

**MINUTES**  
**LSU AgCenter Faculty Council Meeting**  
**June 15, 2012**  
**Sullivan Conference Room**  
**9:30 a.m.**



**Members Present:** Layne Arceneaux- Langley, Lisa Benoit (by proxy – Layne Arceneaux- Langley), Sharman Charles, Quincy Cheek (by proxy – Robin Landry), Josh Detre (by proxy – John Westra), Hallie Dozier, Tina Goebel, Jason Holmes, Clayton Hollier, Joan King, Robin Landry, Nikki LeMaire, Ken McMillin, Donnie Miller, Ross Pruitt, Diane Sasser, Michael Stout, Rich Vlosky and John Westra.

**Members Absent:** Esther Coco Boe and Edward Bush.

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

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1. Chancellor Richardson started the meeting by talking about budget, signed into law by Governor.
2. Budget \$3.4 M (4.4%) in mid-year. Also reduced by \$0.855 M by end of June; to be covered by one-time funds. Total reduction was \$4.255 M.
3. Mid-year reduction not put back into budget so have to annualize that for 2012-2013, but \$0.855 M put back in. But, budget cut by \$1.455 additional to the cut. So \$5.14 M (6.7%) reduction total for 2012-2013 total of \$71.92 M of state funding for LSUAC. But unfunded mandates still to be worked out, so another wildcard.
4. Healthcare benefit costs reduced by 7% for employees so may see this “raise” in your paychecks. Employers may get this \$1.3 M, but maybe swept by DOA so LSU AgCenter may not capture this money. Total unfunded mandate cost may be \$2.65 M. So total cut may be anywhere from \$5 M up to \$8 M.
5. BOR and BOS have no interest in any campus declaring financial exigency. Mostly coming from Administration.
6. Vic Stelley resigned from BOR, mainly from cuts at McNeese State.
7. SU and UL systems feel unfairly treated so may be some issues this year at BOR meeting.
8. Have to look at using one-time monies to look at this budget deficit with adjustments to Business Strategy of the LSUAC, including FAC.
9. Construction: 4-H Camp multipurpose building; relocation of sheep/swine building to Guirier Lane (between LA House and the Dairy), then LSU A&M will use that space for parking garage.
10. Animal science and food science building should be completed in 2013.
11. Renovation of food science next project in 2013 or later with total renovation so may be moved to the newly constructed animal science building during that renovation, once the new animal science building is completed.
12. Procurement tax that is uncollected. First \$30 M, \$10 M to be directed to LSUAC. Outside firm collecting this tax getting 85% remaining 15% going to this pot of money. None of these funds

included in any budget as very uncertain how much will actually be collected. Also will have to wait in to 2013 before collecting much of anything.

13. Exigency question: allows dealing with tenured faculty in different manner and contracts on different notice period (90 days versus 1 year). Those are only real advantages to Exigency. This is also only advantageous financially (savings) for 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> year out; not this year until 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of the fiscal year.
14. Business Plan: we are in the second and third tier at this point. Also starting to look at Business Plan 2.0.
15. Overall BOS appointments: two re-appointments who are favorably disposed to LSUAC. One appointment is aware of LSUAC and may be favorable to LSUAC. Three vacancies remaining.
16. Listening sessions: pretty positive response from the field at least that is what Chancellor has heard. Northeast field days went very well. Red River field days went very well this year too. So support in field appears positive. Department Heads should be showing up at field days more than they are currently; only two at Northeast.
17. No new things in CoA between now and August 15 when Chancellor Martin retires.
18. Timeline for budget oversight: using one-time funds immediately, wants some deliberation to discuss and make suggestions for addressing the budget issues this summer so can make some decisions in the fall. Three groups acting independently so that they can have time to work independently and then work together.

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

19. The May 18, 2012 meeting minutes were approved with any subsequent changes for attendance and will be posted on the LSU Ag Council website.

### **Reports**

20. LSU Board of Supervisors (BOS) meeting – major items included voting for approving Dr. Jenkins as interim President of LSU System and Chancellor of LSU A&M; raises for Coaches. Next meeting (July 27, 2012) will be attended by Rich Vlosky as LSUAC Faculty Representative. 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) – RV talked about the meeting being very light. 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. Next meeting is July 27, 2012 and 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) – no meeting until fall 2012. Information on ALFS can be found at: <http://web.lsu.edu/alfs/>
23. Louisiana Statewide Colleagues' Collaborative Summit Meeting – no meeting until fall 2012. Information can be found here: <http://www.laaaup.org/>

### **Discussion Items**

24. Listening sessions, according to reports from some faculty, in some regions went very poorly; others went well. Clientele very upset at some regions and very upset with Administrators who were present due to cuts at research stations and local offices.
25. Suggestions for dealing with current issues: flex time, telecommuting, and other issues were discussed by FAC.
26. Suggestion to have training of faculty and staff on how to say “no” to clientele.
27. Need clarification on revenue-generating activities by faculty from Administrators.
28. Purpose and restructuring of ACE groups – council survey will be sent out later, early in the fall. RV will send to FAC a draft this summer for review. Leadership of ACE groups is critical and groups will work much better when selected by members as opposed to by Administrators. Also how are Administrative Advisors selected? Another issue raised was consistency across groups in terms of how they are structured and run – disparity about how these are run.
29. Unit head evaluation – KM has received no feedback to date. He will emphasize that FAC needs to have role in announcing these evaluations. Particularly there is concern about confidentiality of response. Suggestion on how to improve response rate (FAC administering it via “Survey Monkey”), but rejected due to personnel matters being confidential. One issue raised was that some field faculty (field agents) may have little interaction with Regional Director so don’t feel need to respond.
30. Tuition waivers – KM will communicate to Jim Robinson, via email, that FAC is supportive.
31. Director’s Dialogue – issue of Exigency was discussed. LCES Director indicated during Director’s Dialogue that he favored Exigency as did the other Vice-Chancellor and Chancellor.
32. Service unit committees – need to get nominees names to KM. He will be talking to Chancellor for vacant slots (non-FAC) and then they are selected or not by Chancellor.
33. KM encouraged everyone to do Ethics Training to learn and cover your backside.
34. International Programs – Lakshman has officially retired. FAC will encourage a national search for this position.
35. Cell phone policy – some folks were able to do this with guidance from the “long” email. Others have had some problems getting this transition.

The meeting adjourned on a voice vote at 11:45 a.m., June 15, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

John V. Westra  
Recorder