

**LSUS FACULTY SENATE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
Thursday, November 12, 3PM
By Zoom**

Present: Doug Bible, Helen Wise, Lee Purvis, Laura McLemore, Cory Coehoorn, Adel Darrat, Allen Garcie, Brian Salvatore, Matyas Buzgo, Minsun Kim, Roger Zhao, Russ Perry, Syed Zaidi

I. Called to order: 3:03 p.m.

II. Approval of minutes: There being no corrections the minutes of the October 2020 meeting were approved as read.

III. President's report: Doug Bible reviewed items on the agenda. The Senate needs to approve nominations for alternates to the University Hearing Panel and needs to elect an at-large member to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee to replace Kevin Jones. He noted the non-renewal of the Academic Partnerships contract that has occurred since the last Planning Council Meeting and expressed his surprise and disappointment at this development. He shared the concerns expressed by Tim Shaughnessy about the potential negative impact on LSUS. Listening meetings are planned for next week and it will be on the agenda for the Planning Council meeting on October 20.

IV. Administrators' Reports

A. Chancellor—Larry Clark commented on the Tuesday event regarding the Louisiana Economic Development grant of \$1.2 million dollars, presented to us November 10. He noted that the governor was here to attend the event and see the cyber collaboratory. Six members of the LSU Board of Supervisors, Dr. Kim Hunter Reed, members of the Board of Regents, and the media were also in attendance. Governor and a representative of the state Department of Veterans Affairs answered questions on Zoom from student military and Vet Center programs. Dr. Clark expressed regret that members of the campus could not attend. The event was streamed live on social media. Governor signed a bill for \$540,000 to replace the temporary hvac system behind the Science Building. Dr. Clark credited state senator Barrow Peacock for his help. Evan Reibsome did a presentation at the Veterans Day event. Covid is a continuing concern. We were

down three cases from last week. We're at fifty-six now and will be higher towards the end of another week. He asked everyone on campus to be diligent. Academic Partnerships contract has been valuable to the campus and he understands the concerns of faculty. The state procurement law simply will not allow us to renew the contract. It's not LSU that's preventing it. It has always been the intent of the Board of Regents that all LSU entities will be on LSU Online. So, this was inevitable. In answer to a question, Dr. Clark observed that if we bid out the contract, there's no guarantee Academic Partnerships would prevail, and there's the risk that someone unqualified would become the low bidder and we would wind up in worse shape. He wanted the Academic Partnerships contract rolled over for two or three more years, but that is not possible. There was some discussion among participants on Zoom. Dr. Clark will submit faculty concerns to President Gallagin about moving from AP to LSU Online. LSU Online will be doing marketing and processing of student applications, which is what Academic Partnerships was doing. This will be on the LPC meeting agenda on Friday, so questions may be brought to that meeting also. There will also be a meeting next Thursday for people involved with Academic Partnerships. Dr. Clark ended his remarks by emphasizing the support LSUS has gotten from LSU, very different from past relationships.

B. Provost – Helen Taylor commented on the Tuesday event. She gave Gallagin information on some of the things we do here at LSUS. She thanked the Deans and Associate Deans for helping to find occupants of the Science Building temporary working space, specifically the College of Education and Human Development and Dr. Liebert, who has been working on the schedule to accommodate the move from the Science Building in the spring. She thanked faculty and staff for their cooperation and teamwork. She requested that the Faculty Senate President have the Admissions and Standards Committee look at our catalog language about SAT scores for getting credit to move into Math classes. There is a discrepancy between the LSU catalog and the LSUS catalog on that. Doug said Admissions & Standards was already working on it. Matyas said a timeline for faculty in Science Building would be very helpful. Questions ensued about plan post-Science Building remediation.

C. VP Business Affairs – Barbie Cannon reported that a timeline for the Science Building project has gone out to the Deans. She thanked her team for working on clearing out surplus equipment. We are on schedule to finish by the end of the semester. She sent the findings of the auditors regarding student accounts receivables to the Deans and Chairs. Students who have outstanding

financial obligations to the university will not be able to register in the spring. Her department is working with students in any way they can. We cannot extend credit to students by law, so if they cannot make a payment plan or pay balances outright, they will have to come up with their own plan. Auditors will be back in the spring. We are trying to move forward with projects. Most are on schedule.

D. VP Strategic Initiatives—Julie Lessiter reported that she is still working on the SACSCOC report. There will be a ribbon cutting on the Collaboratory in the future. Some grants from various departments are already in the works for using the technology there. She has been working Rhonda Failey to provide more training sessions for online learning. They are working on a new enrollment program that will make it easier for students to get enrolled.

E. Information Technology Services --Shelby Keith reported that new technology would be installed in classrooms between semesters. Scott Hardwick mentioned DocuSign training next week that will focus on creating forms. Doug Bible mentioned upcoming Moodle Training on the Gradebook. Shelby said Workday student implementation has been put on hold. The LSU system is going out to bid on a new student modernized information system. Questions from senators followed regarding the classroom technology.

V. Old Business

VI. New Business

a. Election of member at large to executive committee; non-renewal of AP contract. Doug Bible called for nomination of a member-at-large to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. Harvey Rubin nominated Aadel Darrat; Russ Perry seconded. The nomination was approved.

b. University hearing panel needs alternates. Volunteers are Cheryl White, Debra Sheppard, Cassandra Williams, Yong Dai, Mary Lois White, and the Library, which has not yet replied. Helen Wise moved to accept the nominees, second by Cory Coehoorn. All but the unfilled library slot were approved.

VIII. Observations and concerns

Helen Wise suggested that perhaps a survey should be sent out to the faculty regarding the non-renewal of the Academic Partnerships contract and forwarded to the Chancellor from the faculty. A discussion ensued. Helen Taylor made the point that the administration worked very hard to change the decision on Academic Partnerships and was not able to get the decision reversed. Russ

Perry reminded everyone that energy and effort would best be expended on what we can do rather than what we cannot control. Julie Lessiter echoed Helen Taylor's point that the administration had exhausted every possible avenue to change the situation. Doug Bible agreed to develop a survey on behalf of the Faculty Senate. Lee Purvis asked about how return from Thanksgiving would be dealt with. Bill Wolfe said no additional procedures would be implemented.

IX. Adjournment – There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura McLemore, Secretary