

LSU

Faculty Senate

Summary

Faculty Senate Meeting

Wednesday, February 12, 2020

LSU Foundation Building, Harrison Board Room 107, 3:00pm

ATTENDANCE

Executive Committee

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

Senators:

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

Proxies/Alternates:

Cathleen Williams for Bret Collier
 Kristin Stair for Carl Motsenbocker
 Shane Stadler for Jim Matthews
 Brenton Stewart for Suzanne Stauffer
 Joan King for Prosanta Chakrabarty

Will Monroe for Jeff Brooks
 Ioan Negulescu for Dorin Boldor
 Bhaba Sarker for Fereydoun Aghazadeh
 Bhaba Sarker for Aly Aly
 Tracy Quirk for Nan Walker

Guests:

Nicole Roth	Erin McKinley	Lori Martin	Kevin Cope	Ernie Ballard
Arend Van Gemmert	Jane Cassidy	Thomas Galligan	Erica Hawthorne	Jim Sabourin
John Perret				

CALL TO ORDER

President Mandi Lopez called the meeting to order at 3:00pm.

ATTENDANCE

There was a quorum with 10 alternates/proxies noted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of January 16 Minutes passed with minor corrections to be added later.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Updates
 - o The Provost's office has created a website that includes all policy statements and current stasis.
 - o Revisions of PS-104 and PS-109 have included a possible jury committee. This is distinct from the Adjudication committee that is intended to evaluate circumstances that lie in the grey areas between the lines of process and procedure to ensure equitable treatment
 - o Loophole in ACA does not require health care insurance to cover pregnancy, care, and delivery for insured dependents—this includes LSU First and OBG plans
- Activities
 - o FSEC has asked for faculty representation on the search for the new LSU President
 - o FSEC is seeking solutions on third party authentication stumbling blocks
 - o FSEC will be working with the Budget and Planning Committee to investigate 44% grant deduction distribution
 - o FSEC has pursued the 36% tax on tuition remission—no clear answers have yet emerged
 - o Inquiries were made on the minimum of 48 hours' notice on parking lot closures prior to a requesters event date. If petitioners cannot make the deadline, the FSEC has requested that they share the space.
 - o 2017 Faculty Senate Resolution on Integrated Learning Committee did not include approving bylaws. FSEC is working with the committee on updating bylaws and procedures.
 - o FSEC making inquiries into an academic parade to celebrate LSU's achievement.

WELCOME, INTERIM PRESIDENT THOMAS C. GALLIGAN JR.

- Main goals
 - o Stability
 - strong, solid, responsible, and trustworthy (transparent)
 - o Progress
 - reinvestment in higher education, enrollment success with diverse classes that have high indicators of success, uniform fundraising efforts with over \$800 million raised (60% geared for academic core)
- Legislature approach
 - o Mandated costs: retirement and health care
 - Governor's budget included \$10 million for mandated costs for all higher ed
 - o Reinvestment in faculty and staff: recruitment and retention
 - o Salary increases
 - Not in Governor's budget
 - o Deferred maintenance: \$750 million
 - o Capital outlay projects: Science building and Library
 - 780 students will be off track to complete their degree because of lab space
 - o Renewing fee authority and decreased prices
- Interim timeframe: 6-9 months
 - o Board of Supervisors will be reviewing the position

Q&A:

- Are you optimistic about the 6 to 9-month timeframe?
 - o Yes. If it is longer, I ask for continued support and patience.
- Why is salary not a priority for the Governor?

- Unsure. We will still advocate for salary increases.
- What are your thoughts on transparency for key university positions?
 - Transparency is important and essential. There are points in the process where transparency is crucial, mostly toward the end with finalists coming to campus. Transparency is harder to achieve earlier on in the process.

