



FACULTY SENATE

Minutes

Tuesday, February 14, 2023

3:30pm-5:00pm, Zoom

Those present included:

- Allied Health—Michael Norman, Brittney Wright, George Hebert, Amber Weydert, Luther Gill
- Dentistry—Diedra Brewer-Hohensee, Thomas Lallier, Molly Rosebush, Xiaoming Xu
- Graduate Studies— Suresh Alahari (proxy for Doug Johnston)
- Library—Sharon Duffy
- Medicine—Elizabeth Wisner, Jennifer Cameron, Navya Nair, Judy Crabtree, Kelly Gajewski, Jennifer Hart, Stefany Primeaux, Sanjay Kamboj
- Nursing—Aimme McCauley, Sam Maudlin
- Public Health—Chih-yang Hu, Henry Nuss, Tung Sung Tseng, Reni Elewonibi
- Ex-Officio—Rebecca Bealer

Absent: Larry Bates, Adele Harrell, Cathy McAtee, Shelly Dolan

Welcome and call to order 3:31pm by President Crabtree.

Approval of January 2023 meeting minutes: Motion by Senator Kamboj, Second by Senator Weydert, none opposed.

President's Report:

- The Executive committee met with Dr. Southerland on 2/9/23
- Policies and procedures are being reviewed, revised, and created if necessary. There is particular interest in the procedures for onboarding new foreign nationals (grad students, postdocs and faculty) that includes a review of training, qualifications, and affiliation with countries on the "countries of interest" list. LSU Baton Rouge has indicated audits beginning in July to ensure we comply with the Higher Education **Foreign Security Act of 2022**. Pursuant to this is the inspection of any gifts and any connections of the giver with any foreign entities.
- SACS-2025 accreditation review has prompted the review of all committees, their charters, and activity as it relates to the operation of the university. Included in this is the Faculty Senate as an indicator of shared governance. Faculty Senate will need to work with Compliance in the coming months to ensure we are complying with the **Open Meetings Law of 2021**. This included discussion of protected time to participate in shared governance efforts – how can senate activities be incentivized so faculty participate and are recognized for their service?
- Taniya DeSilva (SOM) approached the VCAA office to inquire if there was a campus wide effort for **Turkey/Syria earthquake relief**. There is not, so it was requested that the senate support this effort (see new business)
- **Food Pantry**. SOPH has a student food pantry that is becoming more popular and is attracting the attention of students outside of SOPH. VCAA would like to centralize this and make it a campus-wide effort. To do this she is working with Donna Williams (SOPH) and the Chancellor to identify space and funding. She has done this in her

previous institutions to great success – includes refrigerators, freezers, shelving, and pet food. Dr. Southerland is working with the Foundation (Krystal Oliveira) to identify community food pantry resources that can help assist in keeping it stocked.

- **Business continuity.** VCAA office is working to ensure business continuity in the event of emergency situations (hurricane, lack of internet access, critical business software such as Quali is down for extended period of time, etc)
- **RFP for strategic planning.** Has been submitted – hoping to have a company identified and in place by April.
- **Commencement.** VCAA is reviewing our commencement practices. Should we have a commencement in May and December (and process should be the same for both). What are the roles of the Chief Marshall, and Faculty Marshalls – need a defined process for how they are selected, what they do. Need to have easier access to regalia for faculty to attend graduation, need more faculty participation.
- **Faculty Handbook.** This is in the clean-up stage. In the next week or two, the Faculty Senate will receive an email that includes the 2017 version, a redlined 2023 version, and the clean 2023 version. When this email comes out, please read asap and return your comments within the time frame specified (likely 2 week turnaround).
- **Gratis Appointments.** Gratis appointments are not recognized anywhere in the rank guidelines, so VCAA would like to remove the “gratis” appointment and place these individuals at the rank of Adjunct since this written rank can be for paid or unpaid faculty. Adjunct appointments are a one year term that can be renewed.

Board of Supervisors Report (Senators Kamboj and Nuss) – Feb 10, 2023

- <https://www.lsu.edu/bos/docs/agendas/2023/2023-02-10-lsu-bos-meeting-agenda.pdf>
- Approved request from LSUHSC-NO to name the Joseph M. Moerschbaecher, III, PhD Library Commons
- Meeting of Council of Faculty Senates will take place on 2/25/2023 in Alexandria, LA

Old Business

- Senate Wellness and Development Committee Update
 - Kamboj, Lallier, Nuss, Norman, Mauldin, Alahari
 - Discussion: The themes from this survey will be sent to Faculty Senate and Dr. Southerland
 - Action item: President Crabtree and Senator Nuss will organize the themes of the survey and send to Senators.
- Pronouns to IDs (Senators McCauley, Nair). If not able to put on actual ID, perhaps something similar to the Doctor add-on in photo would be possible.



