

LSU Agriculture Faculty Council Meeting

9:30 am, May 18, 2018
Room 212, Efferson Hall



Call to Order: Called by Subramaniam Sathivel at 9:33am.

Members In Attendance: Mandy Armentor, Melissa Cater, Betsy Crigler, Adriana Drusini (proxy Betsy Crigler), Becky Gautreaux, Shatonia McCarty, Ken McMillin, Ashley Powell (proxy Betsy Crigler), Paul (Trey) Price, Teresa Raley, Gene Reagan, Subramaniam Sathivel, Mark Schafer, Gary Stockton, Shannan Waits (proxy Mandy Armentor), Wenqing Xu

Members Absent: Ed Bush, Sun Jo Chang, Chris Clark, Richard Cooper, Blair Hebert, Denise Holston- West, Bin Li, Chuanlan Liu, Claudette Reichel

Vice President and Dean's Report – The Governor was having a press conference later that day about the budget. Senate passed a “pretend” budget that shows the LSU AgCenter would take a 10-12 million dollar cut and funded TOPS at 70%. The house in the next few days could adjust that budget and the numbers. Special Session has been called for May 22 to June 4 to deal with the revenue and budget battle. There is no real idea of what the budget will really look like at this time. He is closely monitoring the situation downtown and Hamp is keeping the legislatures in the know of all the things going on in this state. Dr. Richardson urged us to tell our local legislators that it is important LSUAC will have no cuts because cuts will affect their districts they represent.

He then opened up for questions from the Faculty Council. Sathi asked about the situation with the Grad School Dean search. Dr. Richardson said that has been put on hold until the Graduate School is in good standing. On July 1st an acting Dean of the Graduate school will be appointed.

The HR director position search will begin soon and involve faculty both off and on campus. 4-H day at the Capitol will go on but Legislative Fete has been cancelled. Amanda Martin has excelled at recruiting for the COA. Applications are up 50% and there were \$250,000 given in scholarships. At the Board of Supervisor's meeting, there was discussions about privatizing services on campus.

Invited Guest- No guest were invited. The plan is to have Dr. Leonards, Dr. Lepley, and Dr. Eubanks as June guest speakers.

Business – Minutes were approved with minor corrections discussed at FC and approved by the council.

Reports

- The Board of Supervisors meeting was on May 4, 2018.
- The Louisiana Commissioner of Higher Education (Board of Regents) is Dr. Kim Hunter Reed. Dr. Jim Robertson from LSUE served on the council to select the commissioner.
- The Director of Human Resources for LSU AgCenter resigned.

- The president of faculty senate visited with Dr. Stacia Haynie to show the importance of global engagement in higher education. The AgCenter is involved in global engagement through sugarcane in Cuba and sending soybeans to China. The FC feels that students need to be educated on global availability. Gene Reagan motioned to send our opinion to the Provost on how important the vice provost for graduate studies and global engagement is. Melissa Cater second the motion. All were in favor.

Announcements

- In Dr. Chang absence, Dr. Subramaniam Sathivel chaired the meeting.
- Dr. Phil Elzer will be our guest at the August meeting.
- Mandy Armentor motioned to stop visiting the strategic plan until its revision is complete. She requests a copy of the revision sent to members. Trey Price seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Discussion Items

- The faculty council acknowledges the appointment of Dr. Rogers Leonard to oversee the animal related research. The council would, however also request when personnel decisions of such importance are involved, the administration would seek input from faculty. Mandy Armentor voted to table this motion until further discussion (after the council visits with Administration on the appointments) and Melissa Cater seconded. The council tabled the motion with changes. Dr. Chang wanted to push forward on the appointment of Dr. Leonard until all program leaders and Dr. Richardson visit with the council.
- Submarian is involved in South Africa and Indonesia. He attended a one-month course in Indonesia. It cost \$4,000. He encourages LSU to branch out and educate the world on food and agriculture. We need to educate the world on food safety since we receive food from across the world. Sugarcane, rice, and crawfish are also raised around the world. We can educate others on the research we have done.
- Some joint appointment faculty are not receiving LSU emails. It seems it is department wide. As the faculty senate president, Dr. McMillin will talk to IT director to get this resolved.
- FC members discussed our strength is having many contacts and stakeholders. We also respond to disasters faster.

Adjourn

Mandy Armentor motioned to adjourn the meeting. Teresa Raley second the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 am.