

Faculty Senate Meeting
October 3, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.
Mulder 147

Members Present: Carol Corbat (Vice President), Rusty Gaspard, Julie Gill (President), Matthew Stokes, Lisa Bradford, Jacob Whitmore, John Marks, Sona Kumar, Jialin Lei, Guoyi Ke, Cole Franklin (Secretary), Beverly Alwell, Cynthia Thomas

Members Absent: None

Guests Present: Dr. Paul Coreil

Welcome and Determination of quorum

After determination of a quorum the meeting came to order at 3:02

J. Gill asked for a motion to adjust the agenda sent to Faculty Senate members and instead follow the revised agenda presented at the meeting.

B. Alwell moved to adjust the agenda. M. Stokes seconded the motion, and the Senate unanimously approved the adjustment by a vote of 13-0-0.

Approval of minutes

J. Gill noted that Faculty Senate members only recently received minutes of the September 19 Senate meeting. She asked if the Senate wished to vote to approve the minutes at the meeting or postpone approval of the minutes and vote electronically at a later date.

C. Thomas moved to vote on the minutes electronically at a later date. B. Alwell seconded the motion and the motion passed by a vote of 13-0-0.

Brief guest updates

Dr. Paul Coreil:

Dr. Coreil noted that the university reached its goal of 5,000 students two years early. There will be a campus celebration on October 27 at 5:00 p.m. with music, food, and potentially fireworks.

Student Success Center: There has been a delay in the approval of all state capital outlay projects. Dr. Coreil noted the state overcommitted more than \$300 million for Priority 1 projects. No one is sure what projects will be funded at this time and what will not. LSUA is seeking \$8 million of state funding and has raised \$5 million privately. The bond commission should vote on what projects will be funded soon. Dr. Coreil is confident construction on the project will be able to begin in the spring.

Dr. Coreil noted that the university is hiring new faculty for next year. He hopes to be able to provide more equity raises this year. Governor Edwards was very supportive of higher education. Elections always lead to uncertainty for what the future will hold for higher education funding. Dr. Coreil expressed concern about national talk of reducing funding for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) programs. Dr. Coreil stated that he is a strong supporter of DEI in general and specifically the LSUA DEI program. Many other states have cut programs and are interfering with university operations. He commended the faculty for the work being done at LSUA.

Dr. Coreil encouraged faculty to contact state legislators asking that authority for tuition/fee increases be moved from the legislature to the LSU Board of Supervisors. LSUA was the only state school to give equity raises this year.

Dr. Coreil left the meeting at this point.

J. Gill stated Dr. Beard is in Baton Rouge and is not able to attend the meeting this week. She will meet with Dr. Beard later this week.

Report of President

J. Gill provided an oral report. She is working to learn more about new open meeting law changes. She will also be meeting with the LSU Faculty Senate President soon. She will be meeting with Dr. Beard next week and possibly Dr. Coreil after that. She asked if anyone had questions and there were none.

Reports of Committees

Public Relations: There were no action items in the committee's September 20 meeting.

Motion to accept the minutes: J. Whitmore

Second: C. Thomas

Vote 13-0-0

Inclusion of Instruction: There were no action items in the committee's September 20 meeting.

Motion to accept the minutes: C. Corbat

Second: B. Alwell

Vote: 13-0-0

Courses and Curriculum: There were no action items in the committee's September meeting.

Motion to accept the minutes: M. Stokes.

Second: G. Ke

Vote: 13-0-0

Old business

Policy Revisions – PS 210, 211, 219, 231, 233, 269

Senate members discussed policy adjustments and recommendations received from different departments.

Some were brought to meeting. Some were emailed. The Faculty Senate reviewed comments from different departments. Discussions ensued regarding issues such as class sizes and office hours, particularly virtual office hours for online students. Other discussions addressed large class sizes and pay scales. C. Corbat noted some necessary title corrections, needed clarity of grant application procedures, and the alignment of wording between policies. Additional discussion ensued regarding the calculation of faculty loads for different types and formats of classes as it related to the grievance policy in PS 233. Some Senators asked that the proposed grievance policy be adjusted from grievances being reported to the Provost/VCAA to the Faculty Senate. J. Gill asked if we need a motion to retain current language for grievance allowing grievances for adjunct faculty to be brought to the Faculty Senate.

Motion to retain existing wording: C Corbat.

Second: J. Whitmore

Vote: 13-0-0

J. Marks noted that LSU Online is recommending 3 hours of office hours per week per online class. Discussion ensued regarding the issue. No action was taken.

PS 206: Student Attendance. C. Thomas has not met with Dr. Beard regarding this policy yet.

PS 209 ad-hoc: The committee is developing a survey to go out to faculty regarding summer pay and summer work for ideas, recommendations, and suggestions. The committee is also looking at class size issues and lab and clinical credits.

PS 202 Evaluation ad-hoc: J. Gill sent committee the charge. Richard Elder will chair the committee.

Faculty Senate Travel, Research, & Field Trip funds '23/24: The call for applications has been distributed to faculty. Two applications have been received so far. Applications are due by Tuesday, October 10.

Update RE Revision of Policy Statements

PS 202 (A& B): J. Gill is still working on updating wording. She welcomes any help from Senators with inputting correct revisions.

PS 245: This will be discussed with Dr. Beard soon.

COFA election results: Missy LaBorde was elected. Jennifer Innerarity will serve as the alternate. They are working together.

Pay Equity Resolution/Letter: It seems there has been more feedback to make it a resolution instead of a letter. J. Gill asked what the Faculty Senate wished regarding whether the appreciation should be in the form of a resolution or letter. Senators made some wording changes to note that equity raises received this year are a first step in a process that should continue.

Motion to move forward with a letter of appreciation instead of a resolution: C. Corbat

Second B. Alwell

Vote: 13-0-0

R. Gaspard left the meeting at 4:36 p.m.

Introduction of new business

ICC (Interdisciplinary Curriculum Committee) members: Richard Elder is the chair. The committee needs to be renamed and meet. Current members are: Richard Elder, Jennifer Innerarity, Holly Wilson, Michelle Riggs, Sandra Purifoy, Ahmed Shaffie, Melissa Parks, and Jennifer Dupont. J. Gill noted that Michele Riggs will need to be removed from the committee since she is no longer in the library and was the library representative. Additionally, the College of Business will need to appoint a representative. C. Corbat suggested that if the ICC needs library insight the committee could choose to ask for a librarian to review information rather than assigning a librarian as a standing member. J. Gill will ask Lillian Purdy to act as a consultant for the ICC.

Announcements/Looking ahead

The next Faculty Senate meeting will be October 17, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. in Science 119.

Please send *Pats on the Back* to Julie and/or share at Senate Meetings

Departmental accomplishments: J. Gill gave accolades that we are all surviving the semester.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: B. Alwell

Second: S. Kumar

Vote: 12-0-0

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.