#### LSUA Faculty Senate Minutes of a Meeting on 31 March 2020

**Senators Present:** Kent Lachney, Melissa Whitley, Richard Elder, Deborah Wood, Jennifer Innerarity, Melissa LaBorde, Melissa Parks, Carol Corbat, Kerry Ordes, Prakash Ghimire, Michelle Riggs

### Guests Present: Chancellor Paul Coreil, Provost John Rowan

**Chancellor's Report:** One student tested positive for COVID19 and recovered well. Also a student lost their father to the virus. Registration looks good so far. Some students still having internet access issues and we are keeping labs open for that. Also Lot 6 wifi is open. Heroic attempts to remain in hospitals with our clinical students. Nursing students stayed through last Friday; now doing virtual simulation. Employee recognition – trying to figure out how to do it virtually. Commencement cancelled and they will try to do something virtually. Blood drive Wednesday 10-2 at Allied Health Building downtown. Friday is an all-campus ZOOM meeting. Melissa will give an update and staff senate and student government also. Children's Center now closed. Down to a skeleton crew on campus that are mowing and cleaning. Civil Service approved pay for custodial staff to stay home. More details will be provided on Friday.

Provost's Report: Deferred to Jerri Weston for discussion of evaluation of transcripts when student has a bachelor's.

**Transcript Evaluation:** Weston asked if Senators had read the document she sent and then asked for questions. Elder said it's impossible to evaluate transcripts to advise his students accurately when students are admitted with unevaluated bachelor's degree work. Weston said in talking with Board of Regents that receipt of a bachelor's degree would fulfill general education requirement. Elder gave an example regarding science labs. Weston said she will need to sit down with him and Mary Treuting to discuss specifics. Elder said another problem is students can't enroll for classes because of prerequisite issues. Weston says she needs names because they are supposed to be evaluating prerequisite courses. Elder also mentioned problem with Degree Navigator on handling of "titled" courses. LaBorde asked that Weston check with Holly Wilson because English was having some problems also. Corbat asked about block transfer of general education because requirements at different schools are different. Weston said most schools required the same categories although different numbers of hours in some. The "spirit" of a well-rounded education is met. Elder again brought up issues of advising difficultly after Weston mentioned a student who had a master's degree without general education. Elder brought up a couple other anomalies with students. Lachney said it's working fairly well in business as students transfer into accounting. He wonders if Degree Navigator could indicate student has a bachelor's already. Weston said it should be there now as they have worked on it recently. Lachney asked about student who has MBA without undergrad business degree. Could they allow graduate course to count for undergraduate courses needed in our undergrad degree? Corbat indicated she had once done substitutions when student had graduate course in same topic as our undergraduate course. Neither Weston nor Rowan indicated they would have a problem with a course substitution. Corbat asked about how block credit transfers of general education courses were accepted without going through any Senate committee since we can't change our own degree general education without approval. Rowan said he didn't know but other schools were doing block credit transfers. Corbat said skipping processes, even if you think it's not a serious issue, is a slippery slope because it leaves the door open to ignore processes for other issues. LaBorde asked how to make this happen and Whitley said Rowan or Weston should send her something to send to committee.

LaBorde asked Weston if academic calendar got corrected for registration dates and Weston said yes. New withdrawal deadline also updated.

**Provost's Report Cont'd:** Rowan said he is not going to relax his call for flexibility by faculty as we deal with students. Students are freaked out about online classes. Faculty need to do a basic overview of how it will work. Students with children who also need computers or who can't meet test times because of their children, or students don't have web cams are also problems. Some students want to withdraw because of switch – try to minimize this.

ProctorU is being paid for by university but depends on faculty sticking to the numbers we reported to him. Also, schedule exams so that students can register 72 hrs in advance so LSUA gets cheapest pricing.

Drop date has moved to Monday April 13<sup>th</sup> in response to student input.

All institutions are anticipating financial hardship. We are hoping not to cut budget significantly. Please keep reminding students to register.

