

**LSU Health**  
**NEW ORLEANS**  
**FACULTY SENATE**

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, September 12, 2023**  
**3:30pm-5:00pm, CSRB 563**

Those present included:

Allied Health— Luther Gill, Alanna Glapion, Megan Majoue, Amber Weydert, Michael Norman (proxy for Brittney Wright)

Dentistry—Thomas Lallier (also proxy for Diedra Brewer-Hohensee), A. C. Liles, Molly Rosebush

Graduate Studies— Andrew Catling, Doug Johnston (proxy for Stefany Primeaux)

Medicine— Allison Augustus-Wallace, Jennifer Cameron, Sanjay Kamboj (also proxy for Jennifer Hart), Michelle Korah-Sedgwick, Brian Lochlann McGee, Maria Reinoso

Nursing— Aimee McCauley (also proxy for Shelly Dolan), Jolie Harris, Sam Mauldin, Jessica Teeter

Public Health—Mei-Chin Hsieh, Chih-yang Hu, Henry Nuss, Tung-Sung Tseng (also proxy for Susanne Straif-Bourgeois)

Library—Sharon Duffy

Ex-Officio—Rebecca Bealer, Judy Crabtree

**Welcome and call to order by President McCauley 3:33pm**

In accordance with the Louisiana Constitution, Article 12, Section 3, and La. R.S. 42:11-28, the Faculty Senate Meeting for the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center – New Orleans is hereby convened.

As established in La. R.S. 42:19, this meeting is open to the general public and notice of today's meeting as well as a copy of the agenda, have been provided and made available to the public prior to this meeting being called to order.

**Special Guest: Ben Lousteau, Interim Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance**

Topic: Parking

- Parking is an auxiliary enterprise at our institution. Along with cafeteria, bookstore, housing, supply stores, fitness center; all are subsidized by the University and do not report a profit.
- Parking rates:
  - \$35/month for faculty/staff as of 7/1/23
  - Haven't been raised in over 10 years
  - Still below market rate
  - Now taken out of paycheck on pre-tax basis; previously was deducted after-tax; this change will likely offset impact on paychecks
  - IRS requires LSUHSC to charge fair market value (or close to) or it would count as income for employees for tax purposes
  - External people are charged \$100/month now; Xavier students are paying \$50 this semester and \$100/semester in the future.

Questions and issues from Senate:

- Bookstore hours and schedule
  - They are open Mon-Fri 9-4.
  - Sell more than books (which is very little of their offerings)
  - Sell required materials for programs including clothing
- Ways to lose less money on Auxiliary Services

- A parking lot has been sold to the Superdome for parking
  - Cafeteria - doesn't want to increase prices because it would reduce morale
- Parking tickets
  - During Covid, students were allowed to park anywhere in garage and campus due to limited people at site
  - Since fully re-staffing, parking is more utilized and students should be in lot or 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> floors of garage
  - Faculty/Staff may now park in any lot or garage on campus (before was restricted to only Roman St Garage)
  - Tickets are now being issued to students to deter parking on lower floors of the Roman Garage; This is not making money for school; only using it as deterrent
- Speed in the parking garage
  - It can be unsafe to walk in garage due to speeding vehicles
  - Speed signs are in use and can be moved around to remind drivers to slow down
- Electric Charging Stations
  - 6 stations available on 4<sup>th</sup> floor of Roman St Garage
  - First come, first serve; no reservations, 4 hour time limit
  - No cost to use
  - No plans to install stations at Dental due to difficulties running necessary electricity to gated lots at that campus
- Parking gate keys
  - The same gate key reader can be used at all parking lots and garages at both campuses
  - Faculty can park in surface lots if more convenient than garage.
- Usage of Reserved spots on 3<sup>rd</sup> floor
  - Many are not being used
  - Ben believes utilizing a pool system would be more efficient rather than individual spots
  - Issue will likely not be resolved until Chancellor and VCAF positions are permanently filled
- Cafeteria Quality
  - Food is generally improving and more offerings since re-opening after Covid
  - A survey may be done to gather input from customers
  - Environment is still lacking – clean tables, floors, etc. Ben is aware and working to improve. Large expense to replace tables and chairs.

