

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
Wednesday August 29, 2018
Harrison Board Room, Foundation Building



Attendance

Faculty Senate Executive Committee members present:

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|--|--|
| 1. Ken McMillin (President, Animal Science) | 2. |
| 3. Mandi Lopez (Vice-President, Vet Med) | 4. Joan King (Secretary, Food Science) |
| 5. Aly Aly (Member-at-Large, Mechanical Engineering) | 6. |
| 7. | |

Parliamentarian: Louay Mohammed

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

1	X	Kwame Agyemang	23	X	Paul Hrycaj	45	X	Carlos Slawson
2	X	Fereydoun Aghazadeh	24		Stuart Irvine	46	X	Jared Soileau
3	X	Priscilla "Lilly" Allen	25		Brendan Karch	47	X	Andrew Sluyter
4	X	Aly Aly	26	X	Kyla Kazuschyk	48		Kevin Smith
5	X	Kai Aryana	27	X	Yunjung Kim	49	P	Kristen Stair
6	P	Michael Banks	28	P	Elecia Lathon	50	X	Brenton Stewart
7	P	Chris Barrett	29	X	Vincent LiCata	51		José Torres
8	P	Dorin Boldor	30	X	Juan Martinez	52	X	Matthew Vangjel
9	X	Konstantin Busch	31	X	Bryan McCann	53	X	Nan Walker
10	X	Cassandra Chaney	32		Mustajab Mirza	54	X	Sonja Wiley
11	P	Brett Collier	33	X	Carl Motsenbocker	55	X	Cathy Williams
12	X	Belinda Davis	34	X	Pius Ngandu	56	X	Donghui Zhang
13	X	Fabio Del Piero	35	X	Rafael Orozco	57		
14		Charles Delzell	36	X	Niki Pace	58		
15	A	Rodrigo Diaz	37	X	Megan Papesh	59		
16	X	Cyndi Dicarlo	38	X	Tracy Quirk	60		
17	X	Levent Dirikolu	39	X	Suresh Rai	61		
18	X	Brooks Ellwood	40	X	Laura Riggs	62		
19		Kenny Fasching-Varner	41		Tracey Rizzuto	63		
20	X	Gregory Griffin	42	X	Bhaba Sarker	64		
21	X	Kristen Healy	43	X	Dan Sheehy	65		
22	X	Katherine Henninger	44	X	Gregory Sioles	66		

Guests:

Dr. Alexander King	Dr. Jane Cassidy	Thomas Glenn	Michael Hooks	Patrick Martin
Ryan Landry	Ashley Arceneaux	Brian Antie	Arend Van Gemmert	

Consideration of the Minutes from May 1, 2018

Moved by Aghazadeh and seconded.
 Approved unanimously with potential corrections.

President's Report

- Ken McMillin recognized our new FS Administrative Coordinator Susannah Montandon Knoll, DMA. She spent time revising our faculty senate website. Once we have all senators elected we will roll out the website. We want to have more faculty development seminars now that we have a coordinator. The foundation is gracious to allow us to use this room for FS. We need a dedicated space and are working with Finance and Administration and Academic Affairs and our new director of campus planning to get a space. We want this to be not only for faculty senate issues, but as a one stop shop. Along with the employee hub we want the FS website to be more faculty friendly. If you have ideas on how to make it better let her know.
- The search committee for the registrar is going on this week. FS is participating in interviews. They decided not to have public forums, but these positions need to be highly visible. The committee for the new provost is half faculty. If you know an administrator who is either on or off campus let the committee know. FSEC met with President Alexander to tell him the characteristics we want in the new provost. We do not want the Strategic Plan to die or not have teeth. We want a Provost with a record of institutional advancement. The Associate Vice President for Public Safety will be Sept 10, 17 and 24th and FSEC will be involved. The hope is they will interface with Hook's department and police and parking and traffic. The Vice President of Strategic Communications did not find suitable candidates the first round of searching. They are looking into getting an outside search company to help with that.

