

LSU Health
NEW ORLEANS
FACULTY SENATE

Meeting Minutes
Tuesday May 13, 2025
3:30pm-5:00pm, CSRB-563

Those present included:

Allied Health - Luther Gill, Brittany Hall, Brandon Walker, Amber Weydert
Dentistry - Thomas Lallier, A.C. Liles, Molly Rosebush, Charles Taylor
Graduate Studies – Sonia Gasparini (also proxy for Andrew Catling)
Medicine - Suresh Alahari, Allison Augustus-Wallace, Jennifer Cameron, Jennifer Hart, Sanjay Kamboj, Michelle Korah-Sedgwick, Brian Lochlann McGee, Maria Reinoso
Nursing - Laura Bonanno, Shelly Dolan (also proxy for Jessica Teeter), Jolie Harris
Public Health - Mei-Chin Hsieh, Henry Nuss, Susanne Straif-Bourgeois, Tung-Sung Tseng (also proxy for Chih-yang Hu)
Library – Sharon Duffy
Ex-Officio - Rebecca Bealer, Aimme McCauley
Not present: Megan Majoue (SOAH), Diedra Brewer-Hohensee (SOD), Sam Mauldin (SON)

Welcome and call to order by President Lallier at 3:30 PM

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.

Administrative Updates

Dr Demetrius Porche – Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs

SACS Accreditation:

- The only issue that arose from the site visit was the need for systematic evaluation of the Chancellor. This is being handled with Baton Rouge.
- Expecting positive report and renewal for 10 years of continued accreditation
- Already planning for 5-year report and ensuring proper data will be gathered

3-year Academic Plan:

- Board of Regents has changed process for adding degree programs
- Now each university submits an annual plan with all programs including plans for new ones; they monitor plans for progress to ensure they stay on track
- If a program has low completion numbers, then explanation must be provided
- LSUHSC has filed our 3-year plan to fulfill this requirement

PM-23:

- Revisions are being circulated
- Includes changes to Librarian tracks and addition of Instruction Track
- No timeline on when it will be issued

Changes from accreditation agencies:

- ACGME has removed its diversity requirement in accreditation process
- Nursing accreditation for midwifery program has also removed diversity requirement
- Expects to see more agencies do the same

Centers of Excellence:

- Neuroscience Center is seeking renewal
- New center being formed for Trauma, Injury, and Burns

IBC and IRB:

- IBC member names and meeting minutes will now be posted
- IRB is still restructuring and adding staff.
- Implementing a new procedure to recruit IRB members
 - Deans have been asked for nominees
 - Information session will be held for potential new members to fully understand the work and commitment; then application process will begin
 - Goal is to create a more structured program for adding members
- Job posting for Executive Director of IRB will be posted in near future

LSU Online & Public Health:

- School of Public Health is working with LSU Online to offer a dual degree program in Veterinary Medicine and Public Health
- SOPH wants it offered entirely online
- Needs to demonstrate that it is a new and distinct program from existing Master in PH degree

Financial Aid Department:

- Had a consultant provide a report on status of office
- Currently reviewing their final report

Commencements:

- There will no longer be an institution-wide graduation ceremony in December
- If a school has a need for a December ceremony they will hold it at that level.
- May commencements will continue for all schools

Status of offsite degree programs in Baton Rouge:

- Nursing BSN – will start in Fall 2025; students are enrolled
- Allied Health Respiratory Therapy – due to low enrollment, program will not start in Fall 2025
- Public Health – enrollment numbers not known

Ben Lousteau - *Interim Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance*

Budget:

- State legislature currently in session
- A few grants to our institution have been lost
- Overall cautiously optimistic that no significant budget cuts will be made
- Merit raises are uncertain and may not be done until after July; they have been issued in July the last few years, but timing is unknown this year
- All Priority 1 positions at hospitals were approved (~100 positions); other positions were recategorized and are awaiting approval (unknown number of positions)

Remote Work policy:

- Waiting for clarification from LSU system to determine what our site can offer

State hiring freeze:

- Waiting on Landry administration to determine if it will continue

Jill Fragoso did not attend meeting, so no update provided about Crisis Leave Policy. Plan to get update next month.

