funds were raised for SNOMNH, and to be a resource for the Master Planners on moving towards an accredited, unified, full service LMNH.

* Reports are on the Faculty Senate website under the "Under Discussion" button or directly at <http://www.lsu.edu/senate/under%20discussion.html>.

Motion to advance to discussion by Lilian Bridwell-Bowles, seconded by many.

Q&A Summary:

Judith Schiebout comments

She explained the word 'curator' in a faculty perspective. She learned last fall there were plans to move the vertebrate paleontology to the basement of Foster Hall which floods. She stated they should build a building to house these kinds of items. We have the official Louisiana Museum of Natural History from Act No. 143. There is a Friends of Louisiana Museum of Natural History and their goal is to build a museum. University of Oklahoma built one that was recognized by the State of Oklahoma. There is little coordination among curators as of 2016 at LSU. The Friends group has looked at potential locations and how to get the collections together with outreach and display and whether they are worth it. A study indicated that LSU needs a 200,000 sq. ft. facility which is what Oklahoma has. She spoke about important museum people due to their newly built museum. The LSU collections are extensive with unique specimens. The LSU collections are superb. During a hurricane the stand-by generator was taken to the Chancellors house. Current collections are housed in from excellent to dismal places. The bird collection is the nations 4th largest. Foster hall as an aged building was never designed for specialized care for global treasures. The LSU exhibits suffer from poor locations on campus that are hard to find and difficult to reach. The Oklahoma museum people had raised a lot of money during one of the worse economic times, \$45 million. They had a naming donation from Sam Noble in 1994 and they opened the door in 2000.

Suresh Rai

The website given on the second page about the museum medal can go in footnotes.

Sabrina Taylor

Is the director of the museum of Natural Science aware of the resolution and approve it?

Judith Schiebout

They want to stay in Foster.

Sabrina Taylor

If you do not have the support of the curators why are you pushing it forward?

Judith Schiebout

They are reaching out to her to place her items in the basement. They need to look at accreditations levels of care. Foster is too small to put the museum together. We might as well get started to build a new museum.

Lillian Bridwell-Bowles

It is important that the curators support this. Is there any reason why they are so attached to Foster hall?

Judith Schiebout

At least half of the curators are not talked to and don't know what's going on. She believes he would support the big museum. Oklahoma is on a different pedestal. She thinks some would switch and some would never. Some fear the public display component and want to stick to the research component only. That is one reason there is a request to get the curators together to see what they are thinking. She doesn't understand why they are implacable about the basement.

Sabrina Taylor

She wants to hear their perspective before we move forward.

Kevin Cope

We could invite them to the next meeting.

Evgueni Nesterov

He wants to repeat what Sabrina says. Why can't curators get together themselves, why do we need a resolution?

Ken McMillin

A museum of a world class supersedes the curators. This is for the citizens of the state. We are not doing them justice. We owe it to the citizens of the state to make them more responsible. It's greater than just the curators.

Austin Allen

What is the size and scale?

Judith Schiebout
200,000 square feet.

Lillian Bridwell-Bowles

It would be a bad idea for Faculty Senate to meddle in departmental affairs. We passed a committee resolution to look at planning on campus due to lack of faculty input on a grass roots level. She understands that this is a question that is larger than a group of faculty. She understands the impetus to get some higher level thinking on big decisions that matter to our academic environment.

B. First reading, Resolution 16–04, “Membership in the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics”, *Sponsored by Joan King*

Read by Joan King

FACULTY SENATE RESOLUTION 16–04
“Membership in the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics
Sponsored by Joan King

Whereas the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA) consists of faculty senates from NCAA Football Bowl Subdivision universities and;

Whereas their mission is to provide a faculty voice in intercollegiate sports issues that affect students such as “academic integrity and quality, student athlete well-being, campus governance of intercollegiate athletics, commercialization of college level athletics, and fiscal responsibility” and;

Whereas COIA “is committed to the development of effective strategies and proposals for significant, long-term reform in collegiate athletics” and;

Whereas “COIA works with universities faculties, administrators, boards, and national associations concerned with higher education, to implement these strategies”;

Therefore Be It Resolved that the Louisiana State University A&M Faculty Senate join COIA to participate in faculty governance in intercollegiate athletics.

