

**MINUTES**  
**LSU AgCenter Faculty Council Meeting**  
**May 17, 2013**  
**Efferson Hall**  
**9:30 a.m.**



**Members Present:** Layne Arceneaux- Langley, Jeffrey Beasley, Mariah Bock, Esther Coco Boe (by proxy, Diane Sasser), Quincy Cheek, Josh Detre, Adriana Drusini, Tina Goebel (by proxy, Quincy Cheek), Jason Holmes, Joan King, Robin Landry (by proxy, Layne Arceneaux-Langley), Ken McMillin (by proxy, Layne Arceneaux-Langley), Deborah Melvin (by proxy, Layne Arceneaux-Langley), Donnie Miller, Charles Overstreet, David Picha (by proxy, Jeffrey Beasley), Diane Sasser, Michael Stout, Neely Walker and John Westra.

**Members Absent:** Ed Bush.

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

1. Chancellor Richardson spoke about Family and Consumer Sciences being the correct way to describe the program area within the LSU AgCenter.
2. Chancellor talked about the budget for higher education and the LSUAC, including \$5 million in funding towards the AgCenter.
3. Chancellor mentioned that the \$155 million found by Finance Conference may be good news, if it stays and doesn't result in any mid-year cuts in December.
4. Have to annualize \$1.7 million mid-year budget cut. Also "unfunded mandates" (benefits) need to be funded from existing budget.
5. Retirement bills – don't make sense. Issues with the Cash-balance plan that new employees would only receive 1.8% toward retirement for all new employees under ORP. Right now this is in place under current legislation. The Board of Supervisors may get authority to unilaterally increase match to current level for all new employees, using their own resources.
6. Monitor the retirement bills via the link to LASERS and TRSL links in the email the Chancellor sent out yesterday.
7. Community and technical colleges have a bill put forward for \$20 million to fund their own capital improvements for their campuses. This funding most likely coming from higher education. This requires 2-3rds vote in the House as it already passed Senate.
8. The UAL is still coming out of funds that were supposed to go to retirement plan.
9. Defined benefits (TRSL) and defined contribution plans discussed.
10. Transition meetings are happening, but Chancellor doesn't have clear idea of the outcome of this process. Movement toward single course-numbering system. One computer system within all campuses, estimated to cost \$50 million due to compatibility issues and personnel costs (time).
11. Academic Affairs is having difficulty with practical issues of One LSU – promotion and tenure issues within English, for example, across all campuses in the LSU System.

12. The President will be starting on campus June 18. He should be at the Louisiana Farm Bureau Convention in New Orleans. He has also been invited to some LSUAC field days this summer.
13. It is hard to say if the President will bring in any of his own people from California State University at Long Beach or use internal candidates for leadership.
14. Internally LSUAC trying to minimize administrative function by divesting and distributing responsibilities to existing people.
15. Chancellor pressing for salary increases. The salary raises might be at 3-4% range, if realized in July (\$1.5 – 2.0 million needed). Will update us in June meeting about this.
16. The 10-month Faculty appointment option, Chancellor recommended that FAC talk with Ann Coulon. There are about 10 Faculty doing this now (May 2013), with potentially two or three more potential candidates.
17. Rural Life Museum and Burden Research Center – Chancellor talked about the relationship between these two entities and how to improve relations and facilitate better interactions with common goals.
18. Farm Bill issues discussed. Much movement on the Farm Bill that passed out of Senate and now is in the House. SNAP Ed funding was lowered in the Senate version and this is of concern to Family and Consumer Sciences.

**Guests: Mr. Dale Frederick, Interim Director, LSUAC Office of Facilities Planning.**

19. Mr. Frederick gave an overview of the Office of Facilities Planning (FP) and the Property and Facilities they manage for the LSUAC.
20. Overseeing maintenance and improvement of all LSUAC property and facilities is the charge/mission of FP.
21. Managing 18 research stations, 3 extension offices, and Camp Grant Walker, Burden and Livestock Show Facilities, among others.
22. FP manages over 20,000 acres, in addition to the buildings on LSU Campus and extension offices, primarily at research stations.
23. FP has to depend on the Program Managers on site (e.g., research station directors) to help directly manage facilities and let FP know of any needs or issues.
24. FP handles right of way issues, complaints from adjacent land-owners, mineral leases, etc.
25. FP plays integral part in LSUAC mission and development and dissemination of information (discovery, new knowledge).
26. Self-generated funds are donations, product sales (commodities), Chancellor Funds.
27. Non-self-generated funds are usually capital outlays from State Budget or bond sales associated with capital outlays.
28. Talked about the Food Technology Incubator facility associated with Ingram Hall.
29. There was an issue related to equipment for the new Animal and Food Sciences Research Laboratory building that was discussed. It appears that there was a misunderstanding of the level of funding for this in a summary document that lead Faculty to view that amount as \$200,000 more than was available from FP's document.
30. Talked about renovation of office space and indirect costs associated with Dalrymple and Francioni Halls. If those office spaces were abandoned and allow LSU to house faculty in these two buildings, the cost savings would be a \$200,000 - \$300,000 annually. This might create problems for future growth of the LSUAC in better budget times.
31. Master Plan and other building plans, use input from all factions, including faculty. These plans can evolve and be modified in the future.
32. Most Parish Offices are owned by Parish, except Rapides, Caddo and the Macon Ridge area. Parish Police Juries own most Parish offices. In most cases LSUAC negotiates with the Police Jury for modifications to buildings that house the LSUAC LCES.