LSU PREGNANCY & PARENTING PROGRAM AND NATIONAL CENTER FOR FACULTY DEVELOPMENT & DIVERSITY MEMBERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES, JANE CASSIDY, SENIOR VICE PROVOST, OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

- Pregnancy and Parenting Committee
 - In place for 18 months
 - Formed due to lack of lactation rooms on campus
 - Main goals
 - Lactation spaces: 19 (13 open to public, 6 available to building occupants)
 - All equipped with comfortable seating, electrical outlets, and sanitary supplies
 - Comprehensive website
 - Tabs for faculty, staff, students
 - Printable resource guide
 - Map of lactation spaces that include hours of operation, and restrictions
 - Resources for childcare, LSU summer camps, and a contact page
 - Pregnancy advocates with training: how to navigate a degree while pregnant
 - Future goals
 - Tutoring, babysitting, parental leave, speakers on time management and parenting
- The National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity
 - LSU Membership
 - Faculty and graduate students
 - Includes mentoring, time management, a monthly core curriculum of webinars, guest expert webinars, 14-day writing challenges with others around the country, dissertation success curriculum, buddy matching for peer motivation, and other training
 - Additional features at personal cost
 - Use lsu.edu ID when signing up

Q&A:

- Is the parenting website live?
 - Yes.
- Will the babysitters have background checks?
 - The Career Center will be a hub for parents to post assistance and students can respond. We're looking into background checks.

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE, JIM SABOURIN, VICE PRESIDENT, STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS

- Perceptions and areas of focus for Strat Comm
 - Lack of consistent themes and messages
 - Does not have great or sustained contact with individual department campus communicators
 - Perpetually late regarding news and/or announcements
 - Lack of transparency
- Main goals
 - Report news in timely manner
 - Be as transparent as possible given certain situations
 - Work on communication with campus communicators
 - Increase visibility of academics and research
- Obstacles
 - Small staff: make sure that they are matched up to doing the things that add the most value
 - Lack of clarity of Strat Comm's role to the university

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES UPDATE, JOHN PERRET, MEDICAL DIRECTOR, LSU SHC

- Mumps
 - o Previous outbreak in 2017
 - o 12-13 cases on campus (1 non-LSU student) this year: approx. 26 to run its course
 - o MMR vaccine is approximately 88% efficient if you receive the 2-shot series
 - o Student Health Center recommends a third MMR for a high-risk group
 - Offered free for those that come in direct contact of secretions from infected person
- Coronavirus
 - o System sign in question: have they traveled outside of the US in the past 21 days?
 - Yes—more questions. Quarantined for testing depending on positive answers.
 - o 2 cases this year—both negative results
 - o CDC screenings: individuals must have symptoms for specimens to be sent
 - May change
- TB
 - o Any indications taken care of quickly
 - o All students from countries with “high TB burden” get screened (skin and blood test)
- Meningitis
 - o Viral or bacterial
 - o Bacterial is most concerning for communicability: meningococcal bacterial disease
 - All students must be vaccinated
 - o Viral
 - Most outbreaks occur August, September, and October
 - Can be treated, although some are fatal
- Flu and other minor viruses
 - o 5-10 flu cases every day
 - o Getting rid of student excuses would help traffic and congestion at Health Center

Q&A:

- Has the Health Center seen complications with mumps?
 - o We have seen orchitis. We have not seen encephalitis or meningitis.
- Is the mumps virus the same virus as 2 years ago?
 - o Not sure if it is the same strain.
- Are these mumps infections part of the 12%?
 - o Yes. All cases have had the 2-shot MMR series.
- Given Louisiana’s climate, would you recommend taking the flu vaccine later?
 - o CDC recommends the vaccine for October. Still debated at the Health Center.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

First Reading, Resolution 20-01, “Class Cancellations for Athletic Events”

Sponsored by Kevin Cope and the Faculty Senate Executive Committee

Whereas members of the LSU Board of Supervisors (Board) are appointed by the Governor of Louisiana so that all citizens of Louisiana, whether students, faculty members, workers, farmers, professionals, investors, or political leaders, are considered in the decisions regarding higher education at the University;

Whereas that mandate to the Board members expresses the hope and expectation that these leaders will exercise sound judgment in the guidance and management of Louisiana’s highest-ranked university;

Whereas the Board took a sudden, disruptive action by canceling classes on the two opening days of the Spring 2020 semester in order to facilitate attendance at a spectator sport event, the national football championship, and to allow for football-related festivities;

Whereas the Board did not find it appropriate to follow its own Bylaws to refer this matter to the Academic and Research Committee for their recommendations and did not prepare a written resolution to facilitate such recommendations although this was achievable since it was known two weeks before the meeting that LSU would play the night of January 13 and that January 13 was the first class day of the spring semester as published in the Academic Calendar more than a year before;