## **President's Report (President McCauley)**

Update from meeting with Dr Southerland:

- Strategic planning has begun with ECG Consulting Group.
  - Assessment will begin with individual interviews of dean, directors, chairs, dept chairs. Faculty may be requested to participate in focus groups.
  - Consider who we are and who we want to be after implementation of the plan
  - Mission and vision statements need to be rewritten and updated to establish our core values
  - Timeline:
    - October 2023 - Town Hall where they will share their findings
    - February 2024 - Entire strategic plan complete including the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) needed for SACS accreditation
- New policies and procedures in effect
  - New Financial Aid director is in place and looking to improve operations

- Current structure of Business Managers and Grant Coordinators is being evaluated to improve efficiency
- She will be issuing an annual report to HSC schools to support SACS accreditation. It will include the information she is lacking from each school for SACS reporting.
- She continues to work on improving Student Services
- She is developing an Endowment Holder Bootcamp to provide formal training for those holding these positions, so they know the responsibilities and requirements.
- All regulating bodies that visit campus must go through Compliance and notify the Chancellor's office
- Faculty Handbook Revisions
  - Revisions will be completed in November and then sent to Senate for review (clarification – revision cycle begins in November; Senate and assembly revisions due in late March; finalized every May)
  - This will be an annual review.
  - A subcommittee in Senate will be created with ideally one representative from each school.
- What does our faculty need for support?
  - Dr Southerland wants to create Academies of Master Educators, Master Clinicians, and Master Scholars
    - A poll will go out to Senators to identify areas of expertise. Choices will be Clinical Practice, Teaching & Education, Research & Scholarship.
    - Please provide input so Senate can sort our internal expertise and improve our operations
  - Faculty wellness – what support is needed in this area?
  - Technical support – Moodle
    - Moodle support can be provided through LSU Main campus for our users
    - It would cost our site money to get this support
    - Do we want it here? Input is needed from Assemblies to determine if it is worth pursuing
    - Concern raised whether support at Main campus would be able to answer questions related to the older version used at our site
    - Would utilizing this support provide a pathway to getting an updated version of Moodle?
    - What features does the new version offer? Is it more user friendly? What additional tools does it provide?
    - Overall, what is the best platform for us to use? Can we choose a different one such as Blackboard or Canvas? Moodle is provided free but the support will cost. What is best use of our resources?
    - Dental and Nursing schools are both interested in utilizing support from Main campus for Moodle. Medicine is also interested especially if it leads to an upgraded version.
    - Dr Southerland expressed that no local IT jobs would be impacted by this change. Moodle is only a part of existing workloads and there are many other IT projects to fill the gap.
    - Input should be gathered from Assemblies and reported back to Senate
  - What other faculty development would be useful?
    - Ideas include training on teaching pedagogies, teaching innovations, education certifications.
  - Online teaching can be done through LSU online platform
- Future

- Expect to see changes in response to the Supreme Court ruling on affirmative action and DEI. Faculty should focus on patient and community outcomes rather than language and labels
- Assemblies need to provide feedback regarding standardization of promotion and rank title assignments. Send input to Pres McCauley to continue this discussion.
- Survey coming for Workplace Climate. She asks for strong response to get quality input on the topics covered in the survey. Senators should encourage participation from assembly members.
- Chancellor search continues.
- Timeline:
  - Oct 17/18 - candidates announced
  - Nov – interviews
- Senate needs to provide input regarding faculty recommendations for Chancellor

### **Board of Supervisors Report (Senators Kamboj and Nuss)**

- From LSU AgCenter:
  - More reviewers are needed for USDA NIFA Grant Applications; more engagement is needed to get more federal money; people who participate in the review process are typically more successful
- From LSUAlexandria:
  - Faculty received merit increases and much-needed equity adjustment; Faculty can expect more equity adjustments in the future.
  - LSUA may have up to 5000 students enrolled this semester; official numbers are not out yet.
  - More students are enrolling for online degrees which is helping with funding salary increases and obtaining additional state funding.
  - Preparing for the SACS-OCS meeting next year.
- From LSUEunice:
  - LSUE has increased enrollment this year; official numbers are not out yet
  - Total number of enrolled credit hours has increased by 3,635
  - Preparing for SACS-OCS accreditation site visit on 10/2/2023.
- From Pennington Biomedical Research Center:
  - PBRC employees appreciate the 2% salary increase provided by Legislature in June
  - Had successful faculty recruiting season
  - PBRC research was prominently featured at the American Diabetes Association and Alzheimer's Association International conferences this summer; will also be a major presence at Obesity Week conference in October.
  - PBRC has been involved with development of new weight loss drugs such as Ozempic since their inception; Continuing these efforts to work on next-generation drugs in this class.
- From LSU Health New Orleans:
  - Strategic Planning Process is starting
  - DPT (Physical Therapy) class of 2023 reported 100% first-time passing rate on the National Physical Therapy Examination
  - Admissions for Physician Assistant program had 450 applicants with 200 coming from Louisiana; this is all time highest number of LA applicants.

