

LSU Agriculture Faculty Council Meeting
9:30 AM, July 24, 2020
TEAMS

Call to Order by Dr. Sun Joseph Chang at 9:31 a.m. The June minutes were approved as presented. The amended May minutes were approved as presented.

Those present included: Sun Joseph Chang, Zhiyuan Chen, Liu Chulanan, Becky Geautreux, Stephen Harrison, Blair Hebert, Bin Li, Ken McMillan, Bradley Pousson, Ashley Powell, Gene Reagan, Teresa Raley, Mark Shafer, Sathivel Subramanian, Shannon Waits, Mark Wilson, Kristin Stair, Bob Mirabello, and Stuart Gauthier.

Dr. Bill Richardson attended and gave an update on the Phase 2 reopening situation. He asked the Council for feedback on the new Remote Work Policy being implemented. He also reported that Dr. Elzer would be meeting with Department Heads on Monday July 27 to discuss the return of international students. He stressed the importance of continuing to use the sanitation supplies in Parish and Campus offices that are being provided by the AgCenter. The AgCenter is still under the spending freeze order. He mentioned the position of Assistant Vice Provost of Diversity is open and asked for input from the Council for that position.

Hamp Grunewald attended and gave an update on sanitation supplies that can be ordered from the AgCenter. These supplies can be ordered by contacting him or Dwayne Nunez. Equipment and supplies needed by AgCenter on campus faculty should be ordered through the AgCenter . Three things were stressed to help combat the spread of CoVid: wearing masks, wash hands, and social distancing. AgCenter employees will be receiving masks and neck gators.

There has been no change in the budget situation. The next special session will be in October. Other updates included: Adobe Pro Suite is forthcoming to aid in the creation of ADA compliant documents; new guideline for Evenbright registration include IT setting up accounts for offices; and Faculty Senate members were announced.

A report was given on the Diversity and Inclusion Committee. This joint committee