

LSU Agriculture Faculty Council Meeting-*Agenda*
9:30 AM, Friday, November 15, 2024
Room 212, J. Efferson Hall



Call to Order

Attendance

In-person

Online

Absent

Invited Guests

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

1. **Updates**-VP/Dean Lee provided an AgCenter update to all stakeholders and faculty on November 7, 2024. Any input or questions from Ag Faculty Council stakeholders have been received after this update or are not reflected in Dr. Lee's report. His report was:

In lieu of a livestream as a statewide update for this quarter, today I write simply to share a variety of developments illustrating the continued vitality and impact of the LSU AgCenter and College of Agriculture. Fall undergraduate enrollments in the college now exceed 1,600 majors, a 20% increase from 2018. During that same time frame, the relative increase in our graduation rate was 11.5%, placing us well ahead of the average for the university. College of Ag Alumni Association memberships have grown by 28% over just the past year. More students, graduating them more quickly and increasing engagement with our alumni base is what I call **winning**.

The impact of extension and college programming continues to accelerate. The second annual [Louisiana Homesteaders Conference](#) at Red River Research Station attracted approximately 1,500 attendees. Our [FFA students](#) recently achieved several top awards in extremely competitive events at their national convention. [Dr. Carl Motsenbocker's innovative horticulture course](#) has students growing fresh food and donating 750 pounds to the student food pantry. The diversity of ways in which we deeply impact the lives of community members, youth and college students through core extension and college activities is astounding.

Research expenditures from the end of October indicate a 9.9% year-over-year increase, while new grant awards are up 13%. Vinson Doyle recently co-authored a paper on "ant agriculture" in *Science*, one of the most prestigious scholarly journals in the world. That is **winning** at the most elite level and just one of many examples of the exceptional scholarly work our faculty conduct.

On the horizon are some truly spectacular prospects for growing the research program even further. One example is a proposal for up to \$50 million to expand ag tech related broadband capacity across the state, simultaneously enabling producer engagement and research. In addition, Dr. Carol Friedland and her team at LaHouse are preparing a National Science Foundation Engines program proposal to compete for up to \$160 million! These are projects of a scale far beyond what we have stewarded in the past, and this is the level at which we will have to **win** to achieve our goal of being a top 10 ranked agricultural organization.

To further amplify this momentum, we are deep into a strategic planning process that will provide a road map for excelling in research, extension and learning. If you have not already weighed in, you will be asked to in the coming weeks. The framework is shaping up nicely, and the theme of **Louisiana Solutions, Global Impacts** has a little something for all of us in this organization as we collectively seek to **win** for Louisiana!

While the accomplishments above are impressive, they are but a small sampling of the relentless stream of good news we accrue every day. I could easily have delineated 20 other accolades, such as Dr. Neils de Hoop and Dr. Kristin Stair being recognized as fellows by their national organizations, the Textile and Costume Museum receiving an award for a recent exhibit, or Dr. Sunghun Lim being elected to the executive board of the International Agricultural Trade Research Consortium. Across this entire organization, you all are posting new accomplishments daily.

I am extremely thankful for everyone in the AgCenter and the College of Ag. You inspire me with your commitment, your hard work and your passion to excel. You are advancing our mission, and you are attracting even more new talent to the organization. Our students and stakeholders are lucky to have you working on their behalf, and for me it is a privilege to work with you all. Thank you for all you do. You are truly **winning in Louisiana, for the world!**

2. Stakeholder Questions

1. Did the Ag Faculty Council conduct a unit head evaluation survey this year? Will results be provided to the faculty as in years past?
2. This year, it appears that for the non-AFC evaluation (for 2023 performance), one department head had a sub-standard evaluation. In this case, the VP visited with the faculty regarding their concerns and as a result the head was placed on probation. The complaint originated from a department faculty member.
3. The question is: Why aren't Regional Directors afforded the same level of input, consideration, and potential outcomes from their faculty members?

