

**LSU Agricultural Center
Faculty Council Meeting
October 21, 2011
Sullivan Conference Room
9:30 a.m.**



Members Present: Joan Almond, Lisa Benoit, Quincy Cheek , Wayne M. Gauthier, Allen Hogan, Clayton Hollier, Joan King, Robin Landry, Nikki LeMaire, Ken McMillin, Ross Pruitt, Johnny Saichuk, Ed Twidwell, Richard Vlosky, and John Westra.

Members Absent:

Proxies: Joan Almond for Dianne Glasgow, Quincy Cheek for Sharman Charles, Wayne Gauthier for Natalie Hummel, Ken McMillin for Jeff Hoy, Allen Hogan for Boyd Padgett, and Rich Vlosky for Hallie Dozier

Guests: Natalie Levy

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of both the August 16, 2011 and September 2011 meetings were approved with the corrections submitted by Dr. Fred Piazza and Dr. Lakshman Velupillai.

HIGHLIGHTS

- . **Graduate Students Assigned to “Shadow” Chancellor (1)**
- . **Future Actions Awaiting December Meeting of Revenue Estimating Committee (2)**
- . **Possible Changes Coming to Louisiana’s Higher Education System (3)**
- . **LSU System Tenure Rules Better for Faculty Than University of La. Tenure Rules (3)**
- . **Clarification of LSU Agricultural Center’s “Support” For LSU-BR’s Flagship Agenda (4)**
- . **Status of Food and Animal Sciences Complex Building Project (5, 6)**
- . **Chancellor Interacting with Legislators (7, 9)**
- . **Pennington Biomedical Also Hurting Financially (8)**
- . **One Lobbyist Under Contract to Two Louisiana Agricultural Institutions (9)**
- . **Permission to Lease Iberia Research Station Being Sought From Board of Supervisors (10)**
- . **LSU-BR Wants LSU Agricultural Center to Pay Graduate Student Tuition (11)**
- . **BOS Decisions Needed Regarding Intellectual Property Rights and Land Section (12)**
- . **Numbers and Issues Associated with Faculty Council Elections (13, 14, 15)**
- . **Amendment to Provide for Earlier Voting Approved (15)**

- . **Status Report on Oversight Committee Activities, Related Questions and Requests (16-22)**
- . **Nomination of individuals for 2011-12 Tenure & Promotion Committee (22)**
- . **Process and Functionality Units Responsible for Dynamics Training (23)**
- . **Council Opposes Reductions in P.I.'s F&A Monies to Fund Grant Writing Coach (25)**
- . **Tax Implications of \$80/Month Cell Phone Stipend Under Study by Private C.P.A. (26)**

Chancellor William B. Richardson's Report

1. Chancellor Richardson introduced Natalie Levy, a Ph.D. graduate student currently enrolled in a class in Workforce Development, a class being offered by Dr. Richardson. Her presence is part of a class assignment to "shadow" Dr. Richardson for one day. She received a B.S. from LSU in Agronomy with a major in Environmental Studies and an M.S. from the University of California – Berkeley.
2. Richardson doesn't expect any significant announcements or developments regarding the funding of higher education and the LSU Agricultural Center in particular until after the meeting of the December Revenue Estimating Committee (REC). He advised council members to not confuse economic and political issues.
3. The Board of Regents is focused on the structure of higher education in Louisiana. Their specific concern at the present time is with the higher education institutions in North Louisiana (LSU-Shreveport; University of Louisiana-Monroe, and Southern-Shreveport). Efforts are being contemplated to reconfigure these institutions to emulate the Birmingham Medical Complex. There is a concern with the possible merger of Louisiana Tech and LSU-BR. Other LSU System unit mergers being discussed include LSU-Eunice with UL-Lafayette; and LSU-Alexandria into the Community College and Vocational Technical system. LSU-NO is in the process of being merged with Delgado. Faculty are now realizing that the tenure rules between units in the LSU System and in the University of Louisiana Trustee system are different. Faculty enjoys greater job security under the LSU System.
4. The Louisiana State University Agricultural Center supports the LSU-Baton Rouge's Flagship Agenda. Support means that the LSU Agricultural Center is committed to working together with the LSU-BR campus to advance the Flagship Agenda, but not with any thoughts of the two campuses merging.
5. The groundbreaking ceremony for the Food and Animal Science Complex: Phase I with Governor Jindal has been set for November 9, 2011.
6. The political process for funding Phase II of the Food and Animal Science complex is now underway. Phase II entails renovations and upgrades of Francioni Hall (Animal Sciences), Dalrymple Hall (Veterinary Science), and the Food Science Building.
7. Chancellor Richardson is planning to call an immediate group meeting to review the Budget Oversight Committee Report next Monday (October 24, 2011) or Tuesday (October 25, 2011). The Chancellor is in the process of meeting with all members of the Board of Regents and in particular, those members appointed by the Governor, Mr. Robert Bruno and Mr. W. Clinton "Bubba" Rasberry, Jr. Mr. Bruno is involved with the North Shore Business Council. Mr. Rasberry is associated with the State Fair. Chancellor Richardson has been meeting with legislators to explain the contributions of the Louisiana State University Agricultural Center's existence at the parish, state, national and international levels and

how those contributions impact their constituents. Some meetings have been held at the requests of individual legislators as they become more aware of the negative financial consequences that their areas will experience as a consequence of reduced financial support to the Louisiana State University Agricultural Center.

8. Chancellor Richardson observed that Pennington Center is also projecting a future with significant challenges because of the absence of grant funding critical to their operations.
9. Chancellor Richardson’s response to legislators who ask what they might do to help the LSU Agricultural Center is that they should support all efforts to exempt the LSU Agricultural Center from future budget cuts. The services of the Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation’s lobbyist, Mr. Joe Mapes, have been engaged to monitor political developments which have implications for the LSU Agricultural Center as well as for the Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation (LFBF).
10. The chancellor announced that the LSU AgCenter would be seeking the permission of the LSU Board of Supervisors (BOS) to pursue a lease of part of the Iberia station. He emphasized that the LSU AgCenter was only seeking permission and not for review and approval of any lease terms as no lease exists at this time.
11. The LSU-BR campus is still pursuing their initiative to have the LSU Agricultural Center pay Graduate School tuitions for students being taught by LSU Agricultural Center faculty using LSU Agricultural Center’s resources and for which the LSU-BR campus claims graduate school credit hours. Chancellor Richardson is not willing to pay the graduate school tuition.
12. McMillin reported on items of interest from his attendance at the BOS meeting of October 21, 2011:
 - a. There is an intellectual property agenda item regarding the granting of permission for a former employee to engage in a royalty agreement for work done on starch while that employee held a joint Pennington and LSU Agricultural Center appointment.
 - b. Whether to split the Iberia Station into two portions so as to avoid having to go to the Louisiana legislature for approval to negotiate a lease agreement. The issue revolves around the definition of a section as 640 acres and the requirement to comply with state and federal guidelines when a lease involves more than a section of land.
13. The LSU Agricultural Center Faculty Council elections are proceeding. There was an instance where a nominated individual did not respond because no communication was received about the nomination. McMillin provided statistics on the numbers of people who had been nominated for office by rank and, of those nominated, the numbers who had accepted their nominations as follows:

Rank	On-Campus nominated	On-Campus accepted	On-Campus declined	Off-Campus nominated	Off-Campus accepted	Off-Campus declined
Full	6	4	2	15	13	2
Associate	3	3	0	7	7	0
Assistant	3	3	0	No positions available		

14. There was an observation made of their being more nominations of individuals with full and associate ranks being from extension than from research.
15. There is a need to amend the Election Council manual to allow voting to begin as soon as all individuals nominated to be candidates have declared their desire to be a candidate or have declined the opportunity. The purpose is to get voting done in accordance with the requirement that there be a two week voting period. The objective is to have the voting process completed so that the individuals elected can be invited to the November meeting of the Council. Attendance at a November meeting provides the newly elected to observe the workings of the Council and thus to be able to assume the duties of their office in January with greater familiarity of how the Council functions. A vote on the motion to suspend the rules to allow for a vote on a motion that voting could begin immediately after a candidate accepted the nomination for an office passed unanimously.
16. McMillin publicly thanked the people who are serving on the Oversight Committee for their work and input. He reported that there has been no evidence of turf protection from its members. He described to the Council the process which guided the deliberations of the Committee and the nature of its inputs. The bottom line is that there was faculty input and its members were able to gain the trust and create favorable impressions. The annual Agricultural Summary was one of the primary sources of data for assessing the contributions of the various commodities to the state. The time frame of concern was 2011-2012. A summary table of proposed and actual full-time equivalent (FTE) changes was prepared. Organization charts for both the Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station and the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service have been requested.
17. McMillin reported that members of the oversight committee asked such questions as why there might be a 25% administrative and 75% programmatic appointments for FCS faculty while 4-H faculty had a full 100% administrative and zero (0%) programmatic appointment?
19. Members of the Oversight Committee will keep pushing their requests for spreadsheets to identify core commodities and the distributions of FTE's and revenue allocations in before and after budget plan periods. Reasons for identifying retentions and/or additional or minimization of financial support for specific commodities and positions are rooted throughout a variety of political, economic, legislative mandates, laws, and other criteria. One of the current questions under consideration is "What's going to happen to Human Ecology with the reassignment of the FCS faculty 4-H"? It was observed that extension faculty appointments were not being discussed while research appointments were being changed.
20. Plans call for ninety-five (95) 4-H agents to be distributed across Louisiana's sixty-four (64) parishes. The question becomes how to reason through the logic of those assignments.
21. There was a question regarding whether it was rumor or fact that the Family and Consumer Sciences Division would cease to exist after December 31, 2011.
22. McMillin reported that the nominations for memberships on the tenure and promotion committee had been made and provided to Ms. Coulon, HRM Director. Some members in attendance reported that they had been notified of their selection to serve on that committee. McMillin indicated that he did not have the names of the people who had been selected to serve.

23. It was reported that Sarah Johnston, IT, requested input from users for desired graphs, charts, and other visual aids necessary as part of the Dynamics Software program. Information Technology (IT) is supposed to be generating these aids. A distinction was made that Dr. Debra Davis of ODE is about process and IT is about functionality.
24. In order to attend a scheduled meeting of the LSU BOS for Hummel, McMillin requested Joan King to assume responsibility for conducting the remainder of the meeting.
25. King reported on Sponsored Programs activities. The Council voted unanimously to vigorously oppose any reductions in the F&A allocations to principal investigators in order to fund a grant writing coach.
26. Vlosky reported that he has asked his C.P.A. to review and provide an interpretation of the federal ruling regarding the tax status of an \$80/month stipend for a cell phone.

The motion to adjourn was made, seconded and approved on a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne M. Gauthier, Secretary