

Faculty Senate Minutes
For: 8/30/2022

Members Present: Beverly Alwell, Deborah Wood (phone), Matthew Stokes, Purujit Gurjar, Cynthia Thomas, Rusty Gaspard, Sarah Barnes, Guoyi Ke, Carol Corbat, Melissa LaBorde, Julie Gill

Members Not Present: Kerry Ordes, Jennifer Innerarity, Hal Langford

Guests Present: Doyeop Kim, Mark LaCour, John Rowan, Paul Coreil, Richard Elder

Call to Order:

A quorum was established at 3:04 pm

Minutes:

4.5.22

J. Gill noted that Laura Carroll's name should be removed, as it was listed in error.

C. Corbat moved to approve the minutes.

M. LaBorde Missy seconded.

Vote: 9-0-1

(Sarah Barnes joined the meeting at this time)

4.19.22

J. Gill noted that Kerry Ordes' name should be added to members present.

M. LaBorde moved to approve the minutes.

B. Alwell seconded

Vote: 10-0-1

5.3.22

M. LaBorde moved to approve the minutes.

C. Corbat seconded.

Vote: 10-0-1

Brief Guest Updates:

Report from Chancellor:

Dr. Coreil mentioned that new faculty members were elected to serve on the Chancellor's Cabinet. Dr. Coreil thanked prior faculty who served. He said it is good to have faculty represented.

Dr. Coreil stated that lately, a healthcare worker shortage has resulted in life and death issues. He stated that LSUA will begin looking at getting funds to build a healthcare medical complex in

downtown Alexandria. Dr. Coreil mentioned that Rapides Hospital may donate the Buchanan building. Negotiations between LSUA, the Rapides Foundation, and Rapides Hospital are ongoing.

Dr. Coreil related that Rapides wants LSUA to double the number of nurses graduating. The Foundation voted unanimously to approve this project. Dr. Coreil, noted, however, that some fundraising would be necessary. He explained that the majority of the funds would be capital outlay from the State. Finally, Dr. Coreil stated that the State is predicting a tightening of the budget over the next few years, so this year would be a good year to pursue this project.

M. LaBorde asked if the new Nursing graduates would be associate degree nurses. Dr. Coreil said they could be both bachelor's or associate's. He then added that Dr. Cathy Cormier has a proposal to the Foundation to start high school clubs and summer camp opportunities to get students interested in healthcare.

Dr. Coreil next mentioned that in the last few weeks, the Board of Regents (BOR) announced a new admissions policy that could have an impact on LSUA. Dr. Coreil said the impact would result in a three-million-dollar loss in revenue. Potentially, eligible students may be taken from LSUA and go to community colleges or historically Black universities.

Dr. Coreil explained that LSUA would try to mitigate these losses, but it would be difficult. In the last three years, CLTCC has lost 17% of their enrollment. Dr. Coreil explained that this new policy is an attempt to shift enrollment to the community colleges. Dr. Coreil noted that the BOR said they would adopt policy now and adjust later. Dr. Coreil lastly mentioned that schools such as ULM, McNeese, and Nichols are "in the same boat" as LSUA.

J. Gill asked Dr. Coreil whether or not CLTCC is accredited. Dr. Coreil said that they are in the process of being accredited. Consequently, they have the authority to operate while in the process

Dr. Coreil then announced that LSUA may exceed 4000 students for the fall enrollment, but the numbers wouldn't be settled until census day. He mentioned that LSUA has never had 3800 or 4000 students, and if this number pans out, LSUA should celebrate it. He said such an achievement is a milestone.

As a last item, Dr. Coreil said that the Alexandria Business Foundation awarded LSUA \$600,000 toward funding an endowed chair of Accounting. Dr. Coreil noted the growth in College of Business and said LSUA was worthy of having this chair funded.

M. LaBorde asked if any money was given for scholarships. Dr. Coreil said those involved gave every dollar away and LSUA thanks them for that. Dr. Coreil mentioned that CLTCC was also awarded some funds.

M. LaBorde thanked Dr. Coreil for listening to faculty concerns about Curriculog and noted that great progress has been made in meetings.

Dr. Coreil said he and Dr. Rowan would meet with J. Gill, the new Faculty Senate president, regularly to have dialogue. He emphasized the importance of administration listening.

Report from Provost:

Dr. Rowan said that LSUA's projected fall enrollment is big news. He said there was a good chance enrollment could hold at 4000, but students need to continue to be registered for fall 2. Dr. Rowan suggested that some students may not be looking ahead, but registering by Census Day on 9/9 will go a long way to helping numbers.

