

LSU Agriculture Faculty Council Meeting
9:30 am, September 21, 2019
LaHouse



Call to Order: Called by Sun Joseph Chang at 9:30 a.m. and thanked Claudette Reichal for hosting the meeting at LaHouse. The August minutes were approved as presented by Becky Geatreux.

Members In Attendance: (16) Mandy Armentor, Joseph Chang, Zhiyuan Chen, Betsy Crigler, Becky Gautreaux, Hope Guidry, Stephen Harrison, Blair Hebert, Bin Li, Shatonia McCarty, Ken McMillin, Teresa Raley, Gene Reagan, Claudette Reichal, Subramaniam Sathivel, Shannon Waits,

Members Absent (9): Richard Cooper, Chuanlan Liu, Bob Mirabello, Ashley Powell, Brandon Reeder, Mark Shafer, Kristin Stair, Mark Wilson, Wenqing Xu.

Dr. Bill Richardson attended the meeting. His update included the Governor's campaign, status of salary increases, Dr. Rogers Leonard retirement, Dr. Mike Salassi named Associate Vice President and Program Leader, Ann Coulon retirement, ADA compliance issues, and other department reassignments.

The College of Agriculture now has 1420 students, 50% being Pre-Vet. Dr. Richardson reported options are being discussed to help those students who are not accepted into Vet School.

Dr. Richardson discussed the 800 acre wetland mitigation project at St. Gabriel. The next step is finalizing the land leases which allow access to the property.

GB Sciences Inc has been purchased by a group of LSU investors, alumni and others. 18,000 doses of medical marijuana have been delivered. The greatest use is for chronic pain. Industrial hemp production inquiries continue to increase.

Business –

- Dr. Chang is working on an updated email list for upcoming Faculty Council elections.
- Dr. Chang will meet with Dr. Richardson on September 25. Dr. Chang will ask for clarification of some positions as well as to the structure of the AgCenter Administration with so many changes having occurred.
- The Council wishes to have more information about the mitigation of St. Gabriel. This could lead to future degree opportunities in fields related to Wetlands and could be an opportunity for the AgCenter and/or the College of Agriculture.
- Dr. Chang encouraged all members to read the AgCenter's business plan. This plan does not address recruiting top scholars. Seventy percent of all LSU students are from 12 parishes surrounding Baton Rouge. Members are encouraged to submit suggestions to Dr. Chang, who will follow through with Dr. Richardson on the exact purpose of the plan. Faculty Council should have input in business plans, strategic plans, etc.
- Other personnel issues discussed included pay equalization for long term employees.
- The Council recommended inviting Toby Leply to the November 2019 meeting and Mike Salassi to the January 2020 meeting. Dr. Chang asked for members to email him specific questions for the guest speakers.
- There was discussion concerning how the best students are being recruited to LSU. Admission standards have not changed over the past 5 years. Borderline students can now get a "second look" and additional counseling for extenuating circumstances to help them succeed.
- LSU only receives 18% support from state funding.
- The Council voted to cancel the meeting in December, 2019.

Announcements

- The Elsevier subscription has been cancelled. LSU has a committee that will choose specific journals to which LSU will subscribe. Due to interlibrary loan being much faster than in the past, the library can subscribe to fewer journals.
- The October meeting will be held at the Renewable Resources or Knapp Hall. Dr. Chang will notify members of the exact location.
- Teresa Raley will not be present at the October meeting. Mandy Armentor agreed to be the recorder for that meeting.

Adjourn: A motion to adjourn by Becky Geautreux was seconded by Blair Hebert. The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m. Lunch was served.