3. He brought up the issues with wording changes in PS 50.R02. Ken suggested two wording changes, in one clause about department head being appointed or re-appointed, the faculty needs to be consulted, so dean doesn't unilaterally make decision. The other aspect has to do with some of the ways that deans do their job and department heads do their job. Sometimes we find out that a staff or faculty member has oversight of our financial budgets of other faculty members. They must go through the advertising process rather than just being named.
4. We are looking for volunteers to serve on our committees, ex. Budget and Planning, Course and Curricula, ASH. If you are interested contact Dr. Jennifer Baumgartner. He is looking at faculty liaisons for Staff Senate and Student Government.
5. Ken McMillin listed several committee meetings that he and the FSEC meet with or are part of. There is a Service and Operational Excellence Committee to help make LSU a better place for faculty, staff and students. They have faculty members who agreed to be trainers for faculty.
6. Dr. Haynie suspended the search for the Vice provost for Graduate Studies and Global Engagement. Dr. Kevin Cope and Ken McMillin met with Interim Graduate Dean Malcom Richardson about current graduate school issues.
7. The Presidential Greek Affairs Implementation Committee came up with new rules for Greek organizations. There was a fraternity suspended recently.
8. Kevin Cope, Mandi Lopez and Ken McMillin met with Finance and Administration head frequently about all kinds of issues. Frequently they must talk about Short's Travel. Go to the APIC website to tell about issues with Short's Travel. Also fill in Short's Travel survey. There will be a beta test of new processes that Short's is testing. Additionally, for every contracted rate you pay extra for services like calling.
9. Ken McMillin met with Dr. Kepler several times and served on the search committee for the VP of Student Affairs.
10. The search committee found a good candidate for the Director of Campus Planning.
11. The LSU Foundation Senior Director of Annual Giving.
12. Campus Federal executives want to fund some of our workshops.
13. ITS staff will talk about clicker issues on campus and other aspects with ITS. In October Tom Glenn will come talk about student modernization.
14. The commencement committee has the Presidents of FS, Staff Senate and Student Government and the registrar. They are looking at improvements graduation ceremonies. We want more attendance of the families and more faculty involvement.
15. On October 29 and 30 there will be a Presidential Symposium called Behind the Ballot. This is to promote voting among students. Vince LiCata mentioned that a person must register 20 days before voting. Two student organizations will go after students to register once the event is announced. Aly Aly mentioned the issue of having one password for the merged mainframe and mylsu.
16. FSEC has met with ITS about Faculty360 several times. It doesn't import data very easily from other sources.
17. Ken McMillin said we will have abbreviated summary as well as a transcript of video. Trying to make our minutes 1. More user friendly, and 2. Less onerous for our staff and Secretary to handle.
18. We have TRSL elections, so if you are in the Teacher's Retirement System there are a lot of faculty candidates, including Belinda Davis.
19. The staff excellence training is good for staff levels, but not for faculty. We want to talk about different issues such as mid-term grades, at-risk students, academic freedom, etc. They are working on the format for that now. The goal is to make it engaging enough to make people want to take it.

Q&A Summary:

None.

State of the University – Dr. F. King Alexander, LSU President and Chancellor

Legislature ended battle between 40% and 50% of a penny. They settled on 44.5% of a penny. Number of leaders wanted to say they stopped governor from 50% of the penny. There was a two-year sunset clause on that penny. The remaining three weeks of the legislature was about that half of a penny. Eliminated 12 to 15% cut we were looking at as an institution. Allowed us to get 3% salary increase and fully fund TOPS. This is the largest freshman class in history, overall, we are fluctuating 500 to 100 up, approaching 6,000 freshmen. This year we are 79% in state. We are up 200% on California freshmen. The Nicholson Gateway, 1600 new apartments for upper classmen leading to more students on campus. The Matherne's Grocery Store is a nice addition to the campus. The left half is delis, the right half is groceries. The apartments have kitchens. We are about 88% full. It is the first year that we have mandated all freshmen live on campus. There are exemptions for students with various needs. Two years looking at \$2 billion deficit, last year \$1 billion deficit. This year there is no deficit. Looking at capital campaigns and putting money back into the university to help with deferred payments and putting money back into Higher Education. Faculty cohort is 157 new faculty. Faculty are coming from all over, 1/3 from Southeastern states and 2/3 from all over the globe. It tells us that the reputation of the university is still strong despite that dark decade that we went through. This will move us back to where we were in student to faculty ratio. There will be a public announcement of a \$1.5 billion Capital campaign. We have \$500 million already raised. They expect to get \$1.5 billion in the next five to six years. There are new restaurants on campus, such as Panera in Taylor Hall. Opened Spruce, a new residential college. Once they open another dorm, they will take down Kirby Smith in 2020. Be cognizant of incoming class, most diverse, most underrepresented population and largest Pell grant group. Our average GPA went up from 3.56 to 3.64 of this entering class. The ACT stayed level at 25.5. They are high achieving students. We went to holistic admission looking at their portfolios. We were in the minority because we didn't before. Only three SEC schools do not use holistic enrollment: Mississippi State, Arkansas and Alabama. Some students get one shot at the ACT, usually the lower income students. This class will need a little more help because it is the largest Pell grant population. Which once again proves that we play an important role. If we succeed we will silence the naysayers. We hope the new amenities will keep students on here. We appreciate the work everyone is doing and looking forward to seeing you on campus.