Moved into discussion.

Q&A Summary:

Joan King

It was my first time going to this meeting and there were a lot of new people there and the original founders were there also. The founders talked about how COIA was originally founded as a coalition. It was started at Indiana University under a Big Ten committee and the person who started it was asked to speak to Presidents of the Big Ten about academics in sports. They were working on athletics reform at that time. They had six caucus presidents and they were looking at trying to return control of athletics to the Presidents of the universities, away from the athletic department directly. For instance here the athletic director is a Vice-Chancellor or Vice-President and also the athletic director. The presidents back then around the early 2000s were looking for support from faculty at the time to help them with governing athletics. They received a great response and it was all Division IA schools at the time. They had a great platform with five areas of concern which are in the resolution. COIA has been working on several areas such as working at the NCAA level to try to promote well-being of students as athletes. They work with several other organizations such as the National Center for Educational Statistics, the Department of Education, the Knight Commission, The Delta Change Project, the Drake Group as well as the NCAA. There are several issues that come up for COIA that could involve constraints for student athletes like doing internships or study abroad, obsession with rankings for athletics or academics for athletics because they get money based on these from the NCAA. Coaches’ salaries are an issue that always comes up. Another issue is eligibility majors as in what majors are most student athletes going into and that relates to major clustering of athletes. There is also an issue with student athletes being isolated from other students on campus because they have athletic dorms for instance or other activities or areas that only athletes can access. Title IX issues and mental health issues for student athletes, and concussion issues that we have all heard about in the news are also issues they are concerned with. These are all issues about how they are treated as students and as athletes. COIA has 64 universities as members, right now with 11 SEC schools. They are missing Texas A&M, Kentucky and LSU. The reason we have to vote on it is because the By-Laws of COIA state that the Faculty Senate must vote to join COIA.

Gundela Hachmann

Why does the Faculty Senate have to join, wouldn’t the university join?

Joan King

It is a coalition of all of the faculty senates.

Gundela Hachmann

So it is only faculty senate representatives, so if we join that basically means we send a representative of our faculty senate to participate regularly?

Joan King

Yes, they meet once a year, plus they have committees of which there are three right now on which they do work over the year. They meet once a year about all of the issues.

Jeff Roland

How has the groups work been received by athletic directors and athletic programs at these institutions?

Joan King

I am not sure for the athletic directors as no one really mentioned them. COIA tried to influence athletics through the NCAA and they were working closely with the NCAA at the beginning but there was recently a restructuring of the governance in the NCAA and the Big Five conferences kind of split off and did their own thing. There are faculty athletic reps (FAR) that are legally chosen by the Presidents of the universities. Less faculty are now involved on the committees at the NCAA level so we feel this is a way for us to get information between university faculty senates about what is going on at their universities in athletics and try to get best practices throughout all universities so we can share information with each other.

Bill Demastes

He has been FAR for four years. It seems like a long time but there are FARs who have been for 10 or 15 or 20 years in the position. His understanding of COIA comes almost exclusively from fellow FARs. There is a kind of friction between the two operations. Personally he has no problem with seeing us become members of COIA. It is an organization external to the NCAA, in a way that the FARs are in the system. Having external and internal pressures on the NCAA may not be a bad thing. The reason why faculty senate has to vote on this is because COIA is really not representing the university in any way and that the NCAA does not officially recognize COIA in any formal way. It is something for the faculty itself to consider as direct pressure from the outside on the various structures that the NCAA has. Things that COIA has been pressuring the NCAA on are things that FARs are also pressuring the NCAA on.

Gundela Hachmann

Can you explain what a FAR is?

Bill Demastes

Every university has one. The FAR, the Senior Women's Administrator, the Director of Athletics, the Chancellor or President are the four persons that attend NCAA or SEC meetings. Together they determine what they can create; they generate and vote on legislation. They are sort of governing agents of each institution. What Joan said about faculty representation being squeezed out, there is a constant struggle for FARs to maintain the voice that they have., understanding the Directors of Athletics and university Presidents have a pretty high stake in these decisions and sometimes listen benevolently and silently to our recommendations.

Jeff Roland

Is it fair to say that the FAR feel that they get support from COIA?

