

**LSU Health**  
NEW ORLEANS  
FACULTY SENATE

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday February 11, 2025**  
**3:30pm-5:00pm, CSRB-563**

**Those present included:**

Allied Health - Luther Gill, Brittany Hall, Megan Majoue, Brandon Walker, Amber Weydert  
Dentistry - Diedra Brewer-Hohensee, Thomas Lallier, Molly Rosebush, Charles Taylor  
Medicine - Suresh Alahari, Allison Augustus-Wallace, Jennifer Cameron (also proxy for Sonia Gasprini SOGS), Jennifer Hart, Sanjay Kamboj, Michelle Korah-Sedgwick, Brian Lochlann McGee, Maria Reinoso  
Nursing - Jolie Harris (also proxy for Laura Bonanno), Sam Mauldin (also proxy for Jessica Teeter)  
Public Health - Chih-yang Hu (also proxy for Mei-Chin Hsieh), Susanne Straif-Bourgeois (also proxy for Henry Nuss), Tung-Sung Tseng  
Library – Sharon Duffy  
Ex-Officio - Rebecca Bealer, Aimme McCauley  
Absent: Andrew Catling (SOGS), Shelly Dolan (SON), A.C. Liles (SOD)

**Welcome and call to order by President Lallier at 3:32PM**

In accordance with the Louisiana Constitution, Article 12, Section 3, and La. R.S. 42:11-28, the Faculty Senate Meeting for the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center – New Orleans is hereby convened.

**Administrative Updates**

**Dr Steve Nelson - *Chancellor***

**NIH Funding Concerns**

- Made assurances there is no reason to worry at this time
- Could mean \$8-10M impact but not as significant as other institutions
- With temporary restraining order in place at this time, everything should be operating the same
- Our indirect costs have increased recently to 45-50%
- LA is not part of the lawsuit filed by 22 states but the outcome will apply to all 50 states

Follow-up from Ben Lousteau after the meeting:

There was a question about whether the lawsuit governing the **reduction in indirect costs from NIH to 15%** required our state to be a signatory.

The halt is nationwide and was brought by the AAMC, of which we are obviously a member.

Can you please share this article with the faculty senate. [AAMC Lawsuit Results in Nationwide Temporary Restraining Order on Proposed Drastic Cuts to NIH Funding | AAMC](#)

**DEI Activities**

- It was a Board of Supervisors directive to all LSU institutions to remove DEI activities and we are complying.

**Parking**

- Parking lots should be returned to LSUHSC by February 22

**Budget**

- Waiting on the Governor's budget; should not be greatly changed

- Expects monies to be available for merit raises
- Costs approximately \$25M for equity and merit raises; mostly self-funded with only \$4M from state

#### MEB, CALS, Dental Renovations

- All projects are done with a combination of state and institution money
- Dental projects may cost up to \$80 and are important upgrades to the state's only dental school

#### IRB Update

- The infrastructure of the department is being rebuilt and reorganized
- Hired an outside attorney with extensive experience with the FDA to lead the effort
- Asks for patience as they catch up on the backlog

#### Center for Excellence in Education

- Drs Porche and Dugan are leading this project
- Will create training and resources for all educators
- This is an important priority since we are a
- teaching institution.

Dr Nelson expressed his thanks and appreciation for everyone's assistance with the many visitors the site has been hosting lately. He is working to raise the profile of the institution with government leaders.

### **Jill Fragoso and Jane Behlan – *Director and Asst Director of Human Resources***

#### Evaluations

- Deadline for Faculty evaluations has been extended to March 10
- Deadline for Unclassified employees is still March 3
- This is the last year for this format of evaluations. Next year it will be through a new platform, PageUp, that is replacing PeopleAdmin. PageUp will be used for other processes such as onboarding new hires. It will allow for more integration and less tedious work than the existing system.
- Ratings of 3 do not require any comments; however comments are encouraged
- Questions about definitions of terms used in evaluation forms:
  - Deans were part of the process of creating the forms so they are the best source for school-specific definitions

Follow-up from Jill Fragoso after the meeting is attached.

### **Approval of December 2024 meeting minutes**

Minutes approved in motion by Sen Kamboj, Second by Sen. McGee

### **President's Report - (Pres. Lallier)**

#### **Items Discussed with VCAA**

- **SACS Update (Dr. Southerland)**
  - Site Visit March 24-27<sup>th</sup>
  - Awaiting notification of SACS of Schedule of who is meeting when
  - Likely to have some Senate members meet with SACS committee
- **New CMs – None this month**
- **New Academic Policies (AAC) - available on VCAA Website**  
[AA Policies](https://www.lsuhsu.edu/administration/academic/aapolicies.aspx) (https://www.lsuhsu.edu/administration/academic/aapolicies.aspx)
  - Approved at AA-14: Faculty Handbook Revision Policy - Posted