Q&A Summary:

Ken McMillin

Acknowledged Dr. Alexander for the budget work through the BOS. When you have the opportunity to meet with some of the new BOS, let them know what we do here, educate them about what the faculty does to make this a great place. It reflects a cohesive front when going in front of the legislature.

Fred Aghazadeh

Clarify number of faculty net loss and gain.

King Alexander

We had a net gain of about 80. He appreciates the work of the search committees in getting faculty here. We have never been in such good fiscal shape. We're talking about growth and what we can do in the future. This should help externally as well.

Juan Martinez

Is there a tuition freeze or an increase to raise funds?

King Alexander

Unlike other universities, a 2/3 vote to raise tuition from the state legislature so tuition is out of control, the legislature controls it. We went up 4.9% in fees this year to cover \$8 million mandated costs. We put \$9 million new dollars in financial aid, now we put in \$27 million. For the 15,000 low income students are not paying anything. The average TOPS recipient, when not factoring in room and board, when you add our financial aid is paying \$800 a semester in tuition and fees. Room and board is the living conditions that probably some loan money goes to. The national average of debt is 82%. The Pelican Promise covers the Pell students which basically makes it free for them. The merit aid has never been rosier for us, which is why we are up 53% in out of state students. We are pouring money into high achieving students to recruit them here. AL is throwing merit money around. AL freshmen is 31% from AL. S. Carolina is now only 38% dropping local students and we have watched their African American students drop from 17% to 7%. Our commitment is strong for in state students. We do not want to abandon in state kids. Our aid has never been better.

Campus Activities – Dr. Jane Cassidy, Senior Vice Provost, Academic Affairs

Speaking on behalf of Interim Provost. She wanted me to share three of the things that she has been focused on. The first one is recruitment. We have the largest most diverse class coming in and it's due to Jose Aviles and holistic recruitment. Students come to the university because of the academics of the university. The number one reason they come is to work with faculty members. Regarding retention, having diverse students requires different strategies. Every student who comes here should graduate because they are capable. Make sure you are assessing students early in the semester. Make sure that everyone gives mid-term grades, only 40% undergraduate courses give mid-term grades. Make sure you know what the services are for students who are struggling. Make sure you know the Center of Academic Success, the Social Services for SSS program. Can find those on Academic Affairs website. You might send a name of students to LSU Cares. The third thing that she has been focused on is online. We are expanding portfolio of options for students who want to get an online degree. We are moving the online programs in house under Sasha Thackaberry. The number one issue is the quality of the degree which will not be sacrificed during online degrees just to bring in extra money. An LSU degree will be an LSU degree not like a University of Phoenix. My last thing, we were talking about PS-36. It has been signed off on by Dr. Alexander. You will notice that all the comments you made were incorporated into the document. The Academic Freedom clause is now a part of the appendix and Ken and I are working on making it its own policy.

Q&A Summary:

Dr. Alexander

The biggest tragedy are students who started and didn't finish. Most have acquired student loan debt as drop out. We owe it to our students to help them to succeed. What they face if they don't is worse and worse every year.

Vincent LiCata

I've noticed that more students know about the Center of Academic Success. Are there further plans to keep that moving in a very positive direction?

Dr. Cassidy

We are expanding it and they have hired more tutors and expanded space in Coates Hall and in the library due to the influx of students.

