

MINUTES
LSU AgCenter Faculty Council Meeting
September 20, 2013
Sullivan Conference Room, Parker Agricultural Coliseum
9:30 a.m.



Members Present: Layne Arceneaux- Langley, Jeffrey Beasley, Mariah Bock, Ed Bush, 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 and John Westra.

Members Absent: Neely Walker.

Dr. William B. Richardson, Vice-President of Agriculture, LSU System.

1. Chancellor Richardson indicated the revenue estimating commission of the state legislature met last week. Economy seems to be improving, but the economists only have information from July and August. It doesn't appear that mid-year cuts are imminent, but nothing definite yet.
2. Retirement system changes – doesn't appear to be anything brewing yet, but we will keep an eye on this.
3. Budget will have to wait until December to know for certain how things are shaping up as they will have October numbers.
4. BOS met two weeks ago to approve administrative consolidation of LSU AgCenter and LSU College of Agriculture (CoA). Chancellor title was changed to Vice-President of Agriculture LSU System and Dean of College of Agriculture.
5. VP will meet with Department Heads individually starting next week to discuss teaching programs.
6. VP needs to talk about one Council (FAC) and LSU CoA Committees merging.
7. Meeting Provost Stuart Bell about which committees to have joint representation.
8. VP needs to report back to BOS in March 2014 about progress since the administrative consolidation.
9. Is there a planned retirement party for Dean Koonce? Yes, Dr. Betsy Garrison will be working with VP to develop this. Dr. Koonce will be in Experimental Statistics until end of calendar year.
10. VP mentioned that reason given in past for Graduate Faculty Status was that SACS accreditation would not permit faculty members who were not under this autonomous campus with a Chancellor to be graduate faculty members of that other campus. Since the AgCenter Chancellor was administratively consolidated to VP of Agriculture of LSU campus, this issue should be moot and 100% LSUAC faculty should be able to be members of Graduate Faculty.
11. VP mentioned that they are looking into issues with HRM and several FAC members mentioned that things had improved.

12. Issue with dairies – the two here and in Franklinton. The campus department is now managing this research station. The milking part of the Campus dairy will be closed, but heifer project will continue. The milking operation at Franklinton will continue and there are improvements in efficiency. The continuation of the heifer operation will help with teaching program as well as the research project.
13. The milk will be hauled from Franklinton to Campus for making ice-cream.
14. Chartwells is interested in facilitating the expansion of the ice cream store as the forestry building closes. These are preliminary discussions and nothing is set in stone yet. The ice cream is also being used in the Magnolia Room at the Union.
15. The new animal science building looks like it's done, but VP will look into time frame for faculty moving in to this building sooner than January.

Guests: None.

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

16. The August 16, 2013 meeting minutes were approved as modified and corrected and will be posted on the LSU Ag Council website.

Reports

17. LSU Board of Supervisors (BOS) – met September 6, 2013. The administrative consolidation of LSUAC and CoA was approved.
18. The funds from sheep and swine barn may be used for an equestrian facility.
19. Health Sciences arena is rife with questions, including expending funds to improve these facilities when LSU may not own them in the future.
20. 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) – meeting was held September 6, 2013 and KM attended. Discussion about the time of this meeting being so early, before the BOS meeting, that some of the CFA members are having difficulty attending.
22. 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/>
23. Association of Louisiana Faculty Senates (ALFS) – will be held on September 28 in Alexandria. Sandra Woolley (UL System) and Jim Purcell (Commissioner of Higher Education), President in charge of the Community College System, president in charge of Southern University System and Dr. King Alexander (President of LSU System) have been asked to present. Meeting usually lasts till 3:00 pm or so, sometimes later.
24. Information on ALFS and upcoming meeting can be found at: <http://web.lsu.edu/alfs/>
25. Louisiana Statewide Colleagues' Collaborative Summit Meeting – meeting will be held on September 28, 2013 in Alexandria. Will be trying to get Dr. King Alexander (President) to be there.
26. Information on next meeting can be found here: <http://www.laaaup.org/>

Discussion Items

27. 10 month appointments – the FAC talked about this program option and the multitude of problems and questions associated with this program. The folks on this project were on leave without pay during the two months they were on the project.
28. There were 19 faculty who applied and those 19 have been approved. There were more who might have applied, but thought it would take away from their programs.
29. Annual Conference December 16 and 17, 2013; planning committee representatives included Tina, and others to be determined.
30. Raises and procedures for raises. KM passed around an email from Torii Freeman describing the procedure for calculating raises.
31. College of Agriculture and LSUAC administrative consolidation – discussion revolved around the new title of the VP of Agriculture.
32. LSUAC FAC consolidation and CoA Policy Committee – there was extensive discussion about the consolidation and role of the CoA Policy Committee. KM distributed copies of the faculty in the various ranks, with scenarios for possible council elections or representations.
33. Discussion about scenarios followed. The concern about representation from off-campus faculty was raised by several FAC members. Also this body needs to advise on teaching as well as research and extension so one would need to have sufficient representation knowledgeable of educational issues to make recommendations on policy issues.
34. Discussion about Instructors as Faculty by BOS.
35. Discussion about the role of this body being both recommendations and making policy as it will be a committee within the LSU CoA as well as a body representing LSUAC faculty on same footing as the LSU Faculty Senate. The discussion focused on the amount of governance that will really occur from this point forward.
36. Discussion about on-campus representation being assigned from each department so that it is consistent with representation at all other campus, including LSU A&M and other LSU campuses.
37. The FAC all agreed that term of service should be three years.
38. The FAC researched consensus on the Council composition to be 9 on campus (full or associate) – one elected from each department, by that campus department; 1 on campus assistant; 1 on campus assistant/lecturer; 5 off campus full; 4 off campus full; 1 off campus assistant; 1 off campus assistant/lecturer. All except the on campus full/associate would be elected by constituent groups of location and rank as is currently in the bylaws.
39. Discussion about the name for the body was postponed.
40. Promotion and Tenure (P&T) Faculty committee for LSUAC. Discussion about the VP requesting delay in selecting nominations from FAC for the Faculty P&T committee for LSUAC until he has had more discussion with Provost Bell.
41. Suggestion made two separate committees: one that reviews faculty (on and off campus) and one that reviews agents. FAC members were asked to submit and suggestions for nominees for these committees or folks they would recommend not serving on the committees to KM, JW or JD.
42. Policy Statements review committee – KM talked about the 140+ Policy Statements (PSs) from LSU A&M and 40+ PSs from LSUAC and any Permanent Memoranda (PM) that will be reviewed. KM passed around copies to all FAC of the PSs and PMs. KM asked if FAC should contact units to see what functions of this unit can be done across all units (LSUAC and LSUA&M) and what are so specialized that only that your/this unit can do (LSUAC) – once for LSUAC and once for LSUA&M.

FAC members would meet with heads of these units independently. This will be done for all service units: HRM, Communications, SP/IP, IP, Facilities Planning, IT, ODE, AS. Discussion about the commonalities and differences. Need to meet and talk about these over the next few weeks.

43. Lively discussion on how to approach this issue. Motion was made and approved by FAC to seek support of both VP and President of LSU System for this process. After seeking support of both VP and President, we would email service unit heads as described above to ask them to consider functions and services that are uniquely qualified to provide and which can be done on either campus.

The meeting adjourned on a voice vote at 12:30 p.m., September 20, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

John V. Westra
Recorder