

**LSU Agriculture Faculty Council Meeting**  
**9:30 am, September 21, 2018**  
**Room 212, Efferson Hall**



**Call to Order:** Called by Sun Jo Chang at 9:31am.

**Members In Attendance:** Mandy Armentor (proxy Becky Gautreaux), Ed Bush, Sun Jo Chang, Betsy Crigler (proxy Teresa Raley), Adriana Drusini (proxy Teresa Raley), Becky Gautreaux, Blair Hebert (proxy Shannan Waits), Chuanlan Liu, Shatonia McCarty, Ken McMillin, Teresa Raley, Gene Reagan, Subramaniam Sathivel, Mark Schafer, Shannan Waits, Wenqing Xu

**Members Absent:** Chris Clark, Richard Cooper, Denise Holston-West, Bin Li, Ashley Powell, Paul (Trey) Price, Claudette Reichel, Gary Stockton

**Vice President and Dean's Report** – Dr. Richardson will visit all five regions in the next 6 weeks discussing organizational updates. The pay raises cost \$1.5 million was carved out of the LSUAC budget. Currently, two parishes are without a 4-H agent and those are priorities when it comes to vacancies. The rest will not be handled until after the beginning of 2019. The budget is stable, but there might be a possible \$300-\$400 million in the state's surplus. He wants to get the AgCenter and College back to the budget it was three years ago. He is optimistic about the future given that the governor supports the AgCenter and higher education. Hamp and Ashley Mullens is assisting with the governor's talks and awareness of our outreach and efforts of the LSUAC . Steve Scalise and Representative Conway are coming to town for the Ole Miss game and will tour our facilities. He is traveling to Washington, D.C. to promote Agriculture and the importance of having a voice for Louisiana agriculture. There is no money in the state's capital outlay budget for buildings. We will have to raise our own money to revitalize buildings. Scholarship funding is focused to be ideally \$500,000. He is watching the admission's holistic review. The college has identified students who could possibly fail and has a retention policy and plan in place.

He spoke about the research stations, and updated on the following: The Iberia research station is closing. One scientist can continue his work in another facility. His plan is to lease out the property, but demonstrations can still be conducted there. St. Joseph research facility will be leased out as well. The AgCenter is not replacing the retired faculty at the Pecan Station. He is hopeful to give out pay raises again next year if the budget allows. Dr. Richardson is impressed with the work done by Toby Leply. There is some discussion about helping to keep the 4-H agents and preventing them from burning out and leaving.

**Invited Guest-** Ms. Gaye Sandoz was not in attendance due to unforeseen circumstances.

**Business** – Ed Bush motioned to approve the August minutes. Chuanlan Liu seconded the motion.

**Reports**

- Subramaniam reported that the Board of Supervisors meeting was held on September 7th. Ochsner & LSU are partering with medical school. LSU would need a 3.5% raise every year for 5 years to compete with other SEC schools and an increase to 4.4% to

compete with national schools. The state has never fully funded LSU like other colleges. The state has not increased its funds to LSU since 1991.

- The on-campus unit evaluation ran from Aug 28-Sept 15th. Nine departments were surveyed. In some departments 11 out of 30 faculty completed the survey. Other departments only received 1 out of 12 surveys. AEEE and TAM did not turn in surveys. Sun Jo will speak with Dr. Richardson on survey results and after effects.

### **Announcements**

- Performance survey of regional directors and coordinators of research stations will proceed after the on campus one is complete.
- Sun Jo Chang, Chris Clark, and Denise Holston-West will rotate off in December. Elections will occur in October.
- Fred Piazza will discuss new LSU online accessibility Policy next Tuesday, September 25 during the organizational update scheduled for 8:30AM. It was asked for a council member to bring up when is the AgCenter's website going to be ADA compliant and when will Microsoft Teams and other Microsoft capabilities be accessible to other coworkers.

### **Discussion Items**

- Alternate dates for April and June were discussed due to their conflicts. Becky Gautreaux motioned to move the April meeting to the 12<sup>th</sup> due to the Good Friday holiday conflict. Gene Reagan seconded the motion. Becky Gautreaux motioned to move the June meeting to the 14<sup>th</sup> due to the 4-H University conflict. Teresa Raley seconded the motion. Both motions passed.
- Contents of unit head performance survey for regional directors should be sent to Sun Jo Chang.
- How long should the unit head evaluation survey be open? The council decided the survey would be opened for 2 weeks with a midway reminder email.
- The November council meeting will be done remotely to experiment on Acano and if it is possible to conduct when council members are absent.

### **Adjourn**

Shatonia McCarty motioned to adjourn the meeting. Teresa Raley second the motion. The meeting adjourned at 11:32 am.