Dr. Alexander

They have moved it under Academic Affairs for a stable and growing budget. They brought the new students in one week before and helped them find places on campus. The first week was a great success. The amount of student involvement was tremendous. We are doing it again next year.

Ken McMillin

Academic Affairs has algorithms on students who need more help, those at the higher-level administrators meet with those students every week. That is going to make or break our retention. It is a huge step to keep those at-risk students on track.

Jane Cassidy

Stacy believes that retention is all our opportunity. Senior academic level was into it. And now we hand it off to the classes. It is imperative that we all own that.

Dr. Alexander

This is everyone's issue: police, facilities. This is everybody's responsibility.

Aly Aly

He is thinking of online enrollment growing. What is the anticipated enrollment over the next five years? Should every unit prepare for this and should faculty get training now on how to do online teaching?

Jane Cassidy

Not every program can do this now. We don't have the resources for that, so we are starting with those with the biggest market.

Dr. Alexander

We can have 35,000 on campus and 35,000 off. Many of campus are out of state. Their daughter takes some courses online to complete their degrees. It can help with the students that are here for more options.

Ken McMillin

Dr. Thackaberry will come to Faculty Senate in the October meeting. We are trying to get consistency on our online courses, standard templates for consistency. She knows we want higher standards at LSU than we have had. That means some Continuing Ed and online courses must be revamped to meet standards of the Faculty Senate.

Dr. Alexander

We got her from Southern New Hampshire University online students and about 95% of those students are out of state. We allowed online universities to take federal dollars and take money. We can do it with high quality from reputable universities. We want to have quality education.

Fred Aghazadeh

Could you please shed light on graduate programs?

Dr. Alexander

Graduate education normally increases when economies are bad and slow when economies are good because students can get jobs. Our program has stayed stagnant. We are looking at getting back to the numbers we used to have, especially internationally. Are we competitive with our assistantships? It is working? Are we communicating effectively? Two years ago, we had 200 graduate students we didn't respond to, we didn't tell them yes or no, they didn't hear from us. We have got a lot of work to do with our grad students and our grad colleges.

Lilly Allen

Aren't we doing a lot across campus online with graduate programs? Is that how we are balancing?

Dr. Alexander

We will have a lot of graduate certificate programs online for working people and working adults. LSU Shreveport has half of their graduate programs online. Half of their enrollment is online, from around the world.

Ken McMillin

Dr. Thackaberry is working with the other campuses so that we have an integrated front for online classes.

Dr. Alexander

That also prevents us from competing with each other.

Environmental Health and Safety update – Michael Hooks, Director, EHS and Patrick Martin, Assistant Vice President, Facilities and Property Oversight

He showed a slide presentation and stated their mission statement to support teaching, learning and research of the university. They have a research safety committee that meets regularly. They have a biosafety committee, radiation committee animal care committee and IRB committee. Radiation safety is separate department in their office. They have routine inspections and have a lab safety program based on state and federal regulations. They have a broad safety training program for all who work in labs. They push for best practices, attention to detail. Environmental Services manage the impact on the local environment of laboratory work, particularly with hazardous waste. They move 25 to 30 tons of material off campus each year, not including solid waste, garbage or recycling. They regular and review all use of biological materials. They review all protocols and inspect labs before they are approved. They monitor work environments for hazardous conditions.

They can do real time monitoring for different types of hazardous environments, noise, chemicals, etc. They inspect nearly 1000 chemical fumes hoods annually. They manage all hazardous materials through an online database, EHS Assistant. Every chemical is tracked from when it is purchased through disposal. The program also monitors all training and personnel. The program also looks at areas to reduce waste. They track 80,000 individual containers through the online program. A research safety committee worked to improve a guide presented to ORED and the President's office for approval. Some short-term goals are: EHS will work with individual department heads and a research safety newsletter. They want to train faculty, staff and students on incident reporting. This is an exciting report and beneficial to use on campus.

Q&A Summary:

Aly Aly

About safety, driving on River Road, we have our lab there, it's a struggle to drive 45 miles per hour there. The speed limit may need to be changed. At night, the Nicholson extension, the lighting is an issue to see students crossing the road. Maybe Highland Road can be 15 mph. There should be some alternatives like protective bollards.

Michael Hooks

There are certain changes that can be made. Nicholson and Highland present challenges as they are state highways. As far as lighting they do a fall and spring lighting survey at night with student government.

