

## LSU Agriculture Faculty Council Meeting

9:30 am, January 22, 2016

Room 212, Efferson Hall



**In Attendance:** Naveen Adusumilli, Mandy Armentor (proxy Cynthia Clifton), Dorin Boldor, Margo Castro (proxy Cynthia Clifton), Joe Chang (proxy Kurt Guidry), Chris Clark, Cynthia Clifton, Jeff Davis, Adriana Drusini (proxy Cynthia Clifton), Kiki Fontenot (proxy Gary Stockton), Bruce Garner, Kurt Guidry, Denise Holston-West, Ken McMillin, Chuck Monlezun, Kori Myers (proxy Cynthia Clifton), Ioan Negulescu, Diane Sasser, Gary Stockton, John Westra

**Absent:** Andrew Granger, Kenneth Guidry, Joan King, Gerald Roberts

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Council Chair Ken McMillin.

### **Vice President's and Dean's Report – Dr. William Richardson**

Leaders in higher education met with Governor John Bel Edwards. There appears to be a \$750 million mid-year budget deficit, with \$300 million in tax credits that have been claimed by companies. The budget will be based on numbers, not on contingencies. Higher education cuts are estimated at \$116 million, with \$65 to LSU. Baton Rouge A&M campus share is \$19 million and Ag Center share is \$11.5 million. The cuts will be difficult to absorb in April, May and June of this year. The special 3-week legislative session begins February 15 after the Revenue Estimating Committee has presented their report on February 10. There is a \$1.9 billion deficit anticipated for FY 2017 that may grow to \$2.1 billion. The legislative regular session cannot do revenue this year so all financial matters will have to be done in special session. There may be other special sessions between mid-February and June with a push for longer term outlook for financial structure. Cigarette, alcohol, and inventory tax hikes are being considered. A key will be a 1¢ increase in sales tax, which might result in \$380 million. Also to be considered is removal of the federal itemized deductions, about \$750 million. There is the same scenario as last spring, which was 35% reduction over 12 months, but this is different with 32% reduction in the last 90 days of the fiscal year.

The Ag Center will be called upon to generate support in the state. A cut of 10% in dedicated statutory funds would be about \$5 million. The SAVE funds were put into statutory funds last year, not part of the \$11.5 million. The system budgets assembled by the campuses will go to the Board of Supervisors Monday. There will be an internet link to the budget. The Ag Center budget is down 18% over 5 years while main campus budget is up 12%, due to tuition and fee increases.

The incident reported in the press the last two weeks are allegations of misconduct by an Ag Center faculty member, who is presumed innocent until legal proceedings conclude. Auditors are in the Ag Center to determine acceptability or deficiencies in procedures. The faculty member employment perspective will be treated separately from criminal proceedings. The USDA center at Pineville is also receiving scrutiny. The message to unit heads and regional directors is to trust faculty, but verify that policies and procedures are in place and are being followed. These include inventory and equipment usage and leave records. Checking accounts for affiliated organizations, including those for parish foundations, where faculty members have check writing privileges should be moved into university accounts to provide necessary fund oversight.

## Business

The December 14, 2015 meeting minutes were approved with after a motion by Dorin Boldor and second by Ioan Negulescu.

Elections were held for Council officers. Ken McMillin was nominated for chair and elected by acclamation. Diane Sasser was nominated for vice chair and elected by acclamation. Kori Myers was nominated for recorder and elected by acclamation. The By-Laws (Article IX section 2) allow two to four additional members, with representation from on- and off-campus Council members. It was discussed and determined that there would be two Executive Committee members for 2016. Ioan Negulescu, Gary Stockton, Cynthia Clifton, and Jeff Davis were nominated for the position. Ioan Negulescu will be the on-campus Executive Committee member and Cynthia Clifton will be the off-campus Executive Committee member.

## Reports

**Board of Supervisors** –pertinent items are .

**Council of Faculty Advisors** – will meet during the lunch break at the Board of Supervisors January 29 meeting.

**Association of Louisiana Faculty Senates and Louisiana Statewide Colleagues Collaborative Summit Meeting** in Alexandria – next meeting likely to be held in February.

## Announcements

**Faculty Council Election review** – Ken thanked Kurt Guidry for all of his efforts in setting up and conducting the election with SurveyMonkey. Two errors in the election were noted. The first was having an initial Renewable Natural Resources ballot for two candidates when one of the nominated candidates had declined because of his retirement. The other was in informing a candidate of being elected when another candidate had received higher numbers of votes. Both errors were corrected and all candidates were satisfied with the election procedure. The success and ease of conducting the election with SurveyMonkey may preclude use of Ag Center Information Technology resources for future Council elections.

**PM-11 Supplemental Information** – Ag Center employees are expected to file the PM-11 reports of any outside income received in a timely manner because this is a policy and part of employment duties. This includes honoraria, amounts received for expenses above actual costs, and any other income besides university salary. A supplemental information request was sent to current Ag Center faculty members with PM-11 reports on file.

## Discussion Items

**Important Council Items for 2016** – Ken reminded Council members that Council activities are important and that activities in addition to those listed in the agenda for discussion would be welcomed.

**P&T review discrepancies** – It was discussed that the differences in evaluations of faculty member dossiers for promotion (and tenure) by units, unit heads, and faculty advisory committee from those of the unit head advisory committee and program leaders is a continuing concern. The job description is a primary element in comparing annual performance and the dossier materials. Discrepancies should be rectified by changes in the job description mutually agreed by the faculty member, unit head, and program leader.



**LSU AgCenter Research Station Faculty**

	<u>Assist.*</u>	<u>Assoc.</u>	<u>Full</u>	<u>Total</u>
Aquaculture	1	1	1	3
Audubon Sugar	3	2	0	5
Dean Lee	2	5	1	8
Jones Idlewild	1	0	1	2
Hammond	1	1	0	2
Hill Farm	1	1	2	4
Iberia	0	1	1	2
Macon Ridge	1	1	1	3
Northeast	0	0	2	2
Pecan	0	0	1	1
Red River	4	3	0	7
Repro. Biol. Center	1	0	0	1
Rice	2	2	2	6
Southeast	0	2	0	2
Sugar	1	0	3	4
Sweet Potato	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
	18	19	16	53
Other				
NE region	0	0	2	2
NW region	1	0	3	4
SE region	0	0	1	1
SW region	1	0	3	4
Communications	4(3)	2	3	12

\*Assistant rank also includes instructors

**LSU AgCenter Campus Faculty**

	<u>Assist.*</u>	<u>Assoc.</u>	<u>Full</u>	<u>Total</u>
Ag Ed Ext Educ Eval	5	0	0	5
Ag Chem	3	0	0	3
Ag Econ	3	2	7	12
Animal Sci	3	2	13	18
Biol Agric Eng	4	3	4	11
Entomology	4	2	9	15
Exper Stat	1	0	1	2
Nutr Food Sci	6	2	12	20
Plant Path Crop Phy	3	1	11	15
Plant Env Soil Sci	6	8	9	23
Renew Nat Res	5	5	14	24
Textiles, App. Design, Merch.	<u>7</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>9</u>
	50	26	81	157
Other				
4-H Youth	4	0	0	4
Biol Sci	0	0	1	1
Biotech Center	1	1	0	2
Intl Programs	1	0	0	1

**LSU AgCenter 2015 Off campus Ag Faculty Council Members**

	<u>Assist.*</u>	<u>Assoc.</u>	<u>Full</u>	<u>Total</u>
Northwest	0	0	0	0
Northeast	1	0	0	1
Central	0	0	0	0
Southeast	1	1	1	3
Southwest	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>
	2	4	5	11