- Approved New Program – DS - MSD, Orofacial Pain concentration
- Approved AA Policies
  - ♣ AA-15: Annual Review of Off-Campus Instructional Sites - Manalla
  - ♣ Academic Calendars – Garrity
  - ♣ Incomplete Grades – Garrity
  - ♣ Resignations – Garrity
  - ♣ Retroactive Enrollment Appeals – Garrity
- Items NOT discussed this meeting:
  - ♣ SON AI Policy in progress
  - ♣ Student treatment by Faculty Policy – going to Medicine first
  - ♣ Student Accommodations – Dedicated space and staff needed
- **Faculty Handbook**
  - Final Recommendation sent to Dr. Southerland
  - Tentative approval by VCAA
  - Goes to Council of Deans next
- **Changes to PM-23 - New Instruction Track**
  - Draft from Vice-Provost
    - ♣ Instruction Track Added
    - ♣ Research and clinical faculty enfranchisement
    - ♣ Post-doc still questions
      - VCAA states that PostDocs are NOT faculty
      - will discuss with Provost for possible PM-23 amendment
  - Plan a meeting with Nelson to discuss implementation
- **Faculty CV changes**
  - Now on VCAA website
- **Faculty Promotions Changes** - No Meeting the past 3 months
- **Moodle Progress** – Moving Forward –
  - Ken Boe notified us that the contract has been signed; plans webinars to train faculty about new support
  - No LSU Hosting or Update (Old version in current use).
  - \$100K for LSU support only
  - VCAA will bring to Provost the need for all LSU School sot be on the newest version of Moodle and to have similar support
- **Office of Research Services – VCAA Report**
  - Dr Southerland did not attend the meeting so no update was provided from her
- **Items from Handbook Committee NOT in Revisions**
  - Faculty Appeals of Annual Faculty Evaluations (CM-43 revision)
  - Status of PostDocs (VCAA working on this (above))
  - Workplace Violence
  - Need to define Academic Misconduct that is NOT Research Misconduct

### **Report from Board of Supervisors – Senator Kamboj**

No report. Next meeting is February 21, 2025.

### **Old Business**

None

## **New Business**

GraphPad Prism Software

From Sen. Alahari – would like it provided to all in similar way to EndNote; needs to be asked to Ken Boe and IT department

Followup from Ken Boe after meeting: He is working to get licensing information for it.

FTE Calculator – School of Public Health is starting to utilize a FTE calculator and asked if other schools have one

- No other schools are currently using one.
- Dentistry had used one previously but data was never utilized.
- SOPH plans to look at annual and semester time ranges in both prospective and retrospective analyses

Student recruitment efforts

- Inquiry if the institution is making efforts to recruit new students on a broad scale
- MaryKay Thevis, Communications Director, is starting to coordinate this type of effort

IRB

- Concerns about status of IRB office were raised
- Senators expressed concerns about long waiting periods for reviews and uncertain if renewals will be completed in time to keep studies active
- Dr Southerland was not present to address these concerns
- Dr Nelson has asked for patience while the office rebuilds

QEP Status

- Inquiry about when QEP will be rolled out
- In Exec meeting, Dr Southerland said it is ready and awaiting rollout
- All need to be familiar with it prior to SACS visit in March
- President Lallier has received it and will share it with the Senate; It is available on the SACSCOC webpage  
<https://www.lsuhsu.edu/regionalaccreditation/QEP%20Be%20Well.pdf>

Follow-up to Workplace Violence item from Handbook Committee

- Sen McCauley suggested a motion to create a workgroup to create a Workplace Violence policy for the Faculty Handbook. Sen Kamboj made the motion. There was no second on the motion.
- It will be added to agenda next month to discuss and determine if a workgroup is needed.

## **Reports from Assemblies**

Allied Health

- Strategic Plan Approved by SAHP Administrative Council.
- Faculty Assembly Task Forces
  - Promotion and Tenure
  - Course Evaluations
  - Duplication of Courses
- FTE Calculator

#### Dentistry

- Faculty Assembly meets next week

#### Graduate Studies

No report

#### Medicine

- Policies were approved at last Assembly meeting in preparation for LCME accreditation
- Dr Taylor attended the meeting and shared new Promotion & Tenure guidelines including position titles; unclear if they will align with revised PM-23

#### Nursing

- Strategic plan has been approved and organizational documents now align with the new mission
- AI policy was approved and will be used in development of sitewide policy; can be shared with other schools to review

#### Public Health

- Is experiencing a lot of uncertainty with CDC and FDA databases going offline last week
- Some data has returned; some data has been modified; some data may not return
- 360 evaluation process is getting started to give faculty opportunity to provide feedback about administration

#### Library

- New subscription for analyzing journals and identifying predatory journals now available – Cabells Journalytics Medicine and Predatory Reports. Look for upcoming Library classes to learn more.
  - New transformative agreements with three publishers - Elsevier, Radiological Society of North America, and American Chemical Society.
  - February Classes:
    - Endnote 21 – Wed Feb 12 at noon
    - What's New with Journal Subscriptions and Open Access Fee Waivers – Wed Feb 26 at noon
    - Research Poster Basics – Wed Feb 26 at noon
- All classes are via zoom and in person in the Library.

**Adjourn at 5:08**