



Meeting Minutes
Tuesday March 10, 2026 - 3:30pm-5:00pm,
CSRB 563

Those present included: (Proxies*)

Allied Health: Brandon Walker, Brittany Hall, Amber Weydert, Stephanie Eschete,
Dentistry: Thomas Lallier, Eugene Antenucci, Meric Karapinar-Kazandag, A.C. Liles, Diedra Brewer-Hohensee

Graduate Studies: Sonia Gasparini (and proxy for Suresh Alahari and Andrew Catling)

Medicine: Allison Augustus-Wallace, Jennifer Cameron, Brian Lochlann McGee, Maria Reinoso, Jennifer Hart, , Laura Pelaez, Michelle Korah-Sedgwick

Nursing: Laura Bonanno, Collen Story , Jolie Harris, Jessica Teeter (proxy for Quinn Lacey)

Public Health: Mei-Chin Hsieh, Susanne Straif-Bourgeois, Tung-Sung Tseng, Chih-yang Hu (proxy for William Robinson)

Library:

Ex-Officio: Rebecca Bealer (proxy for Sharon Duffy), Shelly Dolan

Absent with Proxy: Suresh Alahari, Sharon Duffy, Andrew Catling, Quinn Lacey, William Robinson

Not present: Luther Gill, Michael Boutte

I. Welcome and Call to Order by President Cameron at 3:34 PM

II. Introduction of Special Guest(s) - None

Dr. Porche – Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs: (Written Report)

- LSU Flagship University SVC & Provost national search launched, two meetings conducted to date
- SOM LCME accreditation completed, no recommendations
- Animal Care AAALAC accreditation visit completed – several accolades, 9 areas for quality improvement and no major findings, will recommend continued full accreditation
- SACSCOC prospectus continues to be drafted for submission on March 15
- Vice Chair of IRB appointed, Dr. Stefany Primeaux
- 112 Promotion and/or Tenure packets process through the VCAA office

III. Public Commentary (2 minutes each) - None

IV. Approval of October Meeting Minutes

- Minutes approved in motion by Drs. Gasparini and Lochlan McGee

V. President's Report (President Cameron)

See appended report

VI. Board of Supervisors Report (Senators Alahari and Dolan)

- Feb. 27, 2026 BOS meeting:
- CoFA 8-9 am
 1. Discussed invitations for the 26 taskforces in addition to CoFA board for the taskforce. Dr. Daniel Tribone has been asked to chair the CoFA. Look for invitation.
 2. Dr. Dalton came to discuss the reorganization efforts:
 - a. Working with SACCOG for correct verbiage and have agreed on "reorganization"
 - b. Provost search will be a nationwide search with hopes to have candidates down to 3-4 by June and a selection by Fall 2026.
 - c. Believes in an open-door policy and can contact him directly or if something general, can send to his office staff.
 - d. Pennington rep requesting info on filling leadership role on their campus.
 3. Adjourned

BOS 10 am-12 noon

1. See the board agenda on web page.
<https://lsu.edu/bos/docs/agendas/2026/meeting-packet-202602-27.pdf>
 - All agenda items passed.
 - Including an item requiring ACT/SAT scores be included in all application to LSU-AM, with no minimum score required for acceptance
2. New Chair **Lee Mallett XIV**
 - 511 E. Frontage Rd., Iowa, LA. 70647, 337-214-0428, lmallett@lsu.edu
 - Mr. Mallett is a member-at-large; his term of service ends June 1, 2030.
 - He is the owner of Mallett Buildings and is the owner and operator of the Academy of Training Skills.
 - From Lake Charles area
3. New Vice Chair **John H. Carmouche**
 - 17405 Perkins Rd., Baton Rouge, LA 70810, 225-400-9991, johncarmouche@lsu.edu
 - Mr. Carmouche represents the 6th Congressional District; his term of service ends June 1, 2030.
 - He is a Senior Partner with the law firm of Talbot, Carmouche & Marcello.

