

LSU Agriculture Faculty Council Meeting
9:30 am, January 20, 2017
Room 212, Efferson Hall



Call to Order: Called by Sun Joe Chang at 9:37 am.

Members In Attendance: Naveen Adusumilli, Sun Joe Chang, Chris Clark, Betsy Crigler, Adriana Drusini (proxy Betsy Crigler), Mandy Armentor (proxy Betsy Crigler), Becky Gautreaux, Kurt Guidry, Blair Hebert, Ken McMillian, Carol Pinnell-Alison (proxy Kurt Guidry), Claudette Reichel (proxy Pat Skinner), Gary Stockton

Members Absent: Ed Bush, Margo Castro, Melissa Cater, Richard Cooper, Jeff Davis, Kiki Fontenot, Denise Holston, Chunk Monlezun, Diane Sasser

Vice President and Dean's Report – Dr. Richardson said there will be an upgrade to workday during mid-March. Regarding the special legislative session, it is still unknown if cuts will occur to higher education. Legislatures want to tap into the rainy day fund of \$119.6 million, but whether this will happen depends on the outcome of the special session. There is talk of minimizing cuts to higher education. For the regular session, there is talk of opening the constitution to unprotect areas so that cuts to healthcare and higher education will not be the only aspects of the budget able to be cut. There is also talk about tax reform at that time. There is no mention on the TOPS program. The medical marijuana project will be privately run and cost 10-15 million for someone to become involved. Production will take 8-12 weeks and January 2018 is projected to have product “on the shelf.” There will be a strong checks and balances system in place. Only reliable and trustworthy people will be involved. The AgCenter will only have ties with the research aspect.

Guest- Dale Fredrick, Director of Facility Services, updated the council on new improvements to campus that are underway. At no cost to the AgCenter, the campus greenhouse will be relocated to two separate areas due to new construction of dormitories. Residential life has ensured the new buildings will be built before the old is demolished. The research component will be relocated to Ben Hur Road across from Animal Containment. The teaching component will be relocated to Gourrier Ave.

Construction will begin in October, 2017 of the Biosafety Level 2 (BSL2). Research will work here controlling infiltration and exfiltration.

The medical marijuana project will be conducted on private land in the Baton Rouge area and not on campus.

The food incubator will have a new small warehouse on Gourrier Avenue since now the department is in Ingram and the Food Science Lab.

911 addresses are being assigned to all on and off campus locations including the ones on Ben Hur, Reproductive Biology Center, Sugar Research Station, and on Burden.

Alligator Research station's environmental control is costly and redesign is underway.

The Burden city sewer pump station project is near completion. A grand entrance is being created.

The Renewable & Natural Resource building has secured funding for a replacement roof.

Adam Bailey informed the council of the safety precautions that need to be taken in the event of an accident. He made the council aware of the AgCenter having secondary insurance to cover the employee's cost of the deductible in the event a vehicular accident happened in their personal vehicle on work time.

Business

January minutes will be approved via email.

Sun Joe distributed the by-laws of the Ag Faculty Council to all present members. This is to make the members aware of the purpose of Faculty Council and their duties that need to be performed in a timely manner.

Reports

Announcements

- Shatonia McCarty was congratulated on winning the runoff to sit on the council.
- All service units that serve the faculty should have advisory committees and report their decisions to the faculty council. Sun Joe Chang will check with Ken to see the necessary procedure that should be done.
- Chris Clark has been asked to serve as the Council's representative on the Greenhouse project.

Discussion Items

- The council voted to continue the meetings on Thursday mornings throughout the year.
- The orientation documents first created by the faculty orientation and information committees will be revisited. Kurt Guidry agreed to contact the 4-H document writers to obtain the document to present at the next meeting. Sun Joe will reassemble the committees and present final draft deadlines by next meeting.
- Sun Joe Chang will send PS-42 document to all faculty council members to review the chain of command. Ann Coulon will have the final word in the chain of command and which supervisors are in charge of evaluations.

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Becky Gautreaux, seconded by Kurt Guidry. Motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 11:31 am.