

LSU Agriculture Faculty Council Meeting
9:30 AM, Friday September 23, 2022
Room 212 Efferson Hall



Call to Order

Dr. Matt Lee, Interim Vice President of Agriculture/Dean, College of Agriculture (9:30-10:00)

1. Important Updates and Information
2. Submitted questions by email
 - a. Has a decision been made on naming directors/leaders for research and extension within the AgCenter and where will Regional Director positions be in this structure from an “answer to” standpoint. (At the August meeting, Dr. Lee expressed “surprise” that that a model/structure was not in place within the organization.)
 - b. Majority of COA faculty have an appointment with AgCenter; however, the TAM department only has one faculty member with an AgCenter appointment. We mentioned getting AgCenter appointment to Dr. Lee when he visited us in August. Is it possible to get more information about this?
 - c. The A&M campus has a provost travel grant to support faculty traveling to conferences; is there any similar travel grant for AgCenter faculty?

Invited Guests (Will Participate In-Person or Remotely)

1. **Ashley Gautreaux**-Assistant Vice President, Human Resource Management, LSU AgCenter
 - a. *Reminder:* Please be sure to complete the four annual mandatory trainings listed in the original email sent April 11, 2022. Employees of all campuses must complete the new power-based training for their campus no later than **September 30, 2022** and the other trainings are due no later than December 31.
 - b. *Other Updates*
2. **Fred Piazza**-CIO, LSU AgCenter
 - a. Update on CMS Development
 - b. AgCenter transition to a TEAMS phone system
 - c. Other Utilities and Functionality Updates

Organizational Matters

1. AFC Website Build-out & Content Update
URL: <http://faculty.lsu.edu/underconstruction/ag-faculty-council> (Rich Vlosky)
2. Elections for members rotating off at the end of 2022.

Old Business

1. August 19, 2022 meeting minutes approval

Reports

1. **Diversity Council**-Mark Schafer

2. **Council of Faculty Advisors Report- September 8, 2022**

- 1) First, the faculty wish to thank Chairperson Starnes and welcome chairperson Jones. Faculty look forward to continued outreach from the Board of Supervisors to faculty across the system.
- 2) The LSU Agricultural Center and College of Agriculture faculty welcome Dr. Matt Lee as interim VP of Agriculture and Dean of the College of Agriculture.
- 3) The faculty of LSU A&M express concerns about parking restrictions associated with sports events. While advance notice is given, faculty and staff are prevented from accessing parking. This interferes with research and teaching activities. The faculty request that faculty be given priority parking as necessary to continue their work. Notably, the LSU A&M campus has some of the highest parking fees in the SEC.
- 4) The faculty once again renew their request for a report on the investigation of system pay disparities. At last report, a commercial entity was hired to complete an investigation and results were to be available last spring. Faculty request information on the findings.
- 5) Faculty are once again requesting that the graduate student tuition remission be reconsidered. The practice of “taxing” student stipends supported by external funding is counterintuitive and questionable. That is, those who secure funding to pay graduate student stipends are compelled to pay an additional nearly 40% to our LSU. The practice is not well explained, uniformly applied, nor accountable in that there is no reporting of where the funds go. Faculty request that the practice be reconsidered and revised to support competitive graduate student stipends and our research mission. Further, those who pay the “tax” want individual statements that include totals of their payments and annual reports of the cumulative funds and their distribution.
- 6) LSU Health New Orleans 15 faculty and 15 staff members will receive a Chancellor’s excellence award at a townhall meeting on September 21st.

Announcements

1. Reminder: Future Agricultural Faculty Council Meeting Dates-2022
October 21
November 18
December 16

Discussion Items

New Business

Search Committee for permanent Vice President of Agriculture/Dean, College of Agriculture

Chair: Paul Coreil, LSUA Chancellor

Search Firm: Greenwood/Asher & Associates

Members:

Paul Coreil, LSUA Chancellor (Chair)

Allen Rutherford, Director, School of Renewable Natural Resources

Lawrence Datnoff / Department Head / Plant Pathology and Crop Physiology

Melissa Cater / Director - Northeast Regional – AgCenter

Richard Vlosky, Chair, LSU Agricultural Faculty Council/Director, Louisiana Forestry Products Development Center

Oliver Garden, Dean School of Veterinary Medicine

Rex Caffey, Director - Center for Natural Resource Economics and Policy and Director, Marine Extension, Louisiana Sea Grant

Cathleen Williams, Professor of Animal Science

Gina Eubanks, AVP Nutrition and Food Science

Todd Tarifa, Head of 4H Youth Development

Buck Vandersteen, Executive Director, Louisiana Forestry Association

Ronnie Anderson, Farm Bureau

Jim Simon, Sugar Cane League

Klein Kirby, A. Wilbert's Sons

Richard Fontenot, Chair, Louisiana Rice Research Board

Bobby Skeen, Louisiana Cotton & Grain Association

Next Meeting Friday, October 21, 2022

Adjourn