

MINUTES
LSU AgCenter Faculty Council Meeting
March 16, 2012
Sullivan Conference Room
9:30 a.m.



Members Present: Layne Arceneaux- Langley, Esther Coco Boe, Edward Bush, Sharman Charles, Quincy Cheek, Josh Detre, Allen Hogan, Clayton Hollier, Joan King, Robin Landry, Ken McMillin, Boyd Padgett, Ross Pruitt, Diane Sasser, Michael Stout, and John Westra.

Members Absent: Hallie Dozier, Nikki LeMaire, Rich Vlosky.

Proxies: Quincy Cheek for Lisa Benoit, Esther Coco Boe for Tina Goebel

Guests: Dr. William B. Richardson, Chancellor, LSU Agricultural Center (LSUAC). Postponement of Dr. Russin, Mrs. Bayham, Dr. Leonard, and Dr. Elzer on Experiment Station projects and project management until April 20, 2012 meeting.

Dr. William B. Richardson, Chancellor, LSU Agricultural Center (LSUAC).

1. Chancellor Richardson started the meeting by talking about legislative session starting with some of the Governor's agenda making it out of committees. No word yet on retirement bills; no hearing dates yet set.
2. Budget process – LSUAC meeting next Tuesday with the legislative subcommittee on budgets, but nothing scheduled (no agenda) yet available.
3. LSUAC will present before BOS (10 minutes) today, and this should be very short presentation.
4. BOR distribution of funds for higher education has yet to be clarified completely. The midyear cut from last year has been annualized out so LSUAC lost all that funding from this cut. The \$17million will be distributed across tuition-generating campuses so LSUAC was not affected.
5. Meeting with Rep. Jim Fanin over next few months about LSUAC financing and budget.
6. Much of Governor's budget depends on privatizing thing. Talk about budget and retirement changes and how those might affect employees – additional 3% might go to general fund, not exactly clear.
7. Chancellor providing information on how proposed changes might affect LSUAC when asked, though not talking publically out of school.
8. LSU-S and La Tech merger – much debate about this. LSU System President said for this, but merged campus moved back into LSU System. Focus may be on power of BOR and BOS to control the merged campuses.
9. Dr. Richardson indicated that the Ag Coalition, group of key agricultural personnel around the state to discuss budget, autonomy, among other topics, is going well. If LSUAC faculty members know key leaders who should be involved, please encourage them to contact the Chancellor's

office. Information on the Louisiana Ag Coalition can be found online at:

http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/administration/about_us/chancellors_office/Ag_Coalition/

10. The Chancellor talked about BOR and BOS and how LSUAC interacts with them. Chancellor presented LSUAC Business Plan to them; the only campus to do so. Seems to be supportive of the LSUAC situation with respect to no tuition generating capacity.
11. Louisiana Sea Grant closed search for Director – Chancellor unaware of this and investigate.
12. The Chancellor indicated that Nutrition will not have new department within LSUAC.
13. Dr. Richardson is thinking about raises, if LSUAC has authority and funds to do so. Needs some clarification on language from BOR and BOS.
14. Administrators of the LSUAC will be meeting with the various legislative committees, including appropriations, with whom they will meet March 6th, and before whom they will testify April 2nd.

Business -- Dr. Ken McMillin, Chair, LSUAC Faculty Council

15. The February 17, 2012 meeting minutes were approved as distributed and will be posted on the LSU Ag Council website.

Reports

16. Postponement – Drs. Russin, Elzer and Leonard had to travel to Northwest Louisiana to talk with consortium of poultry growers about inability to continue supporting applied research efforts in the poultry sector (research associate and utilities). Demonstration houses at the Hill Farm
17. LAES Project management – discussion continued from last meeting about the proposed changes and potential support.
18. Get well card for Richard Vlosky passed around for FAC to sign.
19. Ken thanked folks for condolences for his father passing.
20. LSU Board of Supervisors (BOS) meeting – this afternoon and Ken McMillin will attend as LSUAC Faculty Representative. Item 3 under IV pertains to request at Dean Lee Research and Extension Center to lease land to the Louisiana Cattleman's Foundation. Upcoming information about meetings can be found at the BOS website: <http://www.lsusystem.edu/index.php/board-of-supervisors/minutes-agenda/>
21. Council of Faculty Advisors (CFA) – serves as a liaison between LSU Systems office and the campuses of the LSU System and is used to communicate views and concerns of faculties on system-wide matters, including academic and professional policies of the system. Meetings are usually during morning prior to the BOS meetings. Information on the Faculty Advisors can be found at: <http://www.lsusystem.edu/index.php/board-of-supervisors/faculty-advisors/>
22. Association of Louisiana Faculty Senates (ALFS) – consists of faculty senate representation from all institutions of higher education within Louisiana. ALFS is meeting tomorrow morning in Alexandria, and is led by Dr. Kevin Cope. Items on tomorrow's agenda for ALFS included faculty compensation, intellectual property, and academic freedom. Information on ALFS can be found at: <http://web.lsu.edu/alfs/>
23. Provost search – LSU A&M Faculty Senate Executive Committee met with Chancellor Martin and gave recommendation. Salary and retirement may be sticking issues, depending on the outcome of the search.
24. Louisiana Statewide Colleagues' Collaborative Summit Meeting – brings together representatives from ALFS and AAUP (Louisiana Conference). Upcoming meeting is April 14 at Tulane University,

and will focus on faculty governance, academic freedom and tenure. Information can be found here:
<http://www.laaaup.org/>

Discussion Items

25. Meeting location (April 2012) Ken will investigate various potential locations for meeting which has to meet somewhere other than Parker Coliseum due to Ag Magic.
26. Service Unit Advisory Committee appointments – LSUAC has the FAC nominate potential members from the FAC and outside the FAC for each Service Unit Advisory Committee to the Chancellor, who then may either accept or reject these suggestions. McMillin asked FAC for nominations from colleagues.
27. LSUAC FAC Bylaws revisions – Ken McMillin passed around copies of first draft of revisions. Discussion about additions and deletions. The bylaws were presented and McMillin answered questions about faculty rank or titles. It was suggested that the Executive committee be included under Article IX, Committees – item 2 and move 2 to 3, etc. Another question was raised about proxies and changing the language to include voting proxies that will be included in revision. The issue about representative of FAC for BOS meetings was raised. FAC members thought that the bylaws should include language identifying that someone from the FAC will attend the BOS meetings. McMillin will develop wording for the process for determining who will be this representative.
28. LAES Project Management Task Force Report – postponed until LAES administration can attend FAC meeting in April.
29. Purpose and restructuring of ACE groups – postponed until talking with Dr. Coreil.
30. AgCenter cell phone (PS-45) – Mark Legendre said at the meeting in Parish Chair meeting last week (Tuesday) that PS is waiting on the Chancellor’s signature. If spent 50% of work outside office, making decisions for your unit, or can get justification from unit head or regional director, then will get stipend for smart phone (\$80 per month). Otherwise the stipend would be \$50 per month. The faculty and staff currently with LSUAC supported cell phones would be able to receive this stipend, keep their LSUAC cell phone number, but would have to turn in their hardware.
31. Level of access to Outlook Calendars – Issue was removed from agenda.
32. Retirement legislation – As there was no additional information on the topic, it was deferred until April 2012 meeting. For those interested in more information, a good source of current status, please consult the Louisiana Retired Teachers Association (LRTA) website at: <http://www.lrta.net/>

The meeting adjourned on a voice vote at 12:50 p.m., February 17, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

John V. Westra
Recorder