Bill Demastes

No. There is almost no coordination between the two groups.

Jeff Roland

Not necessarily coordinated support but alignment in some cases where you guys are trying to get something done from the inside and it would be helpful to have help from the outside.

Bill Demastes

In speaking for himself he doesn't see why there is any problem with that. There are some more senior FARs that often times make observations that COIA is ill informed, does not know what the NCAA is actually doing and therefore it is sometimes counterproductive in the support that they give. The push they have to protect the students is important.

Joan King

As part of COIA there are actually FARs, so some of the people there are both the FAR and COIA representative and they do not have a problem with being both.

Lillian Bridwell-Bowles

FARs are handsomely rewarded with tickets and perks. What that illustrates is that we are coming from different directions.

Bill Demastes

He completely agrees and he doesn't push as much as other FARs for various kinds of perks. There are some that meet my needs sometimes. You can say what kind of rebelliousness will a FAR have if it costs them seats. LSU is not nearly as generous and he has pushed at the NCAA that all perks be eliminated completely. There a measure of self-interest there in a way the COIA membership doesn't have.

Joan King

Because we have a really good FAR here at LSU, we as a Faculty Senate can work with him to get more done. We will have two voices going into the system.

Ken McMillin

He asked how urgent the vote was and suggested suspending the rules.

Motion to Suspend Rules to Vote now: Unanimously approved.

Vote on Resolution: Unanimously approved.

C. First reading, Resolution 16–05, “Recognition and Honoring of Retiring LSU Faculty at the Commencement Ceremony”, *Sponsored by Fereydoun Aghazadeh*

Read by Fereydoun Aghazadeh

FACULTY SENATE RESOLUTION 16–05
“Recognition and Honoring of Retiring LSU Faculty Members at Commencement Ceremony”
Sponsored by Senator Fereydoun Aghazadeh

Whereas LSU faculty members devote their professional lives to LSU;

Whereas there is no formal or established procedure to honor the retiring faculty members at LSU;

Whereas, many universities across the nation honor the retiring faculty members during event such as “Annual Faculty Retirement Dinner” or “graduation ceremonies”;

Therefore be it resolved that the LSU Faculty Senate here by recommends to the “LSU Commencement Committee” to celebrate the accomplishments and dedication of the retiring faculty by recognizing and honoring them during the spring commencement ceremony. Faculty members eligible for recognition shall be at least 55 years of age and has served LSU for minimum of 10 years.

Moved to discussion by Sabrina Taylor and seconded by Lillian Bridwell-Bowles

Q&A Summary:

Fereydoun Aghazadeh

In his department they had three faculty members retire, one of whom worked here for over 40 years, and there were no celebrations. His children went to graduation and their ceremony had recognition of retiring faculty.

Fabio Del Piero

He suggests removal of the last sentence about age and years.

Fereydoun Aghazadeh

Other programs for faculty had this clause in it, so this is not discriminating against young people.

John Devlin

Would this apply to faculty who retire here at age 55 and go on to take an appointment at some other institution?

Fereydoun Aghazadeh

Both of them some retire completely and some go on to further careers. That is not relevant at all.

Areendam Chanda

How do you define retirement?

Fereydoun Aghazadeh

When they separate from LSU and are no longer here.

Arend Van Gemmert

Does this apply to those who quit here and go to another university? How do you separate retirees from those who quit?

Fereydoun Aghazadeh

You do not; when they retire and leave LSU what they do after is none of our business.

Gundela Hachmann

There is a process to go through to formally retire.

Fereydoun Aghazadeh

There could be some clause that they are eligible for the LSU retirement system.

Fakhri Al-Bagdadi

What is the method of recognition?

Fereydoun Aghazadeh

He would leave that up to the university. At other universities they called their name and they stood up.

Gundela Hachmann

She likes the idea. The chair changed after 12 years as chair and no one talked about it. She thought that was strange. People who retire and spend their entire lives working doing research and teaching should be recognized.

Suresh Rai

The department or the college should recognize the person first before commencement. In his department they chip in money and give a gift to the person.

Fereydoun Aghazadeh

We are talking about the culture of the university.

Dottie Vaughn

Do you know how many you would have in one year? Wouldn't that affect the eligibility requirement? It may add a lot of confusion and time to the ceremony.

