**Faculty Senate Minutes**

April 22, 2025

3:00 PM

Live Oaks Conference Room

**Members Present:** Cynthia Thomas (President), Julie Gill (Vice President), Matthew Stokes, Rusty Gaspard, Jacob Whitmore (Secretary/note taker), Cole Franklin, Beverly Alwell, Guoyi Ke, Christof Stumpf (Parliamentarian), Jennifer Innerarity, Sona Kumar, Jialin Lei, Lisa Bradford

**Members Absent:** None

**Guests Present:**

Dr. Tanya Leuder, Assistant Professor of Computer Science (entered at 3:08 PM)

**Welcome and Determination of quorum:** The meeting came to order at 3:01 p.m.

**Brief guest updates:** None

**Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes:**

* Motion to delay review of minutes from 2025-04-08 Meeting due to clarification on course modifications:
  + Motion: B. Alwell, Second: C. Thomas
  + Approved: 13-0-0

**Report of President:**

Dr. Cynthia Thomas reported the following:

* Louisiana Colleges and Universities Conference is May 9, 2025
* The new LSUA website will launch June 1, 2025

**Reports of Committees**:

**Courses and Curriculum Committee:**

* Motion to Accept Minutes from 2025-04-09 Meeting:
  + Motion: B. Alwell, Second: S. Kumar
  + Approved: 13-0-0
* Motion to amend the agenda to include the C&C minutes from the 2025-03-26 meeting:
  + Motion: B. Alwell, Second: M. Stokes
* Motion to Accept Minutes from 2025-03-26 Meeting:
  + Motion: B. Alwell, Second: M. Stokes
  + Approved: 13-0-0

**Courses to Review from C&C:**

CSCI 2991

* Dr. Leuder spoke about the rationale of the classes that are being proposed for internship opportunities
* She also gave clarity on the questions from last Faculty Senate meeting regarding the maximum number of times taken
* Motion to approve CSCI 2991 as proposed
  + Motion: G. Ke, Second: S. Kumar
  + Approved: 12-0-1

CYBR 2991

* Discussion ensued on this course
* Motion to approve CYBR 2991 as proposed
  + Motion: C. Stumpf, Second: W. Franklin
  + Approved: 12-0-1

INTE 2991

* Motion to approve INTE 2991 as proposed
  + Motion: M. Stokes, Second: B. Alwell
  + Approved: 12-0-1

INTE 4991

* Discussion ensued on this course
* Motion to approve INTE 4991 as proposed
  + Motion: G. Ke, Second: C. Stumpf
  + Approved: 13-0-0

CHEM 4991

* Discussion ensued on this course
* Motion to approve CHEM 4991 as proposed
  + Motion: B. Alwell, Second: J. Whitmore
  + Approved: 13-0-0

MATH 2991

* Discussion ensued on this course
* Motion to approve MATH 2991 as proposed
  + Motion: G. Ke, Second: C. Stumpf
  + Approved: 12-0-1
* Dr. Leuder provided clarity on the CSCI course questions from the previous set of meeting minutes that we voted to delay approving earlier in the meeting
* Motion to approve Faculty Senate Meeting minutes from 2025-04-08:
  + Motion: M. Stokes, Second: B. Alwell
  + Approved: 13-0-0

MGMT 4830: this was approved in the previous meeting

FIAR 3901

* Discussion ensued on this course
* Motion to approve FIAR 3901 as proposed
  + Motion: J. Whitmore, Second: W. Franklin
  + Approved: 13-0-0

Deletion of the Criminal Justice Certificate

* Motion to approve the deletion of the Criminal Justice Certificate
  + Motion: J. Innerarity, Second: G. Ke
  + Approved: 13-0-0

Disaster Science Program

Motion to batch approve the Disaster Science courses

* + Motion: C. Franklin, Second: C. Thomas
  + Approved: 13-0-0

DSPR 2100

* Discussion ensued on this course, specifically on the topical outline
* The Senate decided to not approve this course and send it back to the department given the topical outline wording
* Significant discussions ensued about the learning objectives for the DSPR courses
* It was noted that the Use of Results of Evaluation to Improve the Course was the same wording for all the DSPR courses submitted

Motion to return all proposed DSPR courses to ask for clarification for the Procedures to Evaluate the Objectives, Use of Results of Evaluation to Improve the Course, and the DSPR 2100 detailed topical outline

Motion: J. Gill, Second: J. Innerarity

Vote: 13-0-0

**PS 209 Ad Hoc Committee:** Not Discussed

**Admissions & Standards Committee:** Not Discussed

**FPPC Committee:** Not Discussed

**PR Subcommittee:**  Not Discussed

**Budget and Review:** Not Discussed

**Improvement of Instruction:** Not Discussed

**Interdisciplinary Curriculum Committee:**

* Motion to Accept Minutes from 2025-03-24 Meeting:
  + Motion: M. Stokes, Second: G. Ke
  + Approved: 13-0-0
* Discussion ensued on the contents of these meeting minutes

**Old Business:**

P**olicy Statement Revisions**

**PS 209:**

* Senior leadership has not yet met again to discuss summer pay. They have been focused on planning around the state hiring freeze
* However, the leadership remains committed to increasing summer pay, with the intent of the raise taking effect in Summer 2025 E-Learn 2/2nd Session

**PS 202:** Not Discussed

**GDM**:

* C. Thomas sent the faculty’s feedback to The Provost and the Director of Distance Learning
* Dr. Beard expressed support for the faculty going through the process and that administrators are willing to help solve problems going through this process

**McCain Funds**:

* These will end at the end of this semester since this was a 10-year endowment, and they will not return
* Senior leadership also intends to increase Faculty Senate funds

**AI Policy:** Not Discussed

**Faculty Senate Funds:** Not Discussed

**Commencement Attendance:**

* Some faculty had asked whether there could be a rotation for commencement attendance, a practice similar to what other universities do. Faculty would only need to attend one commencement a year instead of both spring and fall.
* The answer C. Thomas received from senior leadership clearly indicated this would not be considered. Additionally, senior leadership indicated with recent growth, there might be a need for two commencement ceremonies per semester, and they would like faculty to attend both of these.
* Senior Leadership did indicate that they work to streamline the ceremony so that it remains around 2 hours.
* One indicator of when they will move to two ceremonies will be when graduation hits the 3-hour mark.
* C. Thomas indicated faculty would need to discuss this further.

**Introduction of new business:**

1. **Bottoms-Up Evaluations**
   * The issue is that faculty are being asked to evaluate Deans before they receive their own faculty evaluation
   * Moving forward, senior leadership are willing to discuss proposals for shifting this timeline
   * The bottom-up evaluations are now handled by HR after the faculty expressed concern
2. **Faculty Senate Rotations**
   * J. Gill sent out an email to all parties that are rotating off Senate
   * The Faculty Senate needs the names of replacements ASAP since the Senate needs to vote on officers for the 2025-2026 academic year
3. **Library Databases**
   * The science databases requested by Biological Sciences will cost an additional $21k per year

Motion that Faculty Senate hold a meeting on May 6, 2025, to elect officers based upon the nominations from respective departments for the 2025-2026 academic year

* + Motion: J. Gill, Second: C. Stumpf
  + Approved: 13-0-0

**Announcements/Looking ahead**

Next meeting: May 6, 2025

**Departmental accomplishments or planned events:**

* S. Kumar discussed National Medical Science Week
* B. Alwell discussed contingency planning for Faculty Senate funds with the roation of personnel.

Motion to adjourn: C. Stumpf, Second: M. Stokes

Vote: 13-0-0;

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.