- Discussion: This could be a “theme” that could be addressed by the Senate Wellness & Development Committee. The addition of pronouns should not be mandatory.
- Action item: President Crabtree will discuss adding pronouns to IDs with Dr. Southerland

New Business

- Earthquake relief with Taniya DeSilva, Bradley Spieler and Jameel Ahmed. Email sent to LSUHSC N.O. Faculty, Staff and Students from Leslie Capo on 2/24/2023 “LSU Health Earthquake Victims Support Drive” <https://wck.org/>
- IT Office Hours: New NIH Data Management and Sharing Policy presented by Senator Duffy and David Trillo – everyone should have received the appointment. Join if you are interested. Office Hours will cover tools and resources for data management and policies for all grants involving NIH. Forward the information to your department and anyone you think would be interested. Session recording and PowerPoint Slides are located on IT Office Hours webpage <https://www.lsuohsc.edu/admin/it/officehours.aspx>
- Campus-wide access to software: Endnote and Graphpad Prism are being considered by LSUHSC-NO IT.
 - Action Item: IT needs feedback from Faculty Senate on a survey tool (e.g. Survey Monkey or Qualtrics). Ask faculty in your schools/departments and send feedback to President Crabtree.
- Recommendation for evaluation of administration – Senator Alahari
 - Discussion: Faculty have requested an evaluation of administrators, including program directors, center directors, department heads, etc. 25 out of 26 Senators voted for sending a letter to the Chancellor on this issue.
 - Action Item: Senator Alahari will draft a letter addressed to Chancellor Nelson with this request. Letter will be circulated to the Faculty Senate for review and final approval.
 - Update: Letter approved and sent to Chancellor Nelson on March 2
- Update to the bylaws of the LSU BOS: The bylaws contain an update to Article V. Section 6, Standing Committees, to include the "Inclusion, Civil Rights & Title IX Committee" which replaces the "Title IX and Access Compliance Committee" and the "Diversity and Inclusion Committee"
- Future Senate guests
 - Caesar Ruffin, Director of Campus Security & Richard Blackman III, Chief of Police
 - Action item: Invite for March meeting.
 - Alicia Edwards, Registrar and Director of DEI Initiatives
 - Other suggestions?

Reports from Assemblies

Allied Health – Numerous faculty have recently left SAHP, several were administrators. In process of updating Faculty Assembly bylaws and will be sent to all SAHP faculty for review as well a synopsis of FA survey and themes generated from Wellness survey. New bylaws will be voted on in April and Faculty Awards will be presented.

Discussion: Whether there is a formal exit interview strategy. New HR Director may be able to initiate these exit interviews.

Discussion: New software (e.g. Chat GPT; Jasper) that allows students to generate papers/projects using keywords. These AI generated papers are difficult to distinguish from expertly written papers. Educators are concerned and believe that this will eventually need to be addressed by IT.

Dentistry – Faculty Assembly meeting 2/15/2023. Met with Dr. Mariotti, new Dean of SOD, to discuss his vision. Faculty staffing is short by at least 1 faculty member, some dept short by 3-4. Faculty met with Dean to discuss research opportunities. The Dean is supportive and encouraged research and collaboration by faculty. Dean Mariotti is also willing to use upcoming funding from state for research initiatives, including recruiting and renovating research labs. Discussion: Lack of support staff is evident. Caps on salaries for classified employees is likely a contributing factor.

Graduate Studies – Did not meet. Twenty-seven applications were submitted for graduate school with 15 interviewed and 7 offered.

Medicine – Guest: Associate Dean of Research, Dr. Wayne Backes discussed research at SOM, including research webpage, program and opportunities. Family day will occur in April; Camp Tiger auction-March 10th, Match Day in March, discussed MEB renovations and move to CSRB. Nominations are being taken for Faculty Assembly Awards.

Nursing – New faculty have been hired and are undergoing training. Research & Scholarship Conference to take place in March.

Public Health – Currently interviewing new faculty member. Dr. Edward Trapido is serving as interim Dean.

Library – Access to library resources using barcode and pin has been discontinued after IT issues occurred in December. Can only through LSUHSC email address/password.

Adjournment at 4:37pm: Senator Wisner and Senator Kamboj