

LSU Agriculture Faculty Council Meeting

9:30 am, June 15, 2018

Room 212, Efferson Hall



Call to Order: Called by Sun Jo Chang at 9:30am.

Members In Attendance: Ed Bush, Sun Jo Chang, Chris Clark, Richard Cooper, Betsy Crigler, Adriana Drusini (proxy Teresa Raley), Becky Gautreaux, Blair Hebert, Denise Holston- West, Shatonia McCarty, Ken McMillin, Ashley Powell (proxy Betsy Crigler), Paul (Trey) Price, Teresa Raley, Gene Reagan, Subramaniam Sathivel, Mark Schafer, Wenqing Xu

Members Absent: Mandy Armentor, Melissa Cater, Bin Li, Chuanlan Liu, Claudette Reichel Gary Stockton, Shannan Waits

Vice President and Dean's Report – Dr. Richardson was not in attendance.

Invited Guest- Dr. Rogers Leonard reported the special session ended and there are still threats to cut higher education by 18-24%. TOPS is currently funded at 70%. A third special session begins Monday, June 18th. A ½ cent tax would bring in \$500 million. The AgCenter could face \$8-9 million cut. He mentioned that cutting other organizations is not possible this year, but a Constitutional Congress would have to occur to make that happen. Discussions on LSU 2025 started in 2015 and 2016. These initiatives are projected and reasons to raise money. The initiatives include all LSU areas and not just the college. The AgCenter's RNR department, SeaGrant, and Invasive Species Program focus on the energy initiative. The AgCenter fosters research by collaborating with Cornell to utilize some of their technology and by the St. Gabriel mitigation project. The food incubator will continue to expand. Louisiana Farm Bureau agreed to fund 4-H scholarships. The AgCenter is the leader on nutrition education. Dr. Thompson is receiving a large grant from the American Heart Association. The AgCenter received the Farm to Table grant from the Department of Education to improve the nutrition in schools. The AgCenter's 4-H transforms education by enriching 100,000+ children. Dr. Tussin's Global Network program involves International Collaboration. The AgCenter works developing leaders through the college students. Dr. Richardson is trying to increase the number of scholarships received. One goal is to have \$5 million endowment toward scholarships. Dr. Leonard goals are to have 20 research stations across the state, ANR staffed at 75%, and SE Region to have 8-10 horticulture agents.

Business – Minute approval will be tabled until July.

Reports

- The Board of Supervisors meeting will be on June 29, 2018.
- Vice provost for graduate studies and global engagement. Sun Jo and Gene Richard will draft a letter to Dr. Haynie for the council to review.

Announcements

- Dr. Gina Eubanks, Program Leader for Nutrition and Food Sciences will be the guest in July.

Discussion Items

- Dr. Denise Holston-West discussed the urge throughout the state with FCS agents to create healthy communities following the Socioecological model. Her goal is to make the “healthy choice the easy choice” across the state. FCS receives federal funding for EFNEP (Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program), SNAP Ed Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), and Healthy Beginnings. They receive CDC grants as well covering programing in 4 parishes. This will expand in the new fiscal year including \$6 million for the five year grant. There are also general agents and the Food Safety specialist, Wennie Xu. One strength of FCS is the multi-disciplinary partnerships in the community. One weakness is the lack of FCS agents in every parish. More agents could do more health improvements.
- The unit head evaluation discussion will be tabled until July.

Adjourn

Richard Cooper motioned to adjourn the meeting. Teresa Raley second the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 11:57 am.