

FACULTY SENATE MEETING AGENDA
Thursday, September 13, 2021, 11 AM
Zoom

I. CALL TO ORDER 11:01 am

II. PRESENT: Allen Garcie, Laura McLemore, Doug Bible, Brian Salvatore, Adel Darrat, Minsun Kim, Syed Zaidi, Cheryl White, Alex Mikaberidze, Roger Zhao, Lee Purvis, Felice Williams, Cory Coehoorn, Cassandra Williams, Matyas Buzgo.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Matyas Buzgo moved that minutes of the April 2021 meeting be approved. Cory Coehoorn seconded. There being no corrections, the minutes were approved.

IV. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Allen welcomed everyone back and welcomed Cheryl White and Alex Mikaberidze to the Faculty Senate, replacing Helen Wise and Claire Joa. He asked everyone to try to get students to follow protocols and everyone to look out for each other. His goals for this academic year are trying to bring back normalcy and build bridges so that we can all work together (faculty, staff, and students). He asked senators to introduce themselves through the chat. Alan reminded everyone that Senators represent the faculty and urged them to talk with their senators about their concerns and urged senators to be open to and represent faculty by listening to their needs. He also reminded everyone that the Faculty Senate is not an open forum. When Executive Committee meets the week prior to the scheduled Faculty Senate meeting, it sets the agenda for the upcoming meeting. Concerns should be brought via senators to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee so if someone wants to speak at the Faculty Senate meeting, they can be on the agenda. Otherwise, the only persons permitted to speak during the Faculty Senate meeting are faculty senators and guests of the Faculty Senate who are on the agenda. Allen complimented Erin Smith on the new website and explained how to find the senators, executive committee, and committee members on the new website.

V. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS:

Chancellor. Dr. Clark announced that administrator reports would be made by the Chancellor and Provost unless another administrator had a need to bring something to the meetings. He also offered to bring to the Senate concerns people might share with him. This is in the hope that it will help move the meetings along more efficiently. He talked about the positives that are going on noting the support of the Noel Foundation and the success of the debate team. He spoke about LSU and the new President, William Tate. He talked about Tate's strategy emphasizing scholarship and students. Tate is redoing the LSU strategic plan. Dr. Clark also discussed the Board of Supervisors' meeting at which Professor Robert Mann from LSU spoke about elimination of the Faculty Council, which was not itemized in the agenda and was not clear. The discussion was tabled. He explained that at LSUS, the Faculty Senate evolved out of the Faculty Council and both have a role on our campus. LSU is keeping open admissions, tests optional this year, which allows us to do that. That allows us to admit without ACT scores. Dr. Clark has the authority to set the mark without test scores. He has set it at 3.0 for students who choose not to test. He will not accept open admissions standards because it would not be

beneficial to students, faculty, or the campus. He welcomes the Faculty Senate's input. He announced that LSUS has about 1,000 fewer students than a year ago when we saw a spike from the pandemic. We are up a little bit from two years ago. We lost 40 because of hurricane Ida. We had others who dropped out because MBA enrollment has gone down nationally. At this point, LSU Online is not a factor. Being down 1,000 students will have a cashflow impact. We have almost doubled full-time faculty and staff over the past seven years. Priorities for hiring will still be considered, but we must be conservative. His priority is going to be new program opportunities, especially at undergraduate and Master's level.

Dr. Clark announced that mandatory testing will start September 27 for COVID for anyone who has not been vaccinated. A priority for the next year will be partnering with some entity to have a health center on campus. Testing center for now will be funded by Cares Act money. There will be a three-strike rule, where if you fail to test three times, you're out. This past week we had 1 staff, 4 face-to-face students, and 3 online students with Covid.

Dr. Clark reminded everyone that the minimum pay for staff is at least \$32,000; full-time instructors make at least \$40,000. He congratulated Erin Smith and Wendell Riley on the new website. In addition, he addressed concerns about speeding on campus and the intersection of the planned bridge to student housing. He reported that there had been 15 warnings issued through the summer and pointed out that the number has steadily declined. The bridge entry has been moved further to the west than originally planned. It will be a car and walking bridge. There may not be warnings at that point.

Provost. Helen Taylor welcomed new faculty and new senators, deans, and administrators. She thanked faculty for their hard work last year and appreciation for the publishing and research done by faculty. She noted that the spring schedule due by October 13 and asked for the priority hiring list for new faculty. There will be an LPC meeting on Friday, September 17. She and Larry have a meeting tomorrow to discuss the Impact of HR 150 to study LSUS and the LSU commitment to LSUS. She will update as info becomes available. Dr. Taylor also noted that BORSF grant training is coming up and those interested should contact Amanda Lewis.

VI. CONTINUING BUSINESS

VII. NEW BUSINESS

An update for Faculty Grievance procedure was sent out. We will vote at October meeting. Allen Garcia invited questions since Dr. Joiner, Chair of the Committee was present at the meeting. Matyas asked if the people who drafted it could highlight changed passages in the Word document for this and future drafts. He said it would be very helpful. Allen and Dr. Joiner agreed that it was a good point and he will do that. He said the Committee would be doing minor review of other policies. Matyas asked that faculty receive the regular pdf and not a scanned web version so it could be word searched. Matyas reiterated his request for the actual change and its purpose. Dr. Joiner said it has to do with when a grievance goes to a Vice Chancellor, going to step three in how it goes up the chain. Dr. Joiner said he would get the wording to the Faculty Senate by tomorrow for dissemination.

VIII. OBSERVATIONS AND CONCERNS:

Approval of new committee members.

Dr. Joiner announced that Dr. Chris Hale will take Amy Wren's at-large position on Policy & Personnel. Dr. Winter agreed to continue to serve another 3-year term. Doug Bible said he believe that had been approved in the Spring. He said that Joyce Farrow replaces Katie Chavis on Courses and Curriculum; Jason Mixon from Education will be new on the Faculty Research and Development Committee. Tracey Burrell, from Education, is new on the Library Committee. On the Student Affairs Committee, Rosie Cooper from Education is new. Kenneth Kungu, from Marketing, replaces Amy Wren on the University Hearing Panel; Gary Joiner will also be on the University Hearing Panel and Dalila Salazar, from Business, will be an alternate to replace Mary Lois White. Doug Bible made a motion to accept the and Cory Coehoorn seconded that the slate of committee members as presented and that Tim Winter's extended term on Student Affairs be accepted. The motion was approved.

IX. ADJOURNMENT: Allen reemphasized reaching out to Faculty Senators. He thanked everyone for their time. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:54 a.m.