Dr. Rowan remarked that LSUA's continued growth despite the tough environment is amazing. Rowan emphasized that the LSUA community is thinking differently, taking risks, and differentiating themselves. He said that questions should continue to be asked, such as "Who do we want to be in 2030? 2040?" etc. He concluded this topic by stating that "What we do now will have an impact."

As a second item, Dr. Rowan mentioned that a "faculty calendar" exists; it used to be called "academic affairs calendar." The calendar is available on the Office of Academic Affairs website and includes deadlines for promotion and tenure and other important dates like faculty award nominations.

Third, Dr. Rowan says that some consideration is being given to a possible class schedule template change. Under consideration have having classes on Monday/Wednesday, Tuesday/Thursday, and Friday. The only update concerning this discussion was that the feasibility of such a change is being looked into.

M. LaBorde commented that the topic of class schedules was "on the table."

Dr. Rowan continued by elaborating that the first question is whether such a schedule could even work. Classroom numbers and student numbers must be considered. If it is feasible, classes will need to be held well into afternoon and even evening. Dr. Rowan questioned whether students and faculty would want to have such a schedule. He noted that a big problem is having multiple classes in same room at same time.

Dr. Rowan next mentioned that PS202b, "Promotion and Tenure," still has old outdated language. He said that he will send out proposed revisions for feedback.

J. Gill asked if policy revision would go to FPPC.

Dr. Rowan said the approach for policies is that anyone can create a revision or new policy.

J. Gill agreed but stressed that revisions must go through the proper parties.

Dr. Rowan said that proposals have to go to any stakeholder groups that may be impacted. Thirty days is about the expectation to get that feedback back. Dr. Rowan said that if senate has internal ways of reviewing, that's fine, but one month for feedback is ideal. At that point, proposals

would be taken to Chancellors Cabinet. He concluded by stating that he should be ready to send out the proposed updates to PS202b by the end of the week.

M. LaBorde commented that if the changes were only related to titles, it shouldn't be a problem. However, if there are big changes, the proper step would be to send it to FPPC for review. These are the proper channels and the senate-approved process.

Dr. Rowan remarked that in general, if changes are substantive, more than a month would be needed to get feedback. One would want enough time, whoever the originator of the policy is.

Dr. Rowan then mentioned that the aviation program, Professional Aviation, is finishing up its first year. The program started in January. A "pre" class was offered last fall, but a barrier arose in that LSUA's partner flight school quit a week before classes. Dr. Rowan said that thankfully, Eamon is on top of things and has contingencies. One of the potential flight schools he had lined up he has been working on contractual behind the scenes matters. Dr. Rowan assured that "We are going to continue and we're looking ahead." He added that this new company has better planes and better equipment.

M. LaBorde asked if the cost would be more, and Dr. Rowan confirmed that the cost would indeed be more—not this year but moving forward.

J. Gill asked if the students who complete the program would be certified pilots. Dr. Rowan stated that currently, there is a demand for pilots. He mentioned that Alexandria lost United Airlines. Because of that, LSUA has shifted to "Professional Aviation." Students will have a private license and will need flight hours as required by the FAA.

Dr. Rowan concluded by mentioning that the new SPERO program is now on campus. He said that the students love Missy's class. This year, there is a cohort of four students. Dr. Rowan explained that these students graduated high school but are not eligible to be admitted to college. SPERO's goal is to educate them and help them learn skills to be self-sufficient. Dr. Rowan explained that SPERO is a four-year program. The students audit classes. In addition, they also have "life skills" classes. Dr. Rowan added that Governor John Bel Edwards and U.S. Representative Julia Letlow were involved in getting SPERO started. Finally, Dr. Rowan pointed out that SPERO is the only program in Louisiana north of I-10.

Dr. Rowan asked if M. Stokes had a SPERO student.

M. Stokes said that he had one a couple of years ago when the program was in pilot phase.

C. Corbat asked if the class sizes would increase.

Dr. Rowan indicated that each entry class would continue to be capped at four. Since this is a four-year program, the maximum number of students on campus at once would be sixteen. Dr. Rowan then gave credit to Eamon Halpin for lining up funds to support program.

President's Report:

J. Gill distributed printed copies of the President's Report.

J. Gill first mentioned that Beth Whittington and Bernard Gallagher were elected to the Chancellors Cabinet as faculty representatives. She said that this Friday, the cabinet will meet with Dr. Coreil.

J. Gill said that she has communicated with Keyra to update the list of Senators for the 2022/23 academic year.

Next, J. Gill stated that last Thursday, several from the LSUA community went to LSU System - A Historic Year. She said that it was nice to see celebration to honor successes across the LSU system. Missy was recognized as was the Chancellor. J. Gill also said at the event, pictures of LSUA softball team and tennis team were on display. Finally, LSUA was recognized for one of three universities and colleges to have continued growth.