Ken McMillin

What FA is doing is looking at risk on campus, facilities, electronics services, etc. Because we are self-insured we don't know when it's coming, and we cannot predict what we have in reserves.

Patrick Martin

Nicholson and Highland are state highways or monitored or controlled by the city parish or state. Nicholson is changing over to the city. Once that happens, there is a lot more flexibility to work with the city to lower speed limits. The construction on Nicholson gateway institutes traffic calming measures: narrowed roadway, eliminated on-street parking and widen the median. These are proven to slow people down over time. They are embarked in a campus wide effort to save money, Enterprise Risk Management, by reducing insurance costs by making everyone safer. They are looking at a broad stroke, not just accidents, but brand identity, computer security, etc.

Ken McMillin

Dr. Van Gemmert is on the committee for traffic and parking safety.

Jared Soileau

The other issue we have is students and even faculty members in crosswalks. Yesterday and message went out that had more emphasis on bicyclists rather than pedestrians. If there is not a bridge over Nicholson, there will many more accidents.

Patrick Martin

According to almost every traffic consultant, the students will not use the bridges. If looking at phone and not going as soon as pedestrian light changes to blinking you will run out of time. Much of this comes down to education. Most of what used to be there was commuter parking. We believe that we have reduced the number of people crossing Nicholson.

Ken McMillin

The only way someone would use a bridge is if there is no other way across. That would mean us fencing off the roads.

Judith Sylvester

There are two intersections that she goes through where cars can park near crosswalk and drivers cannot see the students coming to crosswalk. The buses in front of the Journalism building also block crosswalk vision. There is no safe way for disabled persons to cross. On NBC nightly news last night, they covered e-cigarettes exploding. She contacted the risk management committee regularly, we got rid of the hover boards but have done nothing about the e-cigarettes. They are in the classrooms, laboratories, loading docks where they load those chemicals. No one seems to be doing anything about it.

Patrick Martin

We co-chaired the committee. Unfortunately, facility and property oversight have no authority for enforcement.

Judith Sylvester

So, then who does?

Patrick Martin

That question should have been addressed to President Alexander.

Vince LiCata

Rad safety is differently organized?

Michael Hooks

He is head of EHS not radiation. Radiation safety is a separate department. Radiation safety was a system function more tied to academic and research. They work close together on these issues.

Kyla Kazuschyk

They have spray paint and batteries. How do we get those taken care on?

Michael Hooks

Contact our office and we can collect all that material.

Ken McMillin

The environmental health and safety staff is very small. They work very efficiently.

Michael Hooks

They have 10 professionals on staff whereas Florida has 70. We he started, there were 2. They do the job they have to.

Brooks Ellwood

You didn't mention liquid gases.

Michael Hooks

They have training available for faculty that work with those items.

Brooks Ellwood

What about liquid helium?

Michael Hooks

They know where those are, and they do training. Cryogenics and compressed gases are serious issues that they cover inspections and training for.

Mandi Lopez

With progress comes construction. You cannot monitor everything, and things do happen with construction. The one thing you want to know about are near misses. Who do we go about reporting those issues and concerns?

Michael Hooks

When they do construction on campus they have to do renovation on occupied building so there are issues with smells, dust and others. They try to correct issues that happen with the facilities group. Meetings with construction companies to talk about issues before they start. If you have a complaint, give them a call. They will monitor for issues.

Patrick Martin

The Faculty Senate is beneficial to help communicate issues. You don't know to call us, but also call on of your FSEC members. Tell all faculty out there how to get something addressed. There are unpleasant realities of construction, but we want these issues to be addressed so please reach out through those channels.

Ken McMillin

As Faculty Senate we are trying to alert you to things that do not necessarily happen on a regular basis, so you need to know who to handle those. The reason why we have so many guest speakers on campus is so that we are aware of what is going on, on campus.

Patrick Martin

Part of the change we are adopting is improving communications before construction projects go on. Those smaller in scope they try to squeeze into summer months. In the future they will roll out better communications, an email, for issues like construction that will cause odors, dust, etc. They want supervisors in the buildings to be able to plan for employee needs.

Ken McMillin

Every building has a building coordinator. We are working towards every building having a safety coordinator to report these issues to.

