

**MINUTES**  
**LSU AgCenter Faculty Council Meeting**  
**December 17, 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, Quincy Cheek, Josh Detre, Adriana Drusini, Tina Goebel, Joan King, Robin Landry, Ken McMillin, Deborah Melvin, Donnie Miller, Charles Overstreet, David Picha, Diane Sasser, Michael Stout, Neely Walker and John Westra.

**Members Absent:** Jason Holmes

**Dr. William B. Richardson, Vice-President of Agriculture (VPA), LSU System.**

1. VPA Richardson answered questions from FAC members.
2. He indicated that salary increases for some administrative positions were not necessarily increases in duties and responsibilities, but increasing salaries to be competitive with similar positions in the region. Examples of Heads/Directors for Ag Communications and IT.
3. Executive Associate Dean may be announced tomorrow; definitely by end of week.
4. Head of International Programs candidates will be interviewed Thursday.
5. Concern was raised about fees for App development and that other institutions in the region are not charging for App development. So, possibility for outsourcing that development is potentially a real problem for LSUAC.
6. College of Ag (CoA) and Graduate Faculty status was discussed. VPA indicated that some LSUAC faculty who were on Graduate Faculty before LSU policy change and had that status reduced/restricted would be given a partial CoA appointment (5-10%).
7. Discussion on research (Hatch) projects and reporting in the USDA NIFA REEport system (for AD 421s) was robust, with many points made by faculty and this new reporting system.
8. Graduate faculty status was discussed on academic committee and that Pennington faculty might need to be considered for Graduate faculty status.
9. Discussion on P&T process, forms and content, and policy statements for LSUAC and LSUAM was robust. There is a small committee (Ken McMillin, Tina Goebel, Phil Elzer) formed to evaluate this process.
10. Joint ULM and LSUAC projects are being reviewed, though LSUAC is very happy with these. Unfortunately ULM just laid off 24 faculty recently and it is going through some tough financial times now.
11. It has yet to be determined how the "Tax Amnesty" revenues will be
12. Vice President for Finance and Administration – there are two people being considered for this.
13. Vice President for Communications – there are two people being interviewed now, but the search may be re-opened as neither candidate was very acceptable.

14. VPA handed out certificates of appreciation for members who are ending their term with the FAC: John Westra, Donnie Miller, Robin Landry, Quincy Cheek, Jason Holmes and Ken McMillin.

**Guests: None.**

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

15. The November 15, 2013 meeting minutes were approved as modified and corrected and will be posted on the LSU Ag Council website.

### **Reports**

16. LSU Board of Supervisors (BOS) – met December 13, 2013. There were two board members who voted against the rise in ticket prices – an apparent first in a long time.
17. Upcoming information about meetings can be found at the BOS website:  
<http://www.lsusystem.edu/index.php/board-of-supervisors/minutes-agenda/>
18. Council of Faculty Advisors (CFA) – meeting was held December 13, 2013 and KM attended. LSUA Chancellor search is underway with strong participation and leadership from faculty at LSUA.
19. 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/>
20. Association of Louisiana Faculty Senates (ALFS) – was held on December 14 in Alexandria.
21. ALFS meetings usually lasts till 3:00 pm or so, sometimes later. Information on ALFS and upcoming meeting can be found at: <http://web.lsu.edu/alfs/>
22. Louisiana Statewide Colleagues' Collaborative Summit Meeting – meeting was held on December 14, 2013 in Alexandria. Dr. King Alexander (President) was there.
23. Information on next meeting can be found here: <http://www.laaup.org/>

### **Announcements**

24. Agricultural administration consolidation transition committees. The Committees are: Academics, Research, Administrative Support, Facilities. Faculty initially was absent from three of the four committees. KM asked about administrators about this and Faculty were appointed soon after. There is very slow movement on some committees, in terms of meeting and addressing issues raised by committee members.
25. Research committee met and will be discussing the more “topical” at the next meeting. There has been misunderstanding on some of the policies and the manner in which the departments or units are applying these policies. Also having extension personnel on this committee has been beneficial to this process.
26. On one of the committees that has many members, there are subcommittees to try to manage the issues presented.
27. Concerns have been raised about forms used by faculty (travel, etc.) and the similarities and differences of these between LSUAM and LSUAC. Faculty would prefer harmony in more forms than currently exists.

28. LSU AgCenter Promotion and Tenure process/progress. Additional coordination on packets and concordance of content with the various job assignments is critical.
29. Concern was raised about the poor training provided by LSUAC this year for P&T process and forms.
30. Concerns about the process were raised. LSUAC unit head committee members, last year, had not had chance to review the recommendations and comments from the Faculty or Agent committee review.
31. Comments about incorporating Dynamics or AD421 information into the P&T process. This would allow for a more longitudinal view of the person being considered for P&T.
32. International Programs Faculty Advisory Team; IP Director Search – there are four people being interviewed for this position this week. Hopefully some more stability would result from a permanent director being selected.

### **Discussion Items**

33. Ag Annual Conference recommendations, changes, suggestions. It was suggested that evaluations of annual conference be available.
34. Agricultural Executive Associate Dean search – this is a majority LSUAM position, however there is no position within LSUAM at the level of Executive Associate Dean.
35. FAC election progress – Jefferson Ivey is now the IT staff assisting with the election and many of the date changes required programming revisions. The nominations to date were 13 for off-campus full with 6 accepting and 7 declining, 4 for off-campus associate with all accepting, 1 for off-campus assistant who accepted, two in Ag Economics who declined, and one each in Animal Sciences and Textiles, Apparel Design, and Merchandising who both accepted.
36. FAC bylaw changes- After discussion, the bylaw changes were accepted. It was mentioned that it did not seem fair that only one of the duly elected Council members from the School of Plant, Soil, and Environmental Sciences (SPESS) would serve since all of the other Council members would complete their elected terms. It was moved by Charles Overstreet, seconded, and passed that all 3 current Council members from SPESS would serve on Council until completion of their term. This would make 24 members of Council for 2014 and 23 members in 2013.
37. Other- It was determined that the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month was a suitable meeting day, except for April when April 18 was on a holiday. The state livestock show is February 7 through 15.

The meeting adjourned on a voice vote at 3:30 p.m., December 17, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

John V. Westra  
Recorder