J. Gill stated that based on what she had heard, faculty raise letters should go out this week.

J. Gill then offered an update on Curriculog. J. Gill reported that along with herself, Carol Corbat, Richard Elder, Alice Blackwell, Sandra Purifoy, and Elizabeth Beard are working in conjunction with Jerri Weston, Andrew Hirschak, Sheila Hudson, Eamon Halpin, and John Rowan to correct forms for this program. J. Gill reported that the group has discovered that the forms were not transferred into Curriculog correctly. She continued by mentioning that C. Corbat has worked diligently even on Friday nights to work on this program.

J. Gill said the group has met twice and another meeting is scheduled for Friday. They will continue meeting until the program is correct with the forms. She stressed that the group is doing what it can to move things along quickly.

J. Gill asked Dr. Rowan to instruct deans and chairs to use the current system until the new system is finalized. J. Gill stated that a goal is to avoid backlogging C & C, who covered 170 items last semester. They met every week. Gill emphasized the importance of avoiding any action that would impede C & C. Thus, it would be important to begin the semester by using the current system.

Dr. Rowan said that it hasn't been decided that the semester will start with the current system. He said he would like to see what progress has been made by Friday's meeting. He wants to get a sense of benefits and disadvantages of moving forward with Curriculog. Dr. Rowan said that by next week, a decision will be made to either go with the old system or move forward with new system.

J. Gill said she has talked to deans and chairs and everyone is in agreement that Curriculog needs to be correct.

Dr. Rowan clarified that he just wanted to say in terms of reporting back to departments, it hasn't been decided yet which system will be used moving forward—old or new.

J. Gill responded by saying that no one is against the new system, but it needs to work.

M. LaBorde stressed the importance of adjusting first before a new system is started.

C. Corbat commented that it is important that people recognize how far off the new program is. She said that much wasn't right. C. Corbat said that the Curriculog meetings have been very productive and headway is being made, but only three forms have been addressed. C. Corbat emphasized that the system hasn't been thoroughly tested yet and those who use the system would be remiss to put anything into it while it is still in this early stage of development. C. Corbat reiterated that the meetings thus far have been great, but since faculty were not brought in until the start of the semester, there is still much to address.

J. Gill said she did not meet with Andrew Hirschak until June.

M. LaBorde made it a point that thanks should be expressed to Andrew Hirschak, who has been trying to set up a system with which he is unfamiliar.

J. Gill continued by saying that the group is working hard on this, before it goes live, chairs, deans, and directors need training. The goal at present is to streamline the process to make it easy for everyone.

Finally, J. Gill wondered about editorial changes. She was unsure of who has editing capabilities and when.

Next, J. Gill encouraged everyone to support the multiple up-coming activities on campus such as Tank Fest, a free event, and Shrimp Jam, and event that supports LSUA athletics.

J. Gill then asked those present whether PS 202b, should go under new business.

C. Corbat said that yes, it should.

Committee Reports:

C. Corbat reported that she sent out committee elections, but some departments did not elect, even for standing committees. A few departments have requested Administrative Faculty for positions but these individuals have to be appointed by the Senate.

Standing Committees:

C. Corbat reported the following requests for administrative faculty to be appointed to Senate standing committees:

HIPS requests that Jim Rogers be appointed to Admissions & Standards.

Criminal Justice requests that Beth Whittington be appointed to C & C.

Sub-Committees:

C. Corbat reported the following administrative faculty recommended for Senate subcommittees:

Library requests Michelle Riggs-Waller to be appointed to Public Relations and Budget & Review.

Requests were put forward by departments for the following:

Kent Lachney and Jessica Ringo for Budget & Review

Tana Lueder for Improvement of Instruction

Rob Wright for Improvement of Instruction

C. Corbat stated that none of these requests will cause us to exceed 40% administrative faculty on any committee as in bylaws.

Discussion ensued on how to proceed.

M. LaBorde moved to appoint Jim and Beth to A & S and C & C respectively.

P. Gurjar seconded.

Vote: 11-0-0

C. Corbat asked if anyone had any students they wanted to appoint for ex officio positions.

B. Alwell said had some students in mind. R. Elder said typically, Student Government appoints students. C. Corbat replied that nothing in the bylaws says that or prevents Faculty Senate from appointing students. Last year the students were suggested by Senators.

C. Corbat next stated in regards to subcommittees, some departments sent names but that none had been submitted from the College of Liberal Arts. Specifically, English and Humanities did not respond. The Bylaws require at least one representative from each college per subcommittee.

