

**LSU Agriculture Faculty Council Meeting-Agenda**  
**9:30 AM, Friday August 18, 2023**  
**Room 212, J. Efferson Hall**



**Call to Order**

**Invited Guests**

**Dr. Matt Lee**, Vice President of Agriculture/Dean, College of Agriculture

1. Administrative/Legislative Update
2. Global Network Update?
3. Unit Head Performance Review Instrument
4. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Activities-Structure
5. Questions:
  - a. Is Agriculture the only Pentagon Priority for which President Tate is touring other University programs around the nation for comparison to LSU?
    - i. If not, just curious as to why would Agriculture be singled out when Dr. Lee has mentioned that in comparison to other departments/areas on campus, the AgCenter/College of Agriculture are among the leaders or are leaders in terms of research metrics and extension outreach?

**Dr. Mike Salassi**, Executive Associate VP and Director for the La. Agricultural Experiment Station  
(Notes Provided)

1. Legislative Funding for Research Station Equipment: \$11 million – working to allocate funds to research stations and process equipment orders.
2. LAES Faculty Positions:
  - a. Animal Scientist – Dean Lee – Dr. Marcelo Vedovatto – started July 2023
  - b. Animal Scientist – Hill Farm – Dr. Matheus Ferreira – will start Oct-Dec, 2023
  - a. Central Regional Director – Dr. Daniel Stevenson – started Aug 1 2023
  - b. Sugarcane Pathologist – Dr. Andre Gama – started Aug 1 2023
  - c. Weed scientist (SPESS) – Dr. Prashant Jha – will start Sept 2023
3. LAES Events:
  - a. Thursday, Aug. 31 – Sweet Potato Field Day, Black Gold Farms, Delhi, LA
  - b. Thursday, Sept. 14 – Central Region Beef & Forage Field Day, Dean Lee Station
  - c. Thursday, Sept. 21 – Northeast Region Beef & Forage Field Day

**Dr. Tara Smith**, Executive Associate VP and Director for the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service

**Ashley Gautreaux**, Assistant Vice President; Department, Human Resource Management

1. PS-42
2. Policy project update

**Dr. Fred Piazza**, Chief Information Officer, LSU AgCenter (Notes Provided)

1. A new hardware acquisition process will be put in place within the next few weeks to help the AgCenter comply with LSU System policy (PM-36). This process will be very similar to the existing Software Acquisition process and will include a catalog of pre-approved items that users can choose to get immediate authorization for acquisition.
2. LSU A&M has recently released a series of new IT policies approved by President Tate. These policies have an impact on AgCenter personnel that work on campus, particularly joint appointments with LSU A&M. These new policies can be found here: [IT Policies | LSU Information Technology Services](#). The AgCenter will be developing new policies over the next year that will similarly address the requirements of PM-36 and Internal Audit. Hopefully these new AgCenter policies will be more streamlined and fewer in number than those implemented at LSU A&M.

### **Organizational Matters**

1. New Member Elections will take place in September (2024-2026 term) by Chair Rich Vlosky.
2. Need to elect Chair, Vice-Chair Election for 2024.
3. Council of Faculty Advisors Member/LSU Board of Supervisors Meeting Attendance-How best to meet our obligations?

### **Old Business**

1. Motion to accept the minutes from the July 14, 2023 LSU AFC meeting.

### **Reports**

### **New Business**

### **Remaining 2023 Meeting Dates**

January 20  
February 17  
March 17  
~~April 21~~ (Cancelled)  
May 26  
June 16

July 14  
August 18  
September 15  
October 20  
November 17

**December 13 8:00 a.m.-  
10:00 a.m. (Current and  
New Members)**

### **Adjourn**