**LSUS FACULTY SENATE**

**Minutes of the Meeting**

**Tuesday, May 12, 2022**

**11:00 a.m.**

**Zoom**

**I. call to order 11:03 am**

**II. present:** Allen Garcie, Brian Salvatore, Doug Bible, Cory Coehoorn, Laura McLemore, Aadel Darrat, Felice Williams, Harvey Rubin, Matyas Buzgo, Minsum Kim, Syed Zaidi, Roger Zhao

**ABSENT:** Lee Purvis, Cassandra Williams, Cheryl White, Alex Mikaberidze

**III. approval of minutes:** Cory moved to accept the minutes of the March meeting; Doug Bible seconded.

**IV. president’s report:** Allen congratulatedCory for being chosen Professor of the Year. He also congratulated everyone who received awards this year and expressed appreciation for everyone who is teaching. He talked about enrollment concerns that he has heard about and has noticed himself. He encouraged everyone, who has advisees who haven’t enrolled, to urge them to do so, and he urged faculty to get out and recruit.

**V. administrators’ reports**

A. The Chancellor followed up remarks about enrollment with emphasis. He noted an article in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* about the student disengagement crisis. He remarked about what Cory is doing in the HPE building and reported about the legislative session. There is a 2% increase for faculty in current legislation. He is looking to add to that on our campus, by extending it to our unclassified staff. The state legislature has not included professional staff. He is hoping to cover the omission with LSUS funds to provide 2% for professional staff. We are down $11 million in revenue from two years ago. Dr. Clark about searches within the system, including LSU Online. Finalists will be coming to LSUS in the next few days. He reported that air handling units are being replaced in the Technology Building. It will be an eight to ten-week project. Money for the bridge to connect student housing and changing out windows in the Science building have moved forward. The walls on the second and third floor of the Science building have to be replaced and the same for the Technology building to repair design flaws. Changes affecting LSUS are that Wendell Riley is leaving to become director of the Robinson Film Center. Dr. Clark thanked him for his service. Shelley Moore is the new head of Student Recruiting, creating two vacancies in the Chancellor’s office to be filled. Brian Salvatore asked about new skin on the Science building impacting class and labs on the second and third floors. Dr. Clark doesn’t know the answer. He wants to avoid closing the Science building. Helen Taylor said the noise would be a big concern and a disruption but most of the rooms will be accessible and they would try to minimize that. Matyas asked if there were a date or timeline. Helen Taylor said no. The Chancellor said a possibility would be putting a new façade on the Science building during this project. He is also looking at possibilities for the Technology building. Brian Salvatore expressed concern for saving the stained glass which serves a specific purpose on the building.

B. Provost. Helen Taylor announced that graduation is tomorrow. There will be two ceremonies. She appealed to faculty to attend. We have new Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Success initiatives--Angie Pellerin. She will start in that position July 1. The focus will be on the important first year. Our students need more support in academics and general support managing the college experience in the first year. Dr. Taylor is looking to shore up the first year experience. She is working on a required three-year plan. New program proposals must be accompanied by a planning document required by the Board of Regents. The list of possible programs is skewed toward healthcare. Matyas said he has questions about students in co-requisite courses. Dr. Taylor asked that he email her. Cory asked about program updates from the Board of Regents. His program is in the cue, but the Board of Regents didn’t get to it. Allen Garcie asked if there was any hope for programs outside of health programs. The new requirement is for a huge amount of data about five-star job relevance. That ties our hands somewhat. We have to prove that students will come for any programs we propose. Allen Garcie said it sounds like they’re turning us into a vocational school. He noted that there are skills people need, generally speaking, that aren’t tied to a specific vocation. Helen said she agreed but we have to do a better job of explaining to students how our degrees lead to lifetime careers. She isn’t going to neglect the other areas.

**VI. continuing business:** none

**VII. new business**

**A. Election of Officers**

Allen Garcie started with at-large officers. He announced two nominations: Alex Mikaberidze and Cassandra Williams. Doug nominated Alex and Cory seconded the nomination. This election is to replace Aadel, whose term is expiring. Alex was elected. Cory nominated Cassandra Williams and Doug seconded. This election is to replace Lee Purvis who is leaving LSUS. Cassandra was elected.

Doug nominated Laura McLemore for Secretary; Cory seconded. Laura was re-elected. Cory nominated Doug Bible as Parliamentarian. Doug agreed to be nominated if no one else wanted it. Allen seconded his nomination. Doug was re-elected. Doug nominated Cory for Vice President; Matyas seconded. Cory was re-elected. Cory nominated Allen Garcie for a second term, and Doug seconded. Allen was re-elected.

Doug expressed appreciation for Allen’s service for the past year. Allen thanked everyone. Allen asked if new senators could be announced if we knew them. Doug said the new senator for Business is Amin Saleh, Cory said he is waiting for Education & Human Development and Science. For Arts & Sciences, Allen said Debbie Shepherd was elected. Allen thanked Matyas, who is running for re-election, for his service.

**B. vote on Changes to Policy Statement 2.15.00** –PS 2.15.00 has been approved by our legal counsel, but still requires Faculty Senate approval. We now have local counsel that we share with LSUHSC. He keeps office hours on campus. Doug Bible moved to approve; Cory seconded. The motion carried.

**C. Approval of members on university hearing panel -**-Recommendations for University Hearing Panel are Beverly Burden and Tim Winter. Doug Bible moved to accept these recommendations; Laura McLemore seconded. The motion was approved. Allen will send a notice to hearing panel.

**VIII. observations and concerns**

**A. Faculty Senate Webpage—**Helen Taylormentioned the possibility of a faculty webpage where faculty could ask questions or have discussions.

**B. Senate Continuing Resolution No. 6**

Brian Sherman said since this was just establishing a task force, he preferred not going on the defensive but starting to accumulate documentation for the task force on why tenure is beneficial for higher education. Allen Garcie said he thought a lot of people don’t understand tenure. There is a process for removing tenure for people who don’t do their jobs. Matyas commented on articles about teachers leaving their jobs because they are unappreciated. He pointed out that candidates are not easy to come by and maybe we should be asking whether we’re good enough to attract good people rather than whether they’re good enough for us. Allen said he didn’t think we needed to compose a resolution because it takes time to do that. Endorsing LSU’s resolution is an alternative. Helen Taylor said she thought supporting the LSU Faculty statement would be good but making our own statement would weaken both their statement and ours because we’re part of the LSU system. Matyas said we needed to start thinking about how we protect ourselves from what is decided in Baton Rouge. Allen said the System meetings are open for anyone who wants to go to Baton Rouge. Matyas said maybe a motion for the fall would be for our president to attend the meetings and report. Matyas moved to endorse the LSU resolution and Doug Bible seconded. The Senate then voted to endorse the resolution from LSU.

Allen encouraged everyone to attend graduation and look forward to next year.

**ix. adjournment:** There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at12:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura McLemore, Secretary