Fereydoun Aghazadeh

There may be about 30 per year.

Dottie Vaughn

If you back date it a couple of years you could come up with a number which will affect what the recognition will be.

Fakhri Al-Bagdadi

Does LSU give recognition for years of service?

Fereydoun Aghazadeh

He would leave it up to the university.

Lillian Bridwell-Bowles

She gets a certificate every ten years. She could do without that to save money. If there are 30 or 50 they could stand in mass and their names could be in the pamphlet.

D. First reading, Resolution 16-06, "Revision of Membership Requirements for Selected Faculty Senate Committees", *Sponsored by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee at the request of James Miller, Chair of the Committee on Committees*

Read by Kevin Cope

FACULTY SENATE RESOLUTION 16-06
Revision of Membership Requirements for Selected Faculty Senate Committees
Sponsored by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee

Whereas the Committee on Committees routinely monitors the membership of committees and seeks feedback concerning the effectiveness and convenience of the many and diverse configurations of Faculty Senate committees;

Whereas the Committee on Committees also studies the consistency of committee structure and membership with committee duties and with available faculty staffing;

Whereas reductions and other changes in the composition of the faculty have resulted in some minor but noteworthy inconsistencies between regulation and practice;

Whereas the Committee on Committees has therefore recommended a review of committee membership regulations;

Whereas the Faculty Senate Executive Committee completed the recommended review at its meeting of March 10th, 2016;

Therefore be it resolved that the Faculty Senate will implement the following changes in the committee membership requirements enumerated in its bylaws.

1. The two ex officio members of the Benefits Advisory Committee will be appointed jointly by the Vice-President for Finance and Administration and the Faculty Senate Executive Committee rather than by the Provost and the Faculty Senate Executive Committee (rationale: matters relating to faculty benefits fall under the jurisdiction of Human Resources Management, which is now a division of Finance and Administration).

2. In the membership requirements for the Budget and Planning Advisory Committee, the line, “the members should be present or former members of the Executive Committee; present or former officers of a policy committee; or persons with appropriate experience” shall be reduced to “persons with appropriate experience”(rationale: for several years, the Committee on Committees has encountered difficulty in finding an adequate number of committee alumni; with an eye toward inclusivity, it has, therefore, looked for colleagues with other suitable experience).

3. Also in the membership requirements for the Budget and Planning Advisory Committee, the permission to the Provost and Executive Committee to appoint up to two additional ex officio members shall be revised to limit that permission to the Executive Committee (rationale: the committee monitors budget recommendations from the Office of Academic Affairs, hence should remain independent of it).

4. For the Internationalization Committee, the member appointed by the Office of Admissions shall be changed from a voting to a non-voting member; the student member shall be eliminated; and the number of faculty members on the committee set at seven (rationales; the committee regulates at least some policies of the Office of Admissions, hence needs to vote independently of it; no student delegate has attended the committee meetings in many years, with students proving more helpful as advisors and consultants than as voting members; as the present membership of the committee has grown too large to allow for convenient scheduling of meetings).

Moved into discussion.

Q&A Summary:

Kevin Cope
He gave background on the resolution.

Fahkri Al-Bagdadi
Are colleges represented in these committees?

Kevin Cope
That is written into the By-Laws of the Faculty Senate. Most of the committees have representatives from across colleges with some certain colleges due to the amount of students. The old idea of having college representatives from every college would make the committees too big.

Austin Allen
He would like to know more about the reasons for the student’s removal.

Kevin Cope
The students were coming from the graduate student cadre, unfortunately the graduate student division on student government remains poorly articulated. The Dean of the Graduate School has been working on getting more students involved. We have worked with student government but have not had luck. We have good students who present good ideas, but students don’t usually attend the committee meetings.

Sabrina Taylor
The students will get shut out if they can’t be a voting member. Can that be an option if they want to be involved?

Kevin Cope

He can make that an option.

Areendam Chanda

Are there students on any of the other committees of the university?

Kevin Cope

That has fallen off. There have always been multiple chambers, faculty senate, staff senate, and student government. Sometimes the members are fluid. There is also a staffing problem, how many of us would attend student government committees.

Senators moved to adjourn, many seconded.

Adjourned at 5:18 pm