Michael Hooks

He is on call 24/7. He will come out or his staff will come out night and day.

Senator

Regarding smoking on campus, he has seen various people smoking, what do we do if we see them?

Patrick Martin

That is not part of his office. There is no enforcement. There was a lot of discussion about enforcement, LSU police will not because it's a law. The appropriate place to report a student violation report it to the Dean of Students. For a staff or employee, contact their department. You can also contact their office and they will investigate.

Ken McMillin

He will be talking to the student government in Sept and the things they need to be aware of, ex. Traffic, hazards of tobacco, etc.

Lilly Allen

She loves the policies and that we are being good stewards of the environment. She works in a very old building, that has been cited as a dangerous hazardous building. Is it true that if there is construction going on are, they will tell us there are certain risks?

Ken McMillin

If construction is occurring, we must check for asbestos.

Patrick Martin

Asbestos is okay if not disturbed.

Michael Hooks

As far as getting information down to the occupants, we tried to go through the building coordinators.

Patrick Martin

They are trying to ensure that communication is getting information down to occupants through building occupants, not relying on building coordinator anymore. Email notifying you of risks will get to you.

Michael Hooks

If you have any specific questions about specific buildings let him know.

Patrick Martin

They have made a new B lot available on West State Street near where the old McDonald's used to be. They are having paid parking at night and LSU B parking during the day. If you work late they will not ticket you. The parking garage on Nicholson gateway, the top floor is B parking as well as residential parking. He seconds what Dr. Alexander said about shopping at Matherne's. Retail parking rules in two lots there is a one-hour time limit for parking.

Vince LiCata

There has been a plan to make a bike path on Dalrymple to connect to the other bike path. What is the status of that?

Patrick Martin

He does not know.

Ken McMillin

That is a question for the new person.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Vote on pictures of Senators on FS website and FS apparel

Ken McMillin

We will post the senators information on the FS website. How far do you want to go? How much else do we post because you represent a constituency?

Brooks Ellwood

No pictures.

Senator

People don't go up and ask people who are the faculty senators. He doesn't think it's a bad idea in terms of visibility. People get to know who who is, literally a face to a name.

Paul Hrycaj

Can we just have a link to our faculty page?

Ken McMillin

Those are all options. How can we move faculty governance to a more visible position without causing an unforeseen situation to our senators?

Fabio Del Piero

He sees a potential issue. Even with the most efficient IT professional websites are a perennial work in progress. He foresees this being a continuous work in progress.

Senator

He agrees. That if the campus moves to digital measures, that's the backdrop for all colleges, but if it becomes an administrative burden.

Ken McMillin

Assures senators of new faculty senate coordinator abilities—not a burden. A website is a continuous work in progress, never static. We'll start with the link and then as we become more visible, we can revisit the issue.

Lilly Allen

Yes.

Ken McMillin

Speaking of visibility, Student Government senators have shirts, staff have shirts. The question is, do we want faculty senate apparel for us?

Kyla Kazuschyk

I say yes, let's order polo shirts!

Lilly Allen

I don't like polo shirts, what about scarves?

Ken McMillin

If we have any interest at all, we will investigate the possibilities and potential costs. We will have our coordinator investigate on those things.

Election of two Faculty Senate Executive Committee members

Ken McMillin explained what the FSEC does and how frequently we meet.

Dr. Van Gemmert has taken an Associate Dean position, so we must replace him as Member-at-Large and we need to elect a new one from the new senators.

Nominees for replacement of Arend Van Gemmert for Member-at-Large: Fabio Del Piero, Aly Aly, Fred Aghazadeh

Nominees all gave information about their background.

Vote on replacement for Arend Van Gemmert as Member-at-Large result: Fabio Del Piero

Nominees for New Member-at-Large from newly elected senators: Bhaba Sarker and Nan Walker

Vote on New Member-at-Large from newly elected Senators: Nan Walker

Changes in Faculty Senate Committees and Operating procedures

Ken McMillin covered what some of the committees do and how some are structured, and some are not. We want to develop an operation manual for every committee. We want to post the minutes from the committees.

Moved and Approved to go into executive session.

Faculty Senate went into Executive Session

Motion to accept recommendation we discussed in executive session and seconded.

Vote on motion: approved with one abstention

All moved to adjourn at 5:50 pm.