



**Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
December 2, 2024
Noon to 1:00 p.m.
Room A-126 or Zoom**

Senators Present: Angela Greaud, Kathleen Warner, Gloria Parrino, Summer Ford, Rob Jones, Leonor Gonzales, Elizabeth Vidrine, Rachelle Brown, Lisa LaFleur, Bridget Thibodeaux, Mike Wyble, David Ashbury, Kina Sweet, Laurie Seeder, Mary-Kate Cooligan (proxy for Cassie Jobe-Ganucheau – library)

Senators Absent: None

Administrative Council Representative: Paul Fowler

Staff Senate Representative: none

Student Government Association Representative: none

Administration: Nancee Sorenson, John Hamlin, Donnie Thibodeaux, Billy Fontenot

Guests: Nikki May, , Kaitlyn Owen, Angela Sonnier, Symantha Jones, Renee Guillory, Mae Simoneaux, Jill Perrin, Brandon Borill, Doug Narby, Elisabeth Monk, Maura Cavell

I. Roll Call

The Faculty Senate meeting was called to order at 12:02 pm on Monday, December 2, 2024, by Rachelle Brown, Faculty Senate Chair

II. Adoption of Minutes

Kina Sweet moved to accept the minutes from November 4, 2024. Rob Jones seconded the motion.

III. Chairperson's Reports

- A. We haven't had a town hall yet this semester. It was decided to wait until Convocation Week in the Spring to have the Town Hall. Graduation is Friday, December 20. Rob Jones will fill in for Rachelle Brown.
- B. Dr. Sorenson said that she is open to ideas to adjust the schedule for Convocation Week. The Board will be meeting on Thursday and the engineering study and rendering of the STEAM Center will be presented. The Primate Center will have a formal proposal go back to LSU after the first of the year. The goal is to have it approved and moved to the Board. The graduation speaker will be Speaker of the House, Phillip Devillier.
Dr. Hamlin stated that C&C met and will be going over four certificates to go to the Board in the Spring. Next Board meeting, LSUE will be asking that a posthumous degree be offered for the student that passed away a couple of weeks ago. The Bridge program has better completion than last year and will have a handoff ceremony on December 16. We will continue with the students who were not successful in the Spring. One of the Bridge students changed their mind and decided to stay at LSUE in rad tech instead of moving on to Baton Rouge. CIT has an interview for a new faculty member today. The math

and chemistry positions have been readvertised with a higher starting salary since we were able to bring everyone's base salary up.

Dr. Fowler will be sending out student achievement metrics to cabinet to be approved by January at which time they will be posted.

- C. SGA – Gabriel was not here, but Rachelle reported that SGA is working to create a stress-free decompress room for each building during Final Exam Week.
- D. Library – Mary Kate Colligan reported that the library is busy with tutoring in preparation for Final Exams and that the library will have extended hours during Final Exam week: Monday – Wednesday will be open until 10:30, Thursday will be open to 7:30, and Friday will close during normal hours at 4:30.

IV. Committee Reports

- A. Policy Committee – we need to check on who are the members. This should have been decided at the division meetings at the beginning of the semester.
- B. Course & Curriculum – David Ashbury is the chair. The first meeting will be tomorrow at 12:30. Four certificates will be discussed.
- C. Retention Subcommittee – will shoot to get revamped in the Spring with the focus on a Center for Teaching and Learning
- D. Teacher Excellence Subcommittee – The Teacher Excellence requirements have been posted in Teams for senators to review. Hoping to start in January to discuss the requirements, what the membership should look like, and how to select the candidates
- E. Faculty-Work-Life Subcommittee – An informational survey was created to see where to our direct efforts in Faculty Senate. The committee is asking senators to review questions and send feedback to any of the committee members (Summer Ford, Bridget Thibodeaux, Liz Vidrine, Leonor Gonzales). The file is Faculty Work-Life Balance Survey.pdf and is located in the General Files folder on the Faculty Senate Teams. The committee would like to send the survey out to faculty during convocation week.

V. Old Business

- A. Rachelle will write up a resolution for Faculty Senate Chair overage compensation and have it to present to Faculty Senate during the February meeting.
- B. Dr. Sorenson will get with Dr. Hamlin and Audwin to get something together for February to present on the resolution for Summer and Overload pay increase.

VI. New Business

- A. “Meauxmentum Scholars” Professional Development – Rob Jones, Summer Ford, and Bridget Thibodeaux will lead Faculty Learning Communities in the Spring open to all faculty. There are three different communities: 1. The First Five Minutes of Class, 2. The Last Five Minutes of Class, and 3. Hitting Pause. Participants will be given *Small Teaching: Everyday Lessons from the Science of Learning* to read and discuss, and will be expected to spend about 8 hours a month on readings and activities. Lunch will be provided to participants.
- B. Faculty Senators are asking that Convocation Week be condensed into two days to allow more time for advising and class preparation. They are asking that Faculty Council and the Academic Affairs Update be combined since it is often a lot of repeated information.

VII. Bengal Brags

The book with Maura Cavell's poetry just came out.

Laurie Seeder motioned to adjourn the meeting. Angela Greaud seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Parrino, Secretary of Faculty Senate 2024-25.