Whereas the cancellation of classes for sporting events by the A&M campus sends a message to students, faculty, Louisiana citizens and the nation that intercollegiate sports can and should preempt the academic activities defining LSU's core mission, and a confusing message to other LSU campuses, which expect the flagship campus to set standards, as well as to campuses in other Louisiana higher education systems, which have trouble maintaining their own commitment to academic improvement when the premiere campus undermines the statewide educational project;

Whereas LSU's football opponent, Clemson University, which enjoys a #70 academic ranking from US News and World Report, did not cancel classes for the days surrounding the championship football game, while LSU, which has a #153 ranking with the same rating service, halted instruction;

Whereas the LSU vision-and-mission statement presents the core duties of LSU as "offering a broad array of undergraduate degree programs and extensive graduate research opportunities designed to attract and educate highly qualified undergraduate and graduate students" and as "contribut[ing] to a world-class knowledge base that is transferable to educational, professional, cultural, and economic enterprises" that seem unlikely to be advanced by canceling of classes for a sporting event;

Whereas football-induced class cancellations also raise questions about LSU's commitment to the third component of its vision and mission statement, "using its extensive resources to solve economic, environmental, and social challenges," a worthy goal that is devastatingly inconsistent with the replacing of classes with an athletic event;

Whereas the Board of Regents Master Plan focuses on the productivity of Louisiana institutions by the awarding of degrees and certificates, on creating an educated, employable, and forward-looking population, on "new and novel approaches to the way education is delivered," on "performance," and on the role of "research universities and special purpose institutions in advancing knowledge and new ideas,"² which are diminished when teaching opportunities are obstructed;

Whereas neither of the aforementioned campus- or statewide mission, planning, and vision statements contain a single word about intercollegiate athletic programs, but abound with references to and images of academic personnel in instructional settings;

Whereas the cancellation of classes with only a few days of notice disrupts teaching schedules and lesson plans and academic calendars that are often developed months or years in advance and can unsettle or even waste time-consuming instructional setup efforts such as are common in laboratories or clinical courses;

Whereas the necessity of make-up classes on Saturdays when students may have work or personal conflicts, or the probable compression of course material resulting from class cancellations undermines the education and reduces the career-readiness of Louisiana students;

Whereas the claim that cancelling classes was required for the "safety" of students by a Board of Supervisors member suggests that LSU academic leadership has not succeeded the Vision 2020 strategic plan goal of creation of an educated citizenry committed to constructive activities especially since the President's Office has adequately made past decisions on university closures;

Whereas the first obligation of the leadership of academic institutions is for truth, a duty not accomplished when allocating only 1,100 tickets for a student body of 30,000 while also announcing that class cancellation allows for student participation in an event for which "street" ticket prices for the remaining 70,000 tickets reached thousands of dollars, an event far beyond the economic reach of many of our economically stressed or disadvantaged students;

Whereas the LSU administration has remained distressingly silent in the nationwide debate about intercollegiate athletics and especially "big-time" college football, a debate that, in focusing on lifelong injuries, exploitation of athletes, non-transparent athletic department budgets, non-academic uses of donor benefactions, and racial and gender inequities, raises questions about the enabling of intercollegiate athletics by suspending classes;

Whereas the values embedded in Title IX that call for gender equity were not evident since no cancellation of classes has ever occurred for LSU women's sport teams that participated in national championships and so the disparities between men and women or between minority and majority populations continue to be evident;

Whereas highly qualified LSU faculty members hold prominent positions as the Faculty Athletic Representative, on the LSU Athletics Council, and in national groups such as COIA (the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics) that are concerned with the role of athletics in higher education and so are highly qualified to offer advice on matters such as class cancellations;

Whereas LSU and its leadership make extraordinary, expensive efforts to recruit inventive and thoughtful faculty yet have ignored the counsel of the LSU Council of Faculty Advisors and LSU Faculty Senate Executive Committee, which prioritized classroom instruction over class cancellations for extracurricular activities on behalf of the faculty they represent;

Whereas the most valuable asset of any higher education institution is the authority of the faculty to develop educational policy, which has been delegated by and ignominiously disregarded by the Board in cancelling classes against the advice of duly elected and representative faculty leadership;