There is a possibility that FEMA money can be used to reimburse us for expenses we incurred because of the COVID19 mitigation. He is working with chairs and all faculty should have input if they had expenses. LaBorde asked if there was any budget cushion built in for potential cuts. Rowan said there was some initially but he wasn't sure they were still available. He said the budget challenge is likely to be next fiscal year.

Corbat asked about ProctorU and when the setup for the university pay will be set up. He said it should be done already. LaBorde said Teresa Seymour had told her something similar and there was still programming to be done. Rowan will check into it.

Minutes: Lachney moved approval of the minutes of 30 March 2020. Motion passed 10-0-1.

**President's Report:** Whitley is supposed to give a Senate update at the all-campus meeting and would like input on what topics to mention. Elder said to let people know that the Senate is conducting business as usual. Wood mentioned Nursing is doing virtual simulations and using VidGrid voiceovers and Examsoft for testing. Innerarity mentioned that committees that are working on policies should be sure to solicit faculty input. Lachney brought up recorded ZOOMs and long exam periods for flexibility. LaBorde mentioned the hallway chats that Tanya Leuder is doing on ZOOM. Elder said there are several students working in health care and we need to be very flexible with them. Parks asked Whitley to remind faculty the Senate was meeting every two weeks and items could be submitted for the agenda. Whitley said Rad Tech students are continuing in clinic; they were given an I option. Rowan mentioned that NURS and ALLH are having to be very responsive. There are daily requests for information from the state on numbers of students, early graduation, and equipment.

Academic Freedom: Bernard Gallagher had sent a policy document LSU Faculty Senate was working on regarding academic freedom. Lachney asked what we were being asked to do. Corbat noted it was an LSU Faculty Senate policy draft. She thought Gallagher was asking if we wanted to do a similar policy. LaBorde said Gallagher is concerned about intellectual property. Elder said Gallagher was also concerned about LSU taking classes we developed. Corbat said this policy has nothing to with intellectual property. It is all about academic freedom and extends that concept to freedom to criticize university policy. Whitley said it may also have something to do with a dismissal of a tenured faculty member at LSU. Laborde said she will follow up with Bernard on what he is requesting the Senate to do. Senate will table the issue for now.

**Other Business:** Rowan asked about when Senate leadership for next year is selected. Whitley said they will be elected at the second Senate meeting in April. LaBorde needs to contact departments with Senators with terms expiring.

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting in 2 weeks.

Respectfully submitted by

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Carol A. Corbat, Secretary

### LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY ALEXANDRIA

## Faculty Senate

### Zoom Meeting

# March 30, 2020 at 8:00 a.m.

# AGENDA

- I. Determination of quorum Call to order
- II. Approval/Revisions of Minutes (3/17/20)
- III. Report of President (see attached)
  - a. Update from Provost, Dr. Rowan
- IV. Report of Committees
  - a. none
- V. New Business
  - a. Transcript Evaluation for students with bachelor
  - b. Academic Freedom
- VI. Agenda Business items (Old Business)
  - a. Remaining Chancellor's Funds
- VII. Adjournment



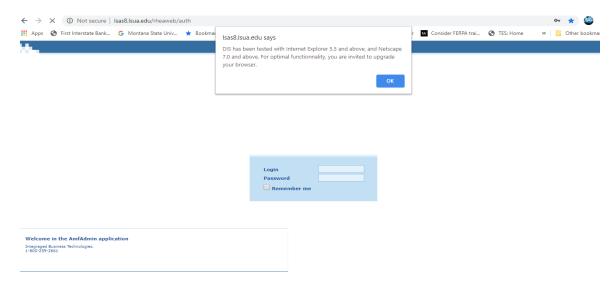
DATE: March 29, 2020TO:Faculty SenateFROM:Melissa Whitley, M.S.R.S., R.T.(R)Faculty Senate President

**RE:** President's Report

1. I have been asked by the Chancellor to give a report on Faculty Senate Activities at the upcoming "All Faculty Meeting" on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Anything in particular I should include? Your input is welcome.

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