

**LSUA Faculty Senate  
Minutes of a Meeting on 14 April 2020**

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

**Guests:** Chancellor Paul Coreil, Provost John Rowan, Dr. Greg Gormanous, Jerri Weston

**Chancellor's Report:** Coreil gave an update on CARES funding. There may be \$1 million that will go directly to students with low incomes. Registration is strong and above what it was at this time last year. There are still plans for a virtual commencement. Blake Chatelain will be the speaker. The all-campus meeting went well with 189 people attending. There will be another in a couple of weeks. There are still approximately 40 students living in the Oaks. LSU has cancelled summer campus through June. We need to make a decision on ours soon. Next year's state budget is going to be rough. The state is spending into a deficit now. We have a hiring freeze in place and have frozen spending except critical spending. The LSU Board of Supervisors is meeting by ZOOM next week. LaBorde asked if we knew who would be replacing Chatelain on the BoS. Coreil said several people have submitted their interest including Senator Long but it also could be that Chatelain would be reappointed.

**Provost's Report:** Rowan thanked faculty for flexibility. He congratulated the faculty award winners from the virtual Employee Recognition, Sarita James for Bolton Award, Jerry Sanson for Research and Kent Lachney for Service. Enrollment for fall is up about 2.5% but that is all online. Face-to-face for fall is down 67 students or 7.6%. Next year's budget will be quite a bit less; he hopes CARES will offset it. This summer will be online delivery only with 25 face-to-face sections being changed to online. Students are being given an option for grading this semester (SP20). There will be an online portal from April 20 – May 1<sup>st</sup> where students can opt for P/W or graded. A grade of P means C or higher. Students will be given a set of cautions about their decision. For fall Rowan wants to look at our approach to double majors and also how faculty might do more to hold each other accountable for service, teaching, etc.

LaBorde asked why Spring 3<sup>rd</sup> session students were being given the grade option since they were online students to begin with. Rowan responded that they still might be having issues with children at home etc. Corbat asked what if students chose P/W, did not W, took the final, and then got a D or an F. Rowan said they would get a W. Rowan also said students can reverse their choice on the grading option after they see their grade. Rowan said further details would be coming. LaBorde asked if faculty could get the same information as the students since we are at a loss when the students have questions and we don't know what they've received. Rowan said the wording that was sent to students was sent to department chair who were supposed to share it with their faculty. LaBorde and Corbat indicated it had not been shared in their departments. Corbat asked about P/W relative to athletic eligibility and was told a P would count.

**President's Report:** Whitley asked if LaBorde had heard back from departments on Senate replacements for next year. LaBorde said Riggs would be returning for Library and Lachney for Business but she was unsure who the Senator from AEH would be. At the next meeting, we have to have a meeting after the normal meeting solely for elections of officers. Senate discussed how to do balloting. Whitley will see if the poll function in ZOOM will work.

**Minutes:** Minutes of 30 March 2020 were unavailable since Corbat had forgotten the Senate meeting.

**Report of Committees:** Lachney moved acceptance of the Admissions and Standards Committee minutes of 3/31/20. Motion passed 10-0-0. Rowan asked to be included on notifications of when that committee was meeting.

**Old Business:**

Remaining Chancellor's Funds: Corbat asked if we had not spent our research funds could we still do so and Rowan said he would check.

Academic Freedom: LaBorde had not yet spoken with Gallagher so the issue was tabled again.

Meeting adjourned at 8:59.

Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carol A. Corbat". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the text "Respectfully submitted by:".

Carol A. Corbat, Secretary

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY ALEXANDRIA

Faculty Senate

Zoom Meeting

April 14, 2020 at 8:00 a.m.

AGENDA

- I. Determination of quorum – Call to order
- II. Report of President (see attached)
  - a. Update from Chancellor, Dr. Coreil
  - b. Update from Provost, Dr. Rowan
- III. Approval/Revisions of Minutes (3/30/20)
- IV. Report of Committees
  - a. A&S (3/31/20)
- V. Agenda Business items (Old Business)
  - a. Remining Chancellor’s Funds
  - b. Academic Freedom (Tabled)
- VI. Agenda Business items (New Business)
  - a. none
- VII. Adjournment



**DATE:** April 8, 2020

**TO:** Faculty Senate

**FROM:** Melissa Whitley, M.S.R.S., R.T.(R)  
Faculty Senate President

**RE:** President's Report

1. On April 28, 2020, immediately after adjournment of regular FS meeting, we will call to order the "special" FS meeting for the sole purpose of electing officers for 2020-2021. Only the members of FS for 2020-2021 will need to present for the special meeting. According to our Bylaws, we, are supposed to vote by ballot. Any ideas/suggestions how this may be accomplished? I personally think we need to have voting procedures outlined prior to the special meeting. VP LaBorde, do you have the elected senators for 2020-2021 from each department?

## Admissions and Standards

March 31, 2020

Present: Sandra Gilliland, Nathan Sammons, Elizabeth Duck, Harold Langford, Elizabeth Beard, Tanya Lueder, Rhonda Wilson, Michelle Riggs Waller

Meeting convened (via Zoom) 11:04 am

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved electronically.

New Business:

Faculty Senate has charged A&S with review of PS 230 and 242. Committee chair Sandra Gilliland opened the meeting, announced the new charge, and asked for initial thoughts or impressions. One committee member stated that revised policy statements need to appear uniform, and that both these policies are reactive rather than proactive, putting the onus on prompting change/accommodation on the person with disabilities rather than on the university to actively provide services.

A committee member proposed that the committee combine the two policy statements into one, since they are very similar (PS 242 Students with Disabilities and PS 230 Persons with Disabilities). The committee discussed the components of both policies to ensure that no important parts are omitted, noting that the current PSs include both an Informal and Formal Grievance procedures. A committee member suggested "Step 1" and "Step 2" instead to indicate the linear process to filing a grievance rather than seeming to provide the choice to skip the informal, or personal communication of the problem, that would allow University officials to make proper accommodations before the formal, written submission.

A committee member recommended that LSUA look to LSU's PS 26 as a guide to crafting our own revised, combined policy statement. Other considerations: the need for clear procedures for faculty who may have multiple students with disabilities in their classes; the potential need for expedited implementation of accommodations; the need to acknowledge mental health and the need to provide counseling services versus the possibility of enabling students to abuse the system.

Action taken: A&S will recommend combining PS 230 and 242 to align with LSU PS 26, draft a policy statement, then ask campus Department of Disabilities to review and make recommendations. The committee will then review the new PS, approve it, and send it to Faculty Senate to approve. Elizabeth Duck volunteered to write the draft.

It was noted that Gloria Phillips, representative from Nursing, no longer works at LSUA. MRWaller will contact that department and request a new representative.

Next meeting will be on a Wednesday at 11:00 in two weeks (April 15). Meeting adjourned 11:42 am.

Submitted,

Michelle Riggs Waller, Secretary