

Faculty Senate Minutes  
For: November 9, 2021

**Members Present:** Beverly Alwell, Deborah Wood, Matthew Stokes, Purujit Gurjar, Richard Elder, Rusty Gaspard, Sona Kumar, Tanya Lueder, Carol Corbat, Jennifer Innerarity, Melissa LaBorde, Julie Gill

**Guests Present:** John Rowan, Paul Coreil, Monica Aguilera

**Call to Order:**

M. LaBorde called the meeting to order at 3:32p.

**Minutes:**

J. Gill sent the minutes via e-mail; changes were recommended and made accordingly

R. Elder moved to accept the minutes.

D. Wood seconded the motion.

Vote: 10-0-0

**Brief Guest Updates:**

**Report from Chancellor:**

Dr. Coreil reported that the campus would have visitors at 5p that afternoon. Every 10 years after a census, the Legislature is responsible for restructuring of district lines based on the population. He stated that some lines will need to be redrawn and some districts will see changes for representative and congressional ground. He encouraged attendance and stated that it was a great Civics lesson as they meet and redraw lines.

Dr. Coreil addressed the removal of the mask mandate and stated that he took feedback into consideration when the decision was made to empower each instructor/professor with the ability to make the decisions regarding what was best for his/her classroom. Thus far, he has not heard any complaints, but some have had questions. He did point out that no other university allowed faculty/staff to make the decision; LSUA is the only institution to allow for independent decisions.

Dr. Coreil briefly discussed the construction progress on campus and pointed out that the LSU Ag Center will not have internet service tomorrow. He stated that some disruption is anticipated, but carelessness should not be an issue as the campus must continue to operate.

C. Corbat asked if anyone w/the construction crew considered what they are doing to the trees; several trees have been cut improperly as the crews have progressed with their work. Dr. Coreil stated that they should be working with an arborist and he will check with the crew regarding proper cuts.

M. Aguilera asked about an update on construction. Dr. Coreil stated that it would continue for another 12 months as they will eventually resurface the streets, add lighting, and a new entrance. He anticipates that January 2022 will bring about wetter weather. C. Corbat asked how they will progress across campus and Dr. Coreil stated that they will not work on two main roads at the same time. Dr. Coreil did offer to bring the plan to a Senate meeting.

**Report from Provost:**

Dr. Rowan thanked everyone for their patience regarding e-mails as he has been off campus. He was in Baton Rouge last week to meet with Academic Partners and he was happy to announce that a settlement was reached. He credited Teresa Seymour and Deron Thaxton as they worked months to prepare for the interaction.

Dr. Rowant stated that he will send the draft for the PS 202 with his proposed new policy for instructor promotions in the near future. He would like feedback within 30 days. This time frame would allow him to move the proposed changes forward and to be implemented during the spring 2022 semester.

Dr. Coreil addressed the Chancellor's Funds and he stated that there has been a request to allow adjuncts to apply for the funds and that Dr. Coreil has approved that adjunct faculty can be considered for these funds. M. LaBorde asked for reasoning behind decision as full-time faculty will ask when notified. Dr. Coreil stated that he is not lobbying either way and M. LaBorde stated that we were curious as to why this would be changed. Dr. Rowan stated that it is not a matter of priority. M. LaBorde stated that the policy could be changed to reflect priority with full-time faculty and T. Lueder asked if the policy could be reviewed to include all changes discussed.

Dr. Rowan mentioned the name change for Louisiana College to Louisiana Christian University.

Dr. Rowan stated that the advertisement for the Coordinator of the SPERO Program will be public, soon. The position will be privately funded. M. LaBorde asked if there will be qualification requirements for the position. T. Lueder asked if faculty will be involved with courses. Dr. Rowan stated that the students would audit courses and that it would be determined as to which courses & faculty would be appropriate to meet the needs of those enrolled. The Coordinator would work with community partners and there would be Peer Mentors.

Dr. Rowan stated that The Board of Regents is asking for feedback regarding a movement towards the removal of all remedial courses for incoming freshmen. Students would be required to enroll in co-req courses upon entering college. Any student not directly admissible will be allowed to take a course that will not count as a college course, but count as a gateway course. He stated that his office must provide feedback in 10 days. Their claim is that students who take co-req courses are progressing better than those who must take individual remedial courses. Their proposed goal is to see universities introduce these new courses in the following manner: 30% by fall 2022, 30% by fall 2023, & remaining by fall 2024.

**President's Report:**

M. LaBorde sent her report electronically and requested that senators send feedback from the Constitution & By-Laws to T. Lueder. She also mentioned that D. Thaxton is working on a training tracker for faculty to assist with the yearly required trainings.

**Student Government Report:**

M. Aguilera asked how faculty feel regarding the mask mandate: M. Stokes stated that he gave students the opportunity to choose; M. LaBorde stated that it depends on the size of the class; C. Corbat mandates for 1 class due to absences regarding COVID quarantine or diagnosis; J. Gill dropped the mandate, but asked that people who are ill wear a mask and be cognizant of others; T. Lueder discussed that she mandated the same, but included a no bullying discussion.