M. Stokes said that there was discussion in the department and that B. Gallagher had volunteered for Budget and Review and Seth Bovey had volunteered for Public Relations.

C. Corbat noted M. Stokes' update. She then said that someone was still needed for Improvement of Instruction.

M. Stokes volunteered to serve on this subcommittee.

The result, then, for the College of Liberal Arts is Seth Bovey and Missy LaBorde for Public Relations, Bernard Gallagher for Budget and Review, and Matthew Stokes for Improvement of Instruction. C. Corbat then stated Senate could ratify the appointments except for student members.

M. LaBorde moved to ratify the entire committee list with student members to be added later.
C. Thomas seconded.
Vote: 11-0-0

Discussion ensued about charges for committees.

Old Business:

It was stated that class scheduling is still tabled.

M. LaBorde mentioned that the subject will be revisited in the future.

J. Gill said that instructor promotion should continue to be looked at and the policy could be sent to FPPC for recommended changes.

P. Gurjar noted that he is part of FPPC.

C. Corbat said that by the time Senate got the FPPC minutes, the policy had already gone out.

C. Thomas moved to return the recommendations back to FPPC to see if the policy needs any further modification.

B. Alwell seconded.

Vote: 11-0-0

New Business:

J. Gill wanted to express thanks to all who voted for the Chancellors Cabinet members. She was pleasantly surprised with the participation.

J. Gill then moved discussion to PS 203 Department Chair Review/Evaluations. She asked M. LaBorde to address conversations with administration.

M. LaBorde said at one of the last cabinet meetings at end of spring, Deron Thaxton said chairs are evaluated every two years. A week later, Deron said, Missy was right—evaluations should be done annually. M. LaBorde added that the survey instrument that Kent Lachney worked on so hard got attached to the evaluation, but something happened and the policy was posted with only that instrument and the instrument for other positions was left off.

M. LaBorde reiterated that chair evaluations should be done annually, A way is needed to gauge how our department chairs are doing.

Discussion ensued.

M. LaBorde said what Kent Lachney developed could also be adapted and used for dean evaluations.

C. Corbat said she recalls at one point, bottom-up evaluations were being done every two years, and then, a couple of years ago, Dr. Coreil said we would do them every year. They were done that year, but haven't been done since.

M. LaBorde said her guess is that there was a breakdown in communication between HR and Dr. Coreil's office.

C. Corbat said that evaluations were originally done by IR, then moved over to HR.

M. LaBorde said if something is in a policy, it should be followed. In this case, it fell away and no one picked it back up.

J. Gill said several have asked about bottom up evaluations.

M. LaBorde stated that the instrument to evaluate is there but might need modifications. For instance, chairs don't manage budgets.

Academic Leadership Team

J. Gill stated that someone approached her to ask if it was possible for faculty to communicate with their chairs for information.

PS 248 & 249

J. Gill says someone approached her and said these policies were not up to date with chair and director responsibilities. The question was whether directors and deans need more differentiation? It was noted that directors and deans are responsible for doing evaluations.

C. Corbat pointed out that the policy needs to be re-written since effective date is 2007.

M. LaBorde added that policy update is on the academic side.

C. Corbat said that it depends. Some policies for example, apply to Abbey Bain and Deron Thaxton. C. Corbat said that these two policies are from the Chancellor's office.

Request for Administrative Committees in early fall 2022

J. Gill addressed Dr. Rowan and told him she sent an email regarding administrative committees. She reported that some people said they didn't get the list last year until February.

Dr. Rowan said the list is ready. Earlier, a draft was sent out for college meetings and department meetings.

J. Gill wondered if Dr. Rowan could disseminate a list to all faculty or at least give an expected date when the list will be released.

Dr. Rowan said he can send it out with a disclaimer that "any changes or revisions needed should be communicated through Mona Wallace and the adjustment will be made."

J. Gill asked if he was still missing votes from some colleges.

Dr. Rowan said yes.

Campus Parking

J. Gill said that J. Innerarity was to report on an update regarding campus parking. Jennifer had a concern that some faculty and staff require handicapped parking, but it is not available to them right now.

J. Gill said that J. Innerarity really had a concern for people who need closer access but are having to walk long distances. J. Gill then asked Dr. Rowan for an update.

Dr. Rowan said he didn't have that information, but he did know that when they finish the drainage project, more spaces will be available than were previously available.

J. Gill says it was brought up that once work begins on the Student Success Center, parking will be affected again.

J. Gill said that J. Innerarity's other concern is that if faculty have to leave during the day and come back, they are having a hard time finding parking.

