**Faculty Senate Minutes**

November 13, 2024

Live Oaks Room

**Members Present:** Cynthia Thomas (President), Julie Gill (Vice President), Rusty Gaspard, Matthew Stokes, Jacob Whitmore (Secretary/note taker), Jialin Lei, Cole Franklin, Beverly Alwell, Sona Kumar, Guoyi Ke, Christof Stumpf (Parliamentarian), Jennifer Innerarity, 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 3:02 p.m.

**Brief guest updates:**

Dr. Paul Coreil

* He commended the hard work of the faculty with lots of students transferring here.
* He reiterated that undergraduate education continues to be of great importance to our students for career development.
* He stressed the importance of this legislative session’s focus on taxes and how this could impact taxes for Louisiana in the future, especially higher education. Should there be higher ed tax cuts, the proportion is not as large of a revenue concern as it was in the past.
* There is a new formula of funding mechanism that is to soon be presented to the Board of Regents, with a potential increase of $2M for LSUA that is based on our success. However, there is a decline for LSU and could lead to some political issues. If this money is received, we will try and put it to equity increases for salary. This is a large concern of his and one of his main priorities.

Dr. Elizabeth Beard

* Dr. Nathan Sammons was named Dean of the College of Sciences after a national search. An external candidate was prominent during the national search but withdrew due to personal reasons. We believe that Nathan was equally as qualified as this other candidate based on input from faculty and others.
* Dr. Sammons is now Dean and will remain in the role of VCETL. A support position will be hired to sustain the operations of this center. This will help in event logistics, faculty tenure and promotion timelines, and endowed professorships.
* Julie Gill stated that the faculty were not happy in the way that Dr. Sammons was selected for this position, since he did not interview or give a presentation for his position whereas others on campus did for other positions. They felt that the faculty did not have enough input in this process. Discussion ensued between Julie Gill, the Provost, and the Chancellor on the merits of this process and the urgency of this particular decision and for the opportunities for faculty feedback.
* Discussion ensued regarding some faculty's perception of jeopardizing their job security in cases of disagreement with SLT.
* We are narrowing down on candidates for our sponsored programs position. We also have verbal acceptance for a candidate for the Institutional Effectiveness role.

**Report of President:**

* There is movement on getting more database access for the library. Once completed, the library will prioritize and evaluate.
* StratCom Discussion
  + They couldn’t be here today due to a child’s illness
  + We propose that Cynthia meet with Adam Lord, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Strategic Communications, when he is available tomorrow rather than wait until the next Senate meeting for the sake of speed of resolving issues.
  + Motion for Cynthia to meet with Strat Comm before the next Senate meeting
    - Motion: J. Whitmore, B. Alwell
    - Approved: 13-0-0
* Anticipated 499 Fall graduates
* The information brought to Senate regarding AI last week has been passed on to an AI committee pulled together by Distance Learning as part of the Online Advisory Committee. Dr. Jay Callegari will advise on AI. The president mentioned the importance of faculty making their own decisions instead of being forced to go to a committee every time there is an allegation of inappropriate A.I. use.
* SLT agrees with the response timing change to PS 254 which will go back before Cabinet

Lisa Bradford left the meeting

**Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes:**

* Motion to Accept Minutes from 2024-10-23 Meeting:
  + Motion: B. Alwell, Second: J. Gill
  + Approved: 11-0-0 (L. Bradford left meeting; M. Stokes out of room)

**Reports of Committees**:

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

**Courses and Curriculum Committee:**

* Motion to accept C&C minutes
  + Motion: M. Stokes, Second: C. Franklin
  + Approved: 12-0-0
* Discussion ensued on the C&C minutes
* Motion to accept the credit hour change to MLSC 3050
  + Motion: B. Alwell, Second: S. Kumar
  + Approved: 12-0-0

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

**PS 202 Ad Hoc Committee:** Not Discussed

**Admissions & Standards Committee:**

* Motion to accept both sets of A&S minutes
  + Motion: B. Alwell, Second: J. Innerarity
  + Approved: 12-0-0
* Discussion ensued on the A&S minutes.
* Motion to send dual concentrations in BGS to ICC for decision
  + Motion: B. Alwell, Second: M. Stokes
  + Approved: 12-0-0
* Motion to approve the modifications of allowing for which 30 hours must be at the 3000 or 4000 level for a second degree
  + Motion: B. Alwell, Second: M. Stokes
  + Approved: 12-0-0
* Motion to approve the change of requiring 25% of total number of hours for a minor be taken at LSUA
  + Motion: J. Gill, Second: J. Innerarity
  + Approved: 12-0-0

**FPPC Committee:**

* Motion to accept FPPC minutes
  + Motion: M. Stokes, Second: C. Stumpf
  + Approved: 12-0-0
* Dr. Melissa Parks elected as Chair. Dr. Zeb Bell elected as Secretary

**PR Subcommittee:**  Not Discussed

**Budget and Review:** Not Discussed

**Improvement of Instruction:** Not Discussed

Julie Gill left the meeting

**Old business:**

P**olicy Statement Revisions**

**PS 209:**B. Alwell provided evidence of summer pay and salary information from other Louisiana universities for the Senate to consider as we go through the formula of summer pay for PS 209. The Senators will read through the information and provide feedback accordingly.

**PS 202:** Not Discussed

**PS 254:** Covered in the Report of the President

1. Access to Journals and Databases
   1. Covered in the Report of the President
2. CurricuLog Workshop was rescheduled for November 22nd at 2:30 P.M.
   1. Motion to approve Dr. Adena Lejeune as the College of Business representative for CurricuLog
      1. Motion: J. Innerarity, Second: M. Stokes
      2. Approved: 12-0-0
3. AI Policy Feedback
   1. We will send all feedback to the AI Subcommittee for their consideration since we now know we are working in tandem on this issue

**Introduction of new business:**

1. Faculty Appointments Process

* This was covered earlier in Dr. Elizabeth Beard’s address to the Senate earlier in the meeting
* Discussion ensued about some departments appointing Instructor positions, rather than being hired by a committee

**Announcements/Looking ahead**

Next meeting: December 11, 2024

Departmental accomplishments or planned events:

* Rad Tech week was last week from 3-9 November

Motion to adjourn: C. Stumpf

Second: S. Kumar

Vote: 12-0-0

The meeting adjourned at 4:54 p.m.