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

1. Policy updates
2. Other

Dr. Mike Salassi, Exec. Assoc. Vice President & Director LAES Administration

Dr. Tara Smith, Exec. Assoc. Vice President & Director LCES (No Updates)

Dr. Fred Piazza, Chief Information Officer (No Updates)

Old Business

1. Council of Faculty Advisors/Board of Supervisors report (Kevin McCarter)

New Business

1. Denis Burns has resigned. Options to serve out term: Election now, postpone election until January 2025.
2. Since there is no AgCenter Annual Meeting, Motion to move last meeting to December 20, 2024?
3. New Chair, Carol Friedland, rotates of at the end of 2025. Continuity issues.
4. Need to elect/appoint Vice-Chair, and Executive Secretary for 2025
5. Membership Post-Election 2025-2027

	Rank	Position	Primary Appt.	Location	Term Exp.	Unit/Department/Parish
Burns, Dennis**	Full	Agent	Extension	Off-campus	2025	RESIGNED - NEED TO FILL POSITION
Dunaway, Chris	Assistant	Agent	Extension	Off-Campus	2025	ANR/Jefferson Parish
Friedland, Carol (Chair)	Full/Associate	Associate Professor	Research	On-Campus	2025	Louisiana House-BAE
Garner, Bruce	Associate	Agent	Extension	Off-campus	2025	NE Region, W. Carroll and Morehouse Parishes
Shields, Sara	Full	Agent	Extension	Off-campus	2025	Central Region
Miller, Maddox	Associate	Agent	Extension	Off-Campus	2025	Lafayette Parish
Mamp, Michael	Full/Associate	Associate Professor	Research	On-Campus	2025	Textiles, Apparel Design, and Merch.
Moreira, Vinicius	Full/Associate	Full Professor	Research	On-Campus	2025	Animal Sciences
Schafer, Mark	Full/Associate	Full Professor	Research	On-Campus	2025	Ag Economics & Agribusiness

Arayna, Kayanush (Kai)	Full/Associate	Full Professor	Research	On-Campus	2026	Nutrition & Food Science
Gautreaux, Becky	Full/Associate	Agent	Extension	Off-campus	2026	Parish Chair, Lafourche Parish
Husseneder, Claudia	Full/Associate	Full Professor	Research	On-Campus	2026	Entomology
McCarter, Kevin	Full/Associate	Associate Professor	Research	On-Campus	2026	Experimental Statistics
Newsome, Brittney	Associate	Agent	Extension	Off-campus	2026	NE Region; Richland & West Carroll
Burnett, Michael***	Full/Associate	Full Professor		On-Campus	2026	Ag & Extension, Education, and Evaluation
Wolfe, Brett	Assistant	Assistant Professor	Research	On-Campus	2026	Renewable Natural Resources
Afton, William	Associate	Agent	Extension	Off-campus	2027	St. Tammany Parish
Aita, Giovanna	Full	Prof	Research	Off-campus	Audubon Sugar Institute	
Duhon, Jennifer	Associate	Agent	Extension	Off-Campus	2027	Rapides & Avoyelles Parishes
Lutz, Greg	Full/Associate	Full Professor	Research	On-Campus	2027	Renewable Natural Resources
Miller, Donnie	Full	Prof	Research	Off-campus	2027	Northeast Research Station
Prashant, Jha	Full/Associate	Full Professor	Research	On-Campus	2027	Plant, Environmental, & Soil Sciences
Richards, Jonathan	Full/Associate	Associate Professor	Research	On-Campus	2027	Plant Pathology and Crop Physiology
Vlosky, Richard	Past-Chair	Full Professor	Research	On-Campus		Renewable Natural Resources

2024 Meeting Dates

~~January 19~~
~~February 16~~
~~March 22~~
~~April 19~~
~~May 10~~

June 14
 July 19
 August 23
 September 13
 October 18

November 15
**** December 20**
(Current and New Members)

Adjourn