- School of Allied Health received ASAHP Award for IPE Excellence and Innovation
- Renovation of Medical Education Building is underway; will result in 200,000 sq feet of state of the art laboratory space that will help with recruitment of outstanding research faculty.
- School of Medicine will undergo LCME re-accreditation in two years and beginning to prepare now; has received the maximum 8 year re-accreditation terms for the last 3 site visits.
- School of Dentistry has received the first shipment of new dental chairs; this is part of a \$4 million project to include 124 patient chairs and 269 dentist stools.

### **Approval of August 2023 meeting minutes**

Motion by Senator Lallier, Second by Senator Kamboj.

### **Old Business**

- Moodle Lockdown Browser - related to students' ability to open other windows.
  - This issue was only a problem in Allied Health. The lockdown browser was not set as the default so adjustments had to be made. Senator Weydert provided instructions to the Senate about how to fix the issue. Other schools have the lockdown mode set as the default.

### **New Business**

- Updated - CM-1 Management and Use of Buildings, Properties & Facilities
  - Updated to incorporate references to CM-36 and CM-38
- Updated - CM-56 Student Rights, Roles, and Responsibilities
  - CM-56: Student Rights, Roles, and Responsibilities
    - Updated to consolidate all key guidance concerning student rights and responsibilities within a single policy, encompassing novel protocols for addressing non-academic infractions in accordance with the 'Louisiana Student Due Process and Protection Act'
    - This update supersedes both CM-32 and previous version of CM-56
- BioRender – IT Office Hours seminar on September 21, 2023 at 12PM.
- Moodle Support
  - At this time, Nursing, Dental and Medicine all support getting Moodle support from Main campus. Input needed from other schools and assemblies.
- Faculty Handbook Committee created: Mauldin (SON), Augustus Wallace (SOM), Catling (SGS), Liles (SOD), Johnson (SOGS), Nuss (SOPH)

### **Reports from Assemblies**

Allied Health –

- Assembly gave full support for voting privileges for faculty with rank of Instructor and above.

Dentistry –

- New chairs are installed and more are coming.

Graduate Studies –

- Transition to new biomedical science program is up and running.

- November 2 is Research Day.

#### Medicine –

- At assembly meeting, heard an update about Chancellor search process. Job description took a long time to finalize. It is now posted and applications are being accepted. Meetings of committee are public and will be available via Zoom. The search firm already has some candidates in mind that were identified during Shreveport's Chancellor search.

#### Nursing –

- Family day was a success.
- All are enjoying the new Nursing Skills Center in CALS.
- They are increasing their presence at the Main campus in Baton Rouge to recruit for students to attend nursing school at LSUHSC.
- As part of accreditation, a competency-based education team has been formed.
- The initial assessment is complete for the curriculum review.

#### Public Health –

- There will be a gala at Audubon Zoo at the end of September.
- Faculty member Peter Scharf recently passed away. He was well known in the community as well as LSUHSC.
- The undergraduate curriculum is being revised and all classes will be online and asynchronous. This is leading to a lot of questions regarding using Moodle.

#### Library –

- New librarian – R. Blair Hollender. She is the Digital Initiatives Librarian and the liaison for School of Graduate Studies.
- The Library is now on Instagram (@lsuhscnolibrary) Follow this site for updates on library resources and events, holiday closures, etc.
- A new Systematic Review Service has been launched for all faculty, researchers, staff, and students. Also have an institutional subscription to Covidence (a systematic review management tool) that can be used for review projects. Library website has new Libguide and other information.

**Public Commentary** (2 minutes) - No public attendees

**Adjourn** - Motion by Senator Kamboj, Second by Senator Mauldin. 4:35pm.