Ken Boe provided written update; it's incorporated into President's Report

Approval of April 2025 meeting minutes

Minutes approved in motion by Sen Weydert, Second by Sen. Kamboj

President's Report - (Pres. Lallier)

The Senate Exec Committee did not meet with Dr Porche due to schedule conflict.

1. Faculty Senate Exec Transition

- Candidates – Call for nominations for President-Elect, Secretary, Board of Supervisors representatives
- Vote will take place in June
- Transfer of Shared Drive – Completed by Dr. Cameron

2. Crisis Leave Draft policy reviewed

- Policy in Final Stages
- Key elements
 - i. Donation of max 240 hours per Calander year
 - ii. Donations are anonymous and non-targeted
 - iii. Receipt is limited to 240 hours per year at base pay

3. From Ken Boe:

Moodle Support

- Ken Boe requested a contact through the Faculty Senate to liaise with both LSUHSC IT and LSU OCE. Aimme McCauley has gathered some data, and will send to Ken.
- IT has offered the LSU OCE staff the June IT Office Hours to have a kick-off, but do not have confirmation that LSU OCE wants the slot.

Switch to Canvas (LMS)

- From Ken Boe: I am working with the deans to build a team to assess Moodle, Canvas, and Blackboard to decide whether to stay with Moodle or move to Canvas or Blackboard.
- Committee has been formed to evaluate all three options

Price Comparison	Current Moodle	Proposed Moodle	Canvas
Initial Setup			\$100,000
Yearly Contract	\$350,000	\$275,000	\$ 70,000
LSU-OCE Support	\$109,400	\$109,400	
Total	\$459,400	\$384,400	\$100,000

- Current Moodle costs include personnel and server costs

Prism GraphPad

- Finalizing details with GraphPad support on student license costs, a final quote, and confirming the process to add licenses if more are needed.
 - Currently looking at 2 types of licenses
 - i. Individual Faculty \$360/user 250 Requested **\$90,000**
 - A. 70-75 faculty - **\$27,000**
 - ii. Shared Instrument for Labs
 - A. Some Labs have requested as many as 24 users
4. **Posters in SoPH**
- **Dr. Nuss.** SoPH on displaying Research Posters on the walls (item on Agenda).
 - Follow up with Kirk Deslatte at June meeting
5. **Contractors Smoking in stairwells**
- **Dr. Nuss** - Smoking on and around campus. Specifically, I've noticed that there are contractors smoking outside on campus and the fumes are traveling up the stairwells in our building.
 - Follow up with Kirk Deslatte at June meeting
6. **BOS Regulations on Administrative Council**
- **Section 3. Administrative Units BOS Bylaws**
 - 1. The Administrative Council
7. Membership. The Administrative Council shall be composed of the principal administrative officers of a campus (as designated by the Chancellors or, for LSU, the President); ***three members of the faculty of tenured rank elected annually for one-year terms by the faculty or a delegated body thereof***; and such other persons as may be specifically designated by the Chancellor or, for LSU, the President.
- i. Follow up with Dr. Porche at next Exec meeting
8. **BOS Definition of Faculty and Post-Doc Positions**
- **ARTICLE II. APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, AND TENURE of BOS Bylaws**
 - i. Section 1. Classification of Employees, General
 - ii. Employees of the University are grouped as follows:
 - 1. Nonstudent Employees
 - Academic Employees
 - i. **Faculty.** Full-time members of the academic staff on the various campuses with the rank of Instructor or above and equivalent ranks.
 - ii. **Other Academic.** Part-time members of the academic staff; members of the academic staff below the rank of Instructor or equivalent; and other personnel with academic responsibilities not holding faculty rank.
 - iii. Follow up with Dr. Porche at next Exec meeting

Report from Board of Supervisors – Senators Kamboj and Nuss

- Governor Landry attended the meeting and was generally supportive of LSU Health
- Strategic plan for SOM has been posted, and a mock site visit was held for LCME accreditation

- Metrics about LSU schools were included with the meeting packet. The data for LSU Health NO is included with the minutes.

