**Faculty Senate Minutes**

February 11, 2025

3:00 PM

Live Oaks Room

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

**Members Absent:** None

**Guests Present:**

Dr. Paul Coreil, Chancellor

Dr. Elizabeth Beard, Provost

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

**Brief guest updates:**

Dr. Elizabeth Beard:

* LSUA will go before the new LSU Board of Supervisors to give an update on the progress of the university and new programs.
  + We will also discuss the Campus Edge project for campus housing development
* CTE is hosting a series of AI workshops for faculty of all skill levels and academic specialties
* Star Base funding was cut nationwide. However, Fort Johnson has agreed to cover staff salaries until the end of the academic year because of LSUA’s commitment to the program and the impact it has.
* Advising starts on February 24th, 2025
* Draft schedules for Fall 2025 are due by the end of this week
* Discussion ensued about potential effects of any federal funding freezes and/or cuts
  + STEM-NSF grants were paused and cannot be continued

Dr. Paul Coreil

* He reiterated the challenges with federal funding uncertainty, particularly with Star Base.
* Both he and Dr. Beard commended the faculty for their hard work that has led to us being ranked the #4 university in the state of Louisiana
* Campus construction projects are progressing, but have had some minor setbacks due to weather
* Discussion ensued about parking, specifically faculty parking on campus

**Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes:**

* Motion to Accept Minutes from 2025-01-14 Meeting:
  + Motion: B. Alwell, Second: G. Ke
  + Approved: 12-0-1

**Report of President:**

Dr. Cynthia Thomas reported the following:

* She met with the library and got price quotes for some of the databases in the library
  + Lillian Purdy will work with each department to continue to make plans for acquiring more resources
* She gave several dates for LSUA events
  + LSU Day is at the State Capitol on April 23, 2025
  + LSUA Hall of Distinction Reception on May 1, 2025
* Admitted Students Day: April 11, May 2
* On-campus applications are up 2%
* Shelley Gill can provide support for faculty going to local high schools to recruit
* Spend the Day at A: February 22nd, 2025
* Employee Recognition Dinner: March 25, 2025, from 5-7 PM

**Reports of Committees**:

**Ad-Hoc Committee Reports given by Julie Gill**

**Courses and Curriculum Committee:**

Discussion of Minutes from 2024-12-02; these were accepted by Faculty Senate at the 2025-01-14 meeting

**Review of courses submitted by C&C**

CHEM 3600, Fundamentals of Forensic Chemistry

CHEM 4600, Forensic Toxicology

HIST 4057, US Constitutional History

HIST 4068, US Military History

HIST 4164, History of the US Supreme Court

HIST 4028, World War I

Motion to review and approve Chemistry and History courses by batch vote:

* + Motion: B. Alwell, Second: G. Ke
  + Approved: 13-0-0
* Discussion ensued on the proposed Chemistry courses

Motion to approve the Chemistry courses

* + Motion: J. Gill, Second: G. Ke
  + Approved: 13-0-0
* Discussion ensued on the proposed History course

Motion to send the History courses back to the department for revisions on course descriptions and course objectives.

* + Motion: J. Gill, Second: J. Innerarity
  + Approved: 12-0-1

**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

**Old Business:**

P**olicy Statement Revisions**

**PS 209:** Update by Dr. Cynthia Thomas

* Deron Thaxton, Executive Vice Chancellor of Administration and Chief Financial Officer, will come to Faculty Senate soon to continue the discussion

**PS 202:** Update by Dr. Julie Gill

* The LSU Board of Supervisors required wording edits which will need to be completed and passed on up the chain of command

**PS 254:** Discussed with Dr. Paul Coreil and Dr. Elizabeth Beard

* There was discussion between the 24-hour response time, particularly on weekends, for faculty response time to student emails
* The faculty suggested that it be 48 hours as a consideration for what is feasible for faculty to accomplish on weekends with response time
* Discussion ensued on the efficacy of the wording change to 48 hours and faculty accommodations around deadlines
* There was agreement from all parties that the word change to 48 hours had merit and the change will move forward to Cabinet. Both Dr. Coreil and Dr. Beard agreed that an expected response time of 48 hours or the next business day was a more practical and viable response time for faculty.

**AI Policy:** Not Discussed

**GDM Feedback**

* There was frustration that the designers did not have any experience in the field of the course they were designing and questioning expert faculty on their lessons
* Others expressed concern that another designer could come in at the very end and completely disagree with the designers that have gone through the whole process
* There was also frustration with the process and working with some of the designers, being short on guidance, impersonal, and invasive
* Concern was also expressed that some designers requested course objective changes
* Faculty felt that LSU Online was overreaching and telling faculty exactly what had to be done and limiting academic freedom
* Many expressed that there was some value in the process, but not at the expense of the overreach by LSU Online

**Introduction of new business:**

1. **Curriculog Access**

Catherine Doyle

Prakash Ghimire (chair)

Tanya Lueder (program coordinator for CS and Online Chemistry)

Cheri Bardales (CORE Director)

Jan Schmitt (CYC Director)

Eamon Halpin

Jay Callegari

Motion to approve Curriculog Access for Catherine Doyle

* + Motion: J. Gill, Second: B. Alwell
  + Approved: 13-0-0

Motion to approve Curriculog Access for Prakash Ghimire

* + Motion: J. Gill, Second: B. Alwell
  + Approved: 13-0-0

Motion to approve temporary Curriculog Access for Tanya Leuder

* + Motion: B. Alwell, Second: J. Lei
  + Approved: 10-1-1 (*L. Bradford temporarily left room*)

Motion to approve Curriculog Access for Cheri Bardales

* + Motion: C. Stumpf, Second: J. Innerarity
  + Failed: 4-5-4

Motion to approve Curriculog Access for Jan Schmitt

* + Motion: C. Stumpf, Second: J. Innerarity
  + Approved: 0-11-2

Motion to approve Curriculog Access for Eamon Halpin

* + Motion: B. Alwell, Second: C. Stumpf
  + Approved: 12-0-1

Motion to approve Curriculog Access for Jay Callegari

* + Motion: J. Gill, Second: B. Alwell
  + Approved: 13-0-0

**Announcements/Looking ahead**

Next meeting: February 25, 2025

**Departmental accomplishments or planned events:**

* Cole Franklin reminded the faculty about the Speaking Center opening and being available to help students
* Educators Rising had nearly 400 individuals attend and was a great success
* LSUA Film Discussion Tank Talks are back this month
* Darwin Day is this week

Motion to adjourn: C. Stumpf Second: J. Gill

Vote: 13-0-0; The meeting adjourned at 5:23 p.m.