Whereas many major research-driven firms and high-tech businesses that considered relocating to Louisiana have chosen other locations owing to the inadequate support for and cavalier attitudes toward education, attitudes that are now evidenced in class cancellations in support of entertainment;³

Whereas the public is surely confused by repeated requests for higher levels of funding for LSU and for higher education when that petitioning university shuts its doors owing to sporting matches;

Whereas confusion might pertain to the implicit comparison between a sporting event and the other, more usual reasons for university closures such as natural disasters or loss of major leaders or sacrosanct holidays, a disconcerting contrast that leaves faculty and students wondering whether the experience of victims is trivialized by being placed equal to a sport success;

Therefore, be it resolved that the LSU Faculty Senate Faculty adjures the LSU Leadership and Board of Supervisors in collaboration with faculty leadership to develop a reasonable policy for the cancellation of classes for foreseeable and unforeseen circumstances so as to minimize disruption, serve the interests of all students, communicate the correct message concerning the

value of education to the public, and preserve the dedication of the University to its principal tasks as outlined in its vision and mission statement among many other governing or guiding documents;

Therefore, be it further resolved that the LSU Leadership and Board take immediate action to reaffirm their commitment to LSU as “a leading research-extensive university, challenging undergraduate and graduate students to achieve the highest levels of intellectual and personal development” per the mission-and-vision statement;

Therefore, be it further resolved that the LSU Faculty Senate asks the LSU Leadership and Board to create a committee whose membership includes several experienced faculty leaders that will be charged with studying and issuing a policy concerning the role, scope, mission, and purpose of intercollegiate athletics at LSU.

And therefore, be it further resolved that the LSU Faculty Senate asks the Board of Supervisors to begin continuing dialogue with the faculty and its leadership on educational issues at LSU, such as occurred during previous presidencies of some of the current members of the Board.

Q&A:

- I have an issue with “days.” We were notified Friday afternoon—less than a business day before Monday.
- Can this be condensed?
 - o Many colleagues felt that this was the opportunity to list out the problems so that the Board of Supervisors cannot find a loophole

First Reading, Resolution 20-02, “Commendation of William W. Demastes for Outstanding LSU Faculty Athletics Representative Service”

Sponsored by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee

Whereas William W. Demastes, San Diego II Alumni Professor in English, served for eight years as the LSU Faculty Athletic representative (FAR) and chair of the Athletics Council at the recommendation of the Faculty Senate to the Chancellor and President;

Whereas during his service he also chaired the Athletics Hall of Fame Committee, the Staff Handling Assorted Student Athlete Matters Committee and the Effective Accommodation Committee;

Whereas as FAR he represented the athletics department on the University Review and Assessment Council (URAC);

Whereas as FAR he attended SEC, NCAA, D1 FAR group and other related meetings and had to know the rules governing compliance and how to apply the regulations;

Whereas as FAR he participated in the self-reporting of, and investigation of potential violations of NCAA and SEC rules;

Whereas as FAR he advised the University President and Director of Athletics on matters relating to the intersection of athletics and academics;

Whereas as FAR he monitored the academic credentials of student athletes and their progress to graduation, and acted as an independent supportive adviser to student athletes;

Whereas as FAR he oversaw the Academic Support Program for student athletes, worked with the Student Athlete Advisory Council, and provided oversight of eligibility of student athletes for practice, competition and financial aid;

Whereas as FAR he provided updates on graduation rates, oversight of student athletes and other concerns to the Faculty Senate and Student Government;

Whereas he has tirelessly represented and addressed LSU faculty and student athletes concerns locally and nationally;

Therefore, be it resolved that the LSU A&M Faculty Senate both thanks and commends Alumni Professor William W. Demastes for his unselfish dedication to promoting academic success and well-being of student athletes at LSU.

Motion to suspend the rules and move straight to a vote: Judith Sylvester and Cathy Williams.

Vote of Resolution: Passes unanimously.

NEW FACULTY ATHLETIC REPRESENTATIVE, LORI MARTIN, PROFESSOR OF SOCIOLOGY

- Professor of sociology and African American studies—interest in race and ethnicity, wealth inequality, sociology of sport, and asset poverty
- Dedicated to academic integrity, monitoring the overall wellbeing of LSU student athletes, and making sure that we are complying to the NCAA and SEC rules and regulations

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion made to adjourn the meeting. Seconded and unanimously passed at 4:59pm.