VII. Reports from Assemblies

Staff Senate: (Boutte) –

- No Report

Allied Health:

- No Report

Dentistry:

- **Leadership and Institutional Updates**
 - The School of Dentistry continues to monitor the transition of leadership within the LSU system. Current information suggests the change is considered a “reorganization” rather than a “merger”, though it may require revisiting SACS accreditation considerations as the structure evolves. The Faculty Assembly was surprised to learn that there was no prior knowledge of the changes before the University's official emails on the subject. The Dean was unable to answer many questions because he had no in-depth knowledge of the issues, despite having met and spoken with the newly appointed Vice Chancellor of the Health Sciences Center.
- **Facilities and Renovation Planning**
 - Large-scale renovations are planned to modernize teaching and clinical facilities. Early phases include renovation of classrooms and auditoriums.
 - Temporary classroom space is expected to be created in the basement to accommodate teaching during construction.
- **Academic and Clinical Programs**
 - The School continues expanding educational initiatives, including:
 - Increased integration of digital dentistry technologies in the curriculum
 - Continued development of the Advanced Education Program in Orofacial Pain
 - Expansion plans for the Special Care Clinic, which opened in 2025.
 - Clinical Activity
 - The LSU Oral Pathology Biopsy Service reported diagnosing more than 5,000 biopsy specimens in 2025.
- **Program Leadership**
 - Tricia Barker has been appointed Interim Program Director for Dental Hygiene.
- **Faculty Development**
 - A faculty development educational program is scheduled for March 12, 2026.
- **Awards and Honors**
 - Dr. James Burns was named the recipient of the prestigious Honor Dentist Award by the New Orleans Dental Association (NODA).

Graduate Studies:

- The procedures for the Qualifying Exam have been approved and will be disseminated as well as discussed with the students who will be undergoing the exam this Summer.
- The BAC has started discussing the procedures for the Preliminary Exam
- MS & MS/MD track in Clinical Translational Science (with Dr. Rivera is in charge) is currently undergoing consideration.
- Funding for student stipends has been approved by Dr. Guzick for the 10 students anticipated to start in Fall 2026

Medicine:

- **Faculty Awards:** The nomination deadline has been extended to **Friday, March 13th**. All SOM faculty members are eligible to submit nominations. Additional details can be found here: [Faculty Awards](#)
- **Promotions:** Faculty will have the opportunity to have their CV reviewed as part of the P& T process (discuss with your department head). The deadline for this review is **April 6th, 2026**; this year, the CV review is optional.
- **Educational scholarship opportunities:** Several opportunities are available for medical students to engage in scholarly activities. Please remember that students must formally register for these opportunities through course electives

Nursing:

- Nursing undergraduate program:
 1. Baton Rouge campus is accepting applications for fall.
 - a. Large numbers of applications (>140) have been received
 - b. 90 new nursing students are anticipated to start on Fall 2026
 - c. The Baton Rouge campus currently has 85 nursing students
 2. Faculty are participating in a number of developments: learning how to use the clinical judgement model. Next month the focus will be advising tips
 3. Baton Rouge campus renovations are set to finish Aug 1 giving us more classrooms, office, lab space, etc

Public Health:

- The CEPH site visit for accreditation wrapped up last week, and we look forward to receiving the results after September.
- Additionally, the MPH program at the Baton Rouge campus is set to launch this fall
- Dr. John A. Rock Visiting Scholar, Dr. S. Galea, will be presenting on March 9.

Library:

1. Transformative/Open Access Fee Waiver policy update with Elsevier
 - The Libraries are continuing to offer an APC waiver for select Elsevier hybrid journals in their ScienceDirect collection. We are limited to 29 articles per year.
 - New in 2026: A corresponding/primary author will be eligible for **one waiver approval per quarter**. Waivers are issued on a first come, first served basis. LSUHSC – NO author must be the corresponding author to qualify. See the Library's website for more information:

<https://www.lsuhscl.edu/library/databases/oapublish.aspx>

2. March Information Sessions:

- Wednesday March 11 – 12pm – Ische Library Room 405 and via [Zoom](#)
 - EndNote 25 – Beyond the Basics
 - Join us for Beyond the Basics of EndNote 25, an information session highlighting advanced and specialized features of one of the Libraries' citation management software.
- Wednesday March 18 – 12pm – Ische Library Room 405 or via [Zoom](#)
 - (Re)Discover the Magic of LibKey Nomad
 - LibKey Nomad makes getting to articles and using Library resources easy! Come find out about this magical browser extension and how it can help your research and study needs.
- Wednesday March 25 – 12pm – Ische Library Room 405 or via [Zoom](#)
 - JoVE: A Quick Review
 - Join LSU Health New Orleans Libraries for a quick review of the Journal of Visualized Experiments (JoVE) database and the subscribed content available to the LSU Health New Orleans community for 2026.
- All Library sessions will be recorded and available on the [Library website](#).

3. VisualDx Rep Visit – Thursday April 9th

- VisualDx is a differential diagnostic tool for dermatology conditions. It is a popular tool with dermatology, internal and family medicine, and pediatric clinicians. They will be in the Library Commons and presenting an information session about the tool. More details to follow.

VIII. Unfinished Business

- **Faculty Evaluations Committee report (Senator Lallier)**
 - The Committee met with Jane Behlen (Assistant Director, HRIS & Talent/Organizational Development) and Bralin Artigues (Associate Director of Human Resources) on Friday, February 27th
 - Much was discussed about elements in the proposed revised electronic Evaluation Instrument
 - Plans are to meet in the next few weeks to view a “mock” Evaluation form
 - After revisions, plans are to bring the new evaluation form to the Senate for discussion.

IX. New Business –

- **Resolution 206.02 (ENDORISING TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY AND INTEGRITY IN LEADERSHIP)**
 - Was approved electronically on February 13, 2026
 - with a vote of 22 in favor and 1 opposed.

- **Call for Nominations for President Elect and Secretary**
 - Please consider self nominating before the next Senate meeting
 - If you would like to nominate another individual, please contact them about their interest in the position
 - Please contact Drs. Cameron and/or Lallier with questions concerning the expectations of each position

- **ADA Compliance**
 - On March 3, 2026, Leigh Smith-Vaniz distributed an email outlining the ADA Compliance regulations
 - Deadline reported for compliance May 15, 2026 (April 24th on ADA Website)
 - Compliance requires modification of all outward facing electronic documents
 - Including: websites and anything posted on Moodle for students
 - Rebecca Bealer described the difficulties in accomplishing compliance associated with websites, PDF documents, and potential issues with third party sites linked to our websites
 - Dr. Lallier described the difficulties in accomplishing compliance associated with PowerPoints
 - Dr. Cameron expressed concern and confusing information with regards to exceptions and videos
 - The Dental School will host a meeting with Leigh and IT concerning this issue on Monday, March 16th at noon in Auditorium B.

XI. Adjourn at 4:54

**President's Report
March 2026**

LSU Health – New Orleans Senators and Faculty,

As we emerge from winter into Festival Season, there are many notable developments impacting our campus community:

LSU Transformation Initiative: Aligning the 5 Research Institutions Under One Flagship Banner

Under President Rousse and Chancellor Dalton, the LSU Transformation will be realized via the work of nine Committees and their sub-committees/task forces. The list of committees/task forces can be found on the [LSU - Shaping the Future Together](#) transformation initiative webpage. Committee members were appointed and include representatives from each of the five campuses. The committees will review current policies and practices across the five institutions and develop recommendations, exploring opportunities for integration, streamlining, and economies of scale. The work is expected to be completed by the end of April.

Response to Resolution 26.02:

On March 3, an [article](#) appeared in the Illuminator, following the posting of Resolution 26.02 to the Faculty Senate web page. The article reports that Chancellor Dalton has committed to conducting national searches for the Senior Vice Chancellors of the Health Science Centers in New Orleans and Shreveport, following the appointment of the Director of Pennington Biomedical Center and A&M Provost positions. It was relayed to the Senate Executive Board via the VCAA office that the Resolution 26.02 was well received by Chancellor Dalton's office.

Other LSU news:

[House Bill HB391](#) to abolish the Board of Regents effective Jan 1, 2028 has been referred to the Committee on Education. If adopted, this change will require a constitutional amendment, which would be put to voters in the November 2026 election. The bill proposes to transfer the powers of the Board of Regents to the independent boards of the state education systems (e.g., LSU system, Southern University system, UL system, and Louisiana Community and Technical College system). Also in other news, President Rousse endorsed Governor Landry's Executive Order to post the Ten Commandments in the classrooms on LSU campus.

Administrator Introductions

Dr. David Guzick, Senior Vice-Chancellor, LSUHSC-NO

Although still very new to our campus, Dr. Guzick has begun to formulate his first impressions of our operations. He has expressed satisfaction with the functioning of the teaching and clinical service missions of the university and has chosen to focus his attention on enhancing the research enterprise, consistent with the goals of the LSU Transformation Initiative and the NCI Designation Initiative. He emphasizes that graduate students are the lifeblood of a robust research enterprise; therefore, he quickly approved the budget for the School of Graduate Studies, which was essential for formal offer letters to be provided to selected prospective students. Dr. Guzick believes in shining a light on the accomplishments of faculty and staff,

which, along with growing the research portfolio, was acknowledged by the faculty at LSU Health Shreveport as a highlight of his leadership.

Dr. James Dalton, LSU Flagship Chancellor

Since coming to LSU, Dr. Dalton has maintained a laser focus on the LSU Transformation Initiative. He expects that by engaging faculty in the process through involvement on the transformation committees, there will be significant faculty buy-in to the initiative. He met with the Faculty Senate Executive Board and addressed questions regarding the expected impacts on accreditation, fiscal independence and promotion and tenure. The working plan is that the five research institutions will be accredited by SACSCOC as one institution; however, individual programs (for example, the two Schools of Medicine in Shreveport and New Orleans) will remain separate and will maintain independent accreditation with the appropriate accrediting bodies. Institutions will also maintain some fiscal independence as there is no plan to unify federal identity under one institutional DUNS. This will protect the eligibility of individual institutions for grant opportunities that are restricted, such as Centers of Biomedical Research Excellence (CoBREs). Dr. Dalton anticipates setting high standards for promotion and tenure, and he acknowledges that excellence in research productivity can only be achieved with strong institutional investment and resources.

Dr. Joseph Constans, Director of the Office of Research Services, LSUHSC-NO

A clinical psychologist by training, Dr. Constans was previously employed at the New Orleans Veterans Affairs Medical Center, where he was the chief of research services. He has three goals for his first year as Director of ORS: ensure compliance with federal regulations; improve workflow efficiencies; and foster a research culture across campus. He has been actively expanding analyst staffing. Dr. Constans is in lock-step with Dr. Guzick with plans to integrate Sponsored Projects (post-award) with Grants and Contracts (pre-award). Other activities of ORS include building out the Clinical Trials office, hiring an outside consultant for AAHRPP accreditation for the IRB, and creating a Research Integrity Officer position to oversee policies and audit procedures. Dr. Constans reports that office efficiency has improved and that the office recently produced a report of research metrics that was requested by Dr. Dalton's office. He is also serving on the Research Office Alignment task force for the LSU Transformation Initiative. Dr. Constans has submitted a ORS reorganization plan for consideration by Dr. Guzick.

Updates from the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs:

Dr. Porche provided updates on several ongoing activities pertinent to LSUHSC-NO campus:

- The Animal Care facility recently successfully secured full AAALAC (Animal Use in Research and Education) accreditation.
- A prospectus has been developed for submission to SACSCOC that describes the intention of the LSU research campuses to assimilate under one LSU Flagship program, and the response to the prospectus from SACSCOC will provide valuable feedback for the LSU Transformation Initiative.
- Dr. Porche is serving on the search committee for the LSU Flagship Provost position, with the expectation that a qualified candidate will be selected before the end of the spring semester. Qualifications sought include a tenured, Full Professor with experience at a Dean level or higher at an accredited higher education/professional institution.

- Promotion and tenure application packets have been signed and forwarded to the Chancellor's office for his consideration. Dr. Dalton is expected to be the final signature for approval.

As always, if you have ideas or suggestions for the Senate, please don't hesitate to get in touch. Faculty can now contact the Senate directly by emailing FacultySenate@lsuhsc.edu.

Warm regards,
Jennifer

Jennifer Cameron, Ph.D. President, Faculty Senate LSU Health New Orleans