Discussion ensued and it was mentioned that in a recent e-mail to the LSUA community, LSUA Police would start writing parking tickets starting in the fourth week.

C. Thomas asked why it was necessary to wait four weeks.

J. Gill said that Chief Collins reported that he has driven around and seen that there are currently not enough parking spaces. However, when the new lot opens, it should help.

B. Alwell said people are parking on the golf course and side of the road.

M. LaBorde pointed out that when the Library lot opens, that will offer some relief.

C. Corbat stated that seniors haven't bought parking passes for years because there isn't ticketing any more.

M. LaBorde said parking has indeed gotten more problematic. She suggested possibly shuttle visitors when they are on campus for events.

D. Wood said that University Academy students are parking in faculty spots as well.

PS 210 (class size)

J. Gill said to Dr. Rowan that she had heard there was some discussion at ALT on this policy. It was noted that 12 is a minimum for class size but the policy says 10.

Dr. Rowan said he had never said 12 is a minimum. He said there could be exceptions. However, we have to be a little careful. He pointed out that this fall, there were more single digit classes that were not per cap (faculty were getting fully paid for them).

Chancellors Travel/Field Trip/Research funds

J. Gill said she talked with Deron Thaxton via email, asking about Chancellor's funds for field trips, travel, and research. He confirmed that \$35,000 is budgeted.

M. LaBorde said she had made some suggested changes to funding proposals. J. Gill stated she would like to see these proposals go out soon.

M. LaBorde said the forms are essentially the same as they have always been. She then said the Senate can divide up the funds however they choose; however, with things getting more expensive, \$35,000 isn't as much money as it once was.

J. Gill expressed gratitude that last year, a few proposals we were undecided on but Chancellor Coreil decided to fund them all.

J. Gill said that per Deron, the travel needs to occur by June 15th.

J. Gill then said on top of reviewing the forms, Senate needs to decide how to divvy up the money.

C. Corbat said at the All Faculty meeting, an issue came up again that some people didn't know about their travel opportunities until after the deadline to apply for funding.

C. Thomas suggested that we could have a priority deadline and then consider other cases as they come in.

J. Gill said people coming out of COVID were unsure about logistics because some conferences went from face-to-face to online.

P. Gurjar said for lots of science conferences, some people don't go unless they are presenting.

M. LaBorde stressed that there is value to going, even if not presenting, but perhaps we could prioritize if people are presenting.

C. Corbat said in her discipline, she knows about conferences in advance but often doesn't know the cost.

Beverly Alwell agreed with C. Corbat.

C. Corbat raised a question about the research category. She stated that some people apply for research funding but other people apply for equipment they want for their classrooms. C. Corbat wanted to know if Senate was OK with that.

M. LaBorde said that in the past, she usually left it up to the subcommittee.

On the topic of the application forms, P. Gurjar said he is OK with them but last time, research went over, so they took money from travel. Consequently, travel funds were depleted for people who wanted to travel later, so we need to think about that.

J. Gill asked if Senate was ready to discuss how much should be given for each category.

M. LaBorde said it was a good idea to have an idea of how funds would be divided, but it is also a good idea to be flexible.

C. Thomas said that the important thing is to remain flexible and recognize that travel costs are increasing. She then asked whether or not Senate is in a position to compel SGA to increase how much they give students to travel.

Dr. Rowan guessed that no one can compel them but one could certainly make a request. SGA meets Mondays at 5:00 pm each week.

C. Thomas pointed out that the amount had not changed in years.

J. Gill said that she would send out Chancellors Funds proposal forms for feedback.

Senate then discussed Chancellor's Funds committees:

M. LaBorde	Research
B. Alwell	Research
C. Corbat	Research
P. Gurjar	Travel
R. Gaspard	Travel
G. Ke	Travel (he later noted that he plans to apply for travel so could not be on committee)
D. Wood	Field Trips
S. Barnes	Field Trips
C. Thomas	Field Trips

Announcements:

J. Gill says next meeting September 13th at 3:00 pm

Add Andrew Hirchak to "pats on the back"

J. Gill wants to add Carol for all her work with Curriculog.

Departmental Accomplishments

M. Stokes said Ginger Jones has published an edited book on online teaching and learning with Cambridge Scholars Publishing (2022) entitled: *Solutions for Distance Learning in Higher Education*. In addition, Holly Wilson published "Challenges and Opportunities in Online Teaching and Online Programs," in *Solutions for Distance Learning in Higher Education*.

M. LaBorde is to receive an award.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting is set for 9.13.22 at 3:00 pm.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 4:49 pm

M. LaBorde motioned to adjourn the meeting.

C. Thomas seconded the motion.

VOTE: 11-0-0