Old Business

Faculty Handbook:

Dr. Augustus-Wallace expressed Concerns to President Lallier via email regarding new Faculty Handbook posted on VCAA website (effective July 1, 2025). The Executive Committee reviewed them, and they were discussed:

- Section 2.4-"Define Admin Responsibilities"- the term "**FTE**" (FS vote result: passed w/opposition)
 - ***We voted to approve different wording, based upon our 2025-0115 minutes***
 - "When a faculty member accepts an administrative appointment, the distribution of their effort and duties will be clearly defined in writing."
- Section 6.3.2-"**RIC Contracts**" (FS vote result: passed)
 - ***We voted this item down, based upon our 2025-0115 minutes***
- Section 3.7.2-"**LSUHSC-NO Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action Plan**" was renamed to the "**LSUHSC-NO Equal Employment Opportunity**":
 - Both Article 1 and Article 3 remain
 - However, Article 2 was removed per BOS directive (Although the revised section name with the removal of Article 2 occurred per BOS directive, if possible, should these revisions have been shared with the Faculty Senate prior to posting of the faculty handbook?)
 - The Exec Committee agrees that this was handled poorly this year. We will discuss the process with Dr. Porche.

Motion to vote to ratify the updated Faculty Handbook by Sen. Cameron, Second by Sen Liles. Vote to approve was passed, none opposed.

New Business

Reminder that nominees are needed for Senate Executive Committee positions of President-Elect (3-year commitment), Secretary (1–2-year commitment), Board of Supervisors representative (3-year term).

- Send nominations via email to Sen Duffy or Pres Lallier for inclusion on the ballot by June 3; Oral nominations will also be accepted at the June 10 Faculty Senate meeting.

Reports from Assemblies

Allied Health

- Pre-commencement ceremony tomorrow.
- SAHP Assembly met last week.
 - Planning for the year ahead with committee events, meetings, etc.
 - Elections to fill our open delegate and alternate seats.

Dentistry

- Pre-commencement at UNO tomorrow
- Elections coming up

Graduate Studies

- Pre-commencement tomorrow

Medicine

- Pre-commencement tomorrow
- Seminar about mentorship will be presented on May 15; info shared with Senators after the meeting
- Elections coming up
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Nursing

- Preparing for graduation
- Elections coming up
- Faculty Development Day was held that included a poverty simulation activity; may want to share it with other schools because participants found it very valuable

Public Health

- Pre-commencement tomorrow
- Elections coming up

Library

May Classes:

1. Up and Coming Open Access Tools – Wed May 21 at noon

Come learn about three up-and-coming open infrastructure tools and platforms: Open Citations, Open Alex, and Thoth Open Metadata. These platforms are based on principles of open science and can enhance your workflows, data management, and discoverability.

2. Getting Journal Articles is Easy with the Library's Link Resolver– Wed May 28 at noon

In this presentation, we'll cover the tools the Library has to make getting to the full text of journal articles from PubMed, Scopus, and other databases easy.

Classes are being recorded and will be available on the Library website for viewing at the end of the month.

New Resource Guide pertaining to updated NIH Public Access Policy deadline

- Data Management Guide has been updated
- July 1, 2025 is a new date for implementation of NIH Public Access policy which will require authors to share their manuscripts AND supporting data as soon as the article is published without an embargo.
- Contact the Data Services Librarians for more info! Library will have a class about this topic on July 2.

Public Commentary

None

Adjourn at 4:40

Motion by Sen Weydert, Second by Sen Cameron