M. Aguilera stated that Student Government is looking to amend the structure of their organization, including committees, etc. She mentioned the upcoming Town Hall Meeting and bringing the information from the Faculty Senate meeting back to the students.

M. Aguilera stated that SG will place a student feedback box in the cafeteria to help with decisions on what students would like to have served.

M. Aguilera stated that the purpose of the Town Hall Meeting was to meet the request that students become more involved on campus. M. LaBorde asked if this was something they learned at their recent conference. M. Aguilera stated that it is common across campuses, but that the current SG is working on offering more Town Hall Meetings in the future to provide students with the opportunity to ask questions and receive updates.

**Committee Reports:**

Admissions & Standards - J. Innerarity encouraged them to focus on the charge and C. Stumpf stated that all conversation revolved around charge.

R. Elder moved to receive the minutes.

C. Corbat seconded the motion.

Vote: 11-0-1

Courses & Curricula – there were four sets of submitted minutes

Sept 29th -

R. Elder moved to receive the minutes.

M. Stokes seconded the motion.

Vote: 11-0-1

Oct 13<sup>th</sup> -

T. Lueder moved to receive the minutes.

R. Elder seconded the motion.

Vote: 11-0-1

Oct 20<sup>th</sup> - according to Senate Constitution & By-Laws, once a committee makes a recommendation to the Senate, the Senate must vote on those minutes to approve the recommendation and make it effective. The Faculty Senate may not simply receive the minutes.

R. Elder moved to receive and to vote on approval of the minutes at the next meeting.

D. Wood seconded the motion.

Vote: 12-0-0

C. Corbat stated that we have no access to the new C&C program and no representation on the pilot of the new software to see how the software supports the Senate/C&C process. Faculty are asking for access so that the Senate can access the documents that are currently progressing; J. Rowan stated that the program is called Curricula-Log. It was stated that E. Halpin does not sit on C&C and Senate cannot access our documents. M. LaBorde stated that we need to invite E. Halpin or J. Weston to the next meeting. C. Corbat stated that J. Weston was invited to the Policy sub-committee and has yet to respond regarding when she is available.

Oct 27<sup>th</sup> - C. Corbat reported an error regarding the approval of a revised proposal which stated, "asked if Board of Supervisors". She stated that this needs clarification as the Board of Supervisors and the Board of Regents are two separate entities. M. LaBorde asked if we wanted to return to Dr. Blackwell for clarification.

M. Stokes moved to return the minutes to C&C for clarification.

P Gurjar seconded the motion.

Vote: 12-0-0

**Ad-hoc Committee:**

Policies – the committee is waiting to meet with J. Weston regarding discussions required to help the committee move forward. J. Rowan stated that she is under the impression that she will meet with the committee next Tuesday.

**Constitution & By-Laws:**

The committee has received some feedback from faculty, but they continue to encourage all senators to have faculty report feedback. J. Rowan stated that the Library has not moved on the academic chart.

**Old Business:**

M. LaBorde, C. Corbat, and J. Rowan will meet soon regarding the final grade calculations for graduating seniors.

Chancellor's Funds – the Chancellor has approved the Travel and Research recommendations. The Field Trip sub-committee was asked to report back to Faculty Senate at the next meeting regarding how to proceed with those funds.

**New Business:**

Instructor Policy - M. LaBorde stated that there was disagreement with J. Rowan regarding when to implement the proposed change, but J. Rowan will send his recommendations. R. Elder asked if this would be a new policy or would it be a change in the current policy. R. Elder stated that a new policy may be quicker to move it through, but a revision may take longer for approval. C. Corbat stated that 30 days may not be a sufficient time frame as Faculty Policies and Procedures Committee will need to receive a charge and faculty need to have time to discuss with peers. J. Rowan discussed various methods of how to address the change. M. LaBorde reinforced that Faculty Senate would review what he sends to the Senate and R. Elder stated that it would be reviewed as quickly as possible. J. Rowan stated that he wanted feedback on content and would leave it to faculty to discuss how to proceed.

M. LaBorde stated that Faculty Senate will not discuss P.S. 236 at this time due to not having sufficient time to review documents. She did ask J. Rowan to review the policy regarding uniform procedure for merit pay increases.

**Announcements:**

Pats on the Back:

Teresa Seymour & Deron Thaxton for their work with Academic Partnerships

Amy Creel - Testing Center

Jamie Holmes - new responsibility to assist the Chemistry/Physics Dept,

Dept Accomplishment- Communication Students Student Meeting Conference had 30 students and 13 community members in attendance.

C. Corbat requested that faculty/staff parking spots be properly marked in the science parking lot.

**Next Meeting:**

November 23rd @ 3:30p

**Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 4:34p.

T. Lueder made the motion to adjourn.

D. Wood seconded the motion.

Vote: 12-0-0