33. Please feel free to email FP with any concerns.

### **Business -- Dr. Josh Detre, Vice Chair, LSUAC Faculty Council**

34. The April 19, 2013 meeting minutes were approved as modified and corrected and will be posted on the LSU Ag Council website.

### **Reports**

35. LSU Board of Supervisors (BOS) – next meetings are May 28 and June 6, 2013. They met on April 17, 2013.
36. President F. King Alexander's contract approved for \$600,000 plus perks. Cam Cameron contact as Offensive Coordinator for millions of dollars each year, part coming from LSU, part from TAF.
37. BOS will meet to talk about the Health Sciences Center and \$42 million in costs associated with the retirements of the staff at the LSU Hospitals throughout the state.
38. Upcoming information about meetings can be found at the BOS website:  
<http://www.lsusystem.edu/index.php/board-of-supervisors/minutes-agenda/>
39. Council of Faculty Advisors (CFA) – meeting was held April 17, 2013 and KM attended.
40. Next meeting is prior to the BOS meeting, and information on the Faculty Advisors can be found at:  
<http://www.lsusystem.edu/index.php/board-of-supervisors/faculty-advisors/>
41. Association of Louisiana Faculty Senates (ALFS) – will be held on April 20, 2013 in Alexandria. Sandra Woolley (UL System) and Jim Purcell (Commissioner of Higher Education) will be presenting. Meeting usually lasts till 3:00 pm or so, sometimes later. Next meeting is September 28, 2013.
42. Information on ALFS and upcoming meeting can be found at: <http://web.lsu.edu/alfs/>
43. Louisiana Statewide Colleagues' Collaborative Summit Meeting – meeting will be held on April 20, 2013 in Alexandria.
44. Information on next meeting can be found here: <http://www.laaaup.org/>

### **Discussion Items**

45. Question was raised by Ann Coulon and having Annual Conference (AC) for 2013. FAC members talked about the cost of running the AC. FAC asked that this issue be tabled and FAC send out an email poll to all members and to get an estimate of the cost.
46. 10 month appointments – the FAC talked about this program option and the multitude of problems and questions associated with this program. The fact that this program does not allow for Extension appointments to participate is problematic. FAC discussed the content of the letter that KM had sent out and how this has been modified. FAC strongly suggested that options be presented in this letter or another letter that would serve as alternatives to this policy.
47. FAC mentioned that LSUAC needs to address the issue of underfunding faculty. The current situation does not equitably treat Field Faculty and State Faculty under this 10-month appointment policy.
48. FAC members suggested they committee to provide alternatives to this policy; including additional compensation for field faculty, and state faculty options. The fact that so few people are enrolled in

this program shows is an indication we need to come up with alternatives. This committee needs to have representatives from State Faculty, Field Faculty and Administration.

49. Some FAC will query other Field Faculty to see what their colleagues would be interested in regarding any changes in appointment.
50. TRSL Cash Balance Plan Basics and ORP Contributions are being discussed in the Louisiana Legislature but the committee chairs in both the House and Senate do not seem too concerned with the low level of benefits and pay received by state employees, including faculty in higher education. The state currently will be contributing 1.8% starting July 1, 2013 if the plans are not changed.
51. The College of Agriculture and LSUAC consolidation committee hasn't met since the last FAC meeting.
52. PS-42 review – has not met. If people have questions about existing framework, suggest changes to the committee. A template, for example, might be the way to proceed, but need to allow flexibility as each member has unique attributes and accomplishments to include.
53. Metrics Committee for Faculty Performance Expectations – the committee met once, individually collected information from peer-institutions, sent draft report to Dr. Russin.

The meeting adjourned on a voice vote at 11:45 p.m., May 17, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

John V. Westra  
Recorder