

**LSUS FACULTY SENATE  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OCTOBER 10, 2023  
11:00 A.M.  
Webster Room—University Center**

- I. CALL TO ORDER** 11:01 a.m. President Williams called the meeting to order.
- II. PRESENT:** Senator Salvatore, Senator Yeh, Senator Kim, Senator Cassandra Williams, Senator Shi Chen, Senator Mikaberidze, Senator White, Senator Gifford, Senator Felice Williams, Senator Zaidi, Senator Garcie; **ABSENT:** Senator Johnson, Senator Noor, Senator Saleh. A quorum was present.
- III. COMMENTS:** President Williams opened the floor for comments from non-senators, who signed up to comment, under prescribed time limits. Dr. D’Mello commented on denial of tenure. A question was raised about the requirement to be present to comment. Brief discussion ensued. Per parliamentary procedure, only those present in the room may comment or vote. President Cassandra Williams asked for roll to be taken and asked senators to introduce themselves.
- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Senator Salvatore challenged the minutes of the September 11, 2023, faculty senate meeting. In the absence of an official secretary, Senator Gifford moved to table approval of the minutes until a new secretary could be elected. Motion seconded and approved.
- V. PRESIDENT’S REPORT:** President Williams addressed the confusion surrounding tenure and the need for a clarification of the procedure. The Parliamentarian pointed out that the issue was on the agenda under Observations & Concerns and should be deferred to that item.
- V. ADMINISTRATORS’ REPORTS**
- Chancellor:** Kim Ramsey delivered the chancellor’s report in the absence of Chancellor Smith. The report noted that enrollment continues to grow, LSUS has been cited for highest economic and mobility ranking in Louisiana, the food pantry has been recognized for its success, ADA compliant evacuation equipment and emergency software has been purchased and is being installed.
- Provost:** No report
- VI. NEW BUSINESS:** Parliamentarian Garcie called for nominations for secretary. Senator Salvatore self-nominated. A discussion took place regarding the use of secret ballots. Per the advice of counsel, the election must be open.<sup>1</sup> The Parliamentarian called for a second to Senator Salvatore’s nomination. There being no second, the nomination failed. Parliamentarian Garcie moved to table the election of Secretary until the November meeting. The motion was seconded and approved.

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<sup>1</sup> The Senate By-Laws, Art. VI, calls for election by secret ballot. Therefore, the language of Art. VI will need to be amended.

## **VII. CONTINUING BUSINESS**

The Policy & Personnel committee is overseeing election of standing committee members and expects that committee appointments will be completed by the end of October. Parliamentarian Garcie moved that the Policy & Personnel Committee be charged with overseeing the election of standing committee members. The Parliamentarian then explained the need for this motion and the procedure that would be followed by the committee. Having been moved and seconded, the motion was approved.

## **VIII. OBSERVATIONS & CONCERNS**

The examination of the current tenure promotion schedule and requirements was discussed. A handout was provided by Senator Salvatore, who provided an explanation involving discrepancies between tenure and promotion policy and practice that had adversely affected a faculty member. Senator Garcie asked whether an investigation had been conducted. Questions and discussion ensued. A suggestion was made to refer the matter to the Policy & Personnel Committee to review the difference between the process and the policy currently in place to make sure that faculty going for policy and promotion in the future do not have similar experiences. It will be brought up at the next meeting.

Parliamentarian Garcie returned to approval of the minutes of the September meeting. It was decided to postpone the approval of the September meeting minutes until a secretary is elected.

Senator Salvatore interrupted to express his opinion about the administration. Senator Garcie related that he attended a meeting about open meeting laws. Based on that meeting, he has sent the constitution and by-laws of the LSUS Faculty Senate to the LSUS attorney for review and urged the faculty senate to work with legal counsel to make needed changes to ensure the senate is operating within the current policies for the benefit of all. Senator Salvatore continued to review his complaints about open meetings past and present until it evolved into complaints beyond the faculty senate's purview. President Williams then tabled the discussion.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved and the meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura McLemore, ex officio