**Faculty Senate Minutes**

March 12, 2024 at 3:00 p.m.

Live Oaks Room

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

**Members Absent:** John Marks, Sona Kumar

**Guests Present:** Robert Wright, Liz Beard

**Welcome and Determination of quorum:** The meeting came to order at 3:03 p.m.

**Approval of minutes**: February 20, 2024

Motion to approve minutes: B. Alwell

Second: J. Whitmore

Vote: 9-0-2

S. Kumar entered the meeting.

**Brief guest updates**

Dr. Beard noted there have been some position changes on campus. The university is searching for a new Dean of Natural Science and Mathematics. Dr. Nate Sammons is filling in the post during the interim. When a new dean is hired, Dr. Sammons will transition to a ¼ teaching load and devote additional time to Engaged Teaching and Learning.

Dr. Beard noted that department chairs are reviewed after three years. Reviews call for the dean to meet with the chair and gauge the chair’s interest in continuing in the position. Others may apply for the position as well. The dean will also seek input on the chair’s performance from faculty.

The university has posted a position advertisement for the Institutional Research and Effectiveness position.

The university Compliance Report has been delivered to SACS COC. We are currently awaiting feedback.

Dr. Beard commended the Nursing program on the fall 2023 graduates’ NCLEX performance and their work for continuing improvement in the program.

We are happy with our online program, but on-campus enrollment is also growing, and we need to be sure to offer a real on-campus experience for students. We need a balance of both online and on-campus modalities. All departments are building a 2-year course rotation. The university may begin requiring on-campus students to enroll in on campus-classes unless they have extenuating circumstances.

R. Gaspard asked Dr. Beard about possible requirements for faculty to be on-campus on Fridays. Dr. Beard said the university is open on Friday and not on a 4-day work schedule. We need to be here when it is necessary. We want to present a positive public narrative. We want to give the perception that we are available on Friday if it is necessary. If faculty need to be here for a work-related event, we need to make ourselves available. We also need to share the load and encourage everyone to be involved in different initiatives.

C. Thomas asked if updated job descriptions for department chairs had been approved yet so potential new chairs would know what’s required. Dr. Beard said currently the existing policy is still being used. J. Gill clarified with Dr. Beard that when one 3-year term as department chair ends that other people can apply at that time. Dr. Beard confirmed this.

Dr. Beard left at 3:26 p.m.

J. Marks entered at 3:26 p.m.

**Report of President:**

J. Gill said thank you to C. Thomas for her work on the policy statements. Seventeen (17) policies were reviewed and approved by the Chancellor’s Cabinet in February. Feedback has been provided on PS 202 and 202B is available for review. Both policies need to go to legal to make sure all is correct before they move forward.

Dr. Beard and J. Gill found LSU PM 35 and 23 while reviewing PS 202 requirements. LSU has PS 104 and 109 based on the two PM statements and LSUA will need to develop its own policy, based on the requirements of PM 35 and 23, to address Faculty Evaluations and Termination for Cause of Tenured Faculty.

Senate fund award notifications have been sent to all fund recipients. Recipients will be expected to submit reports when their travel/project is completed.

Robert Wright left at 3:35 p.m.

**Reports of Committees**

Courses and Curriculum action items:  
1. Creation of a minor in Computer Science: The Senate reviewed the proposal. Discussion ensued.

Motion to approve: G. Ke

Second: Kumar

Vote:13-0-0

2. CSCI 4740: The Senate reviewed the course proposal. J. Whitmore asked questions about the course description and if it needs to be refined and narrowed. After reviewing the topical outline discussion clarified questions about the course.

C. Corbat asked if lab hours should be included. J. Whitmore indicated that lab work would likely be done as part of the class. Corbat said lab hours are paid less than lecture hours so if lab work is required, lab hours should be in a course.

Motion to approve: J. Whitmore

Second: B. Alwell

Vote: 13-0-0

3. CSCI 4730: The Senate reviewed the course proposal.

Motion to approve: J. Whitmore

Second: G. Ke

Vote: 13-0-0

4. Nursing courses:

NURS 1030: The Senate reviewed the course proposal. Discussion ensued.

Motion to approve: B. Alwell

Second: Bradford:

Vote: 13-0-0

NURS 1031: The Senate reviewed the course proposal. Discussion ensued.

Motion to approve: J. Marks

Second: C. Thomas

Vote: 13-0-0

NURS 1032: The Senate reviewed the course proposal. Discussion ensued.

Motion to approve: C. Thomas

Second: L. Bradford

Vote: 13-0-0

NURS 3001: The Senate reviewed the course proposal. Discussion ensued.

Motion to approve: B. Alwell

Second: J. Whitmore

Vote: 13-0-0

Motion to receive C&C minutes from February 21, 2024

Motion: B. Alwell

Second: C. Thomas

Vote: 13-0-0

**Ad-Hoc Committee Report(s)**

PS 209 Ad Hoc Committee minutes: No action items

Motion to receive the minutes: J. Marks

Second: L. Bradford

Vote: 13-0-0

PS 202 Ad Hoc Committee minutes

Motion to receive the minutes: J. Marks

Second: C. Thomas

Vote: 13-0-0

The Senate reviewed a draft of the Faculty Evaluation Form/Merit Pay Evaluation form. J. Gill will ask the committee for minutes of their work on March 12 and will bring that to the Faculty Senate at a future meeting. Discussion ensued regarding the definitions of collegiality and professionalism.

**Old business**  
Policy Statement Revisions

PS 202: J. Gill stated the policy will go to legal before approval. It must align with all LSU PMs. After legal approval, all formatting will be corrected. Many proposed changes are related to streamlining and removing specific dates. J. Gill reviewed some changes and updates to the policy. The Faculty Senate reviewed the policy. Discussion ensued.

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn: J. Whitmore

Second: M. Stokes

Vote: 13-0-0

The meeting adjourned at 5:06 p.m.