

**LSU Agriculture Faculty Council Meeting**  
**9:30 am, August 17, 2018**  
**Room 212, Efferson Hall**



**Call to Order:** Called by Sun Jo Chang at 9:32am.

**Members In Attendance:** Mandy Armentor, Sun Jo Chang, Chris Clark, Richard Cooper, Betsy Crigler, Adriana Drusini, Becky Gautreaux, Blair Hebert, Bin Li, Chuanlan Liu, Shatonia McCarty, Ashley Powell, Paul (Trey) Price, Teresa Raley, Claudette Reichel, Subramaniam Sathivel, Gary Stockton, Shannan Waits

**Members Absent:** Ed Bush, Melissa Cater, Denise Holston- West, Ken McMillin, Gene Reagan, Mark Schafer, Wenqing Xu

**Vice President and Dean's Report** – Dr. Richardson discussed the merit based raise that will be given to all faculty members (AgCenter and campus wide) based with the average employee receiving 3% (this does not include civil service staff). The announcement email will be sent out today. The raise is effective September 1<sup>st</sup>. It is not an across the board raise and he stressed the importance of Annual Performance evaluations will be used to help determine what percentage the employee gets. Unit heads were going to be notified late Friday afternoon and they will work quickly over the next 2 weeks to get all the information loaded in Workday so that September paychecks will reflect the raise. He stated it costs about \$1.5 million dollars to give this sort of raise so he will be looking at other cost cutting measures to help offset this. Small budget cuts might occur, however he stressed he wanted to keep the faculty we have. Medical marijuana will begin production within 48 hours, a lot of time lately has been spent on working out all the roadblocks with Dr. Strain's office and others so that the production can start. The first round will be ready late fall/early winter and it will be in the tincture form of CBD. He mentions the U.S. Attorney General and District Attorney's offices will be doing strict enforcement on those places that sell the recreational CBD. They are looking into legislation this spring in the state for Industrial Hemp as it is a lucrative market. Hemp is recommended to help with Cancer patients and those Epileptics with seizures. He mentioned he is working with the College of Ag student organizations that there is a zero tolerance hazing policy and they must follow Title IX procedures. Undergraduate student enrollment numbers are increased by 7%, whereas graduate enrollment is up by 9%; this is not the 14-day numbers and he does expect that to change slightly. They are looking into building 2+2 programs with the Community College system for Associate Degrees in Science and Agriculture and then coming to LSU for the remaining 2 years to earn a B.S. degree. If this all passes the Board of Regents and System office then there will be some scholarship opportunities as well for students. Several Faculty Council members expressed thanks to him for giving us pay raises and how much our work is appreciated by Administration.

**Invited Guest-** Dr. Phil Elzer, Executive Associate Dean of the College of Agriculture was our invited guest and discussed the day-to-day operations of the College of Agriculture. Gave an overview of each employee and departments duties in the COA and discussed specific items of concern to the council. He mentioned the college each year awards ~\$275,000 in scholarships to students and that is quite a large number compared to other colleges. Each recipient was

awarded \$1000- \$3000. The scholarships they give are in conjunction with other scholarships students receive. Example a student can receive a TOPS scholarship and a COA scholarship to help with educational expenses. The School of Animal Sciences has 218 new students and around 1300 enrolled. The college has around 450 freshmen. Retention rate is crucial with every new semester and year. Students now have to complete a survey to assist with retention, creating resumes, internships, etc. He mentioned soon they would be signing a MOU with China with a 2+2 program in Agriculture, and exploring Vet Science rotations in Czechoslovakia for students who do not get into the LSU Vet Science program. This is just some of the International programs that is going on right now in the college.

**Business** – Subramaniam Sathivel motioned to approve the July minutes. Richard Cooper seconded the motion.

### **Reports**

- Ann Coulon approved the proceeding of unit head evaluations.
- Food Incubator Director Gaye Sandoz will be the guest of September Council meeting.
- Dr. Melissa Cater, AEEE has been appointed the regional director of the Northeast Region.

### **Discussion Items**

- The unit head evaluation results will be turned over to the evaluated unit heads. Administration's copy & faculty council's ideas will be compiled into one evaluation.
- Dr. Chang emailed the council a unit head evaluation that was used in year's past. All faculty members will see their compiled results. Claudette Reichel read her addition to the evaluation to include a line pertaining to extension. Dr. Chang asked for input on evaluations to be emailed to him.
- Chris Clark updated the council on the new greenhouse construction that should be completed in December. They would then move in January with construction on the old greenhouse starting in February.
- Dr. Chang mentioned there is a new LSU online accessibility policy. Claudette Reichel motioned to invite Fred Piazza in October to discuss where the AgCenter fits in this policy. Mandy Armentor seconded the motion.

### **Adjourn**

Chris Clark motioned to adjourn the meeting. Shatonia McCarty second the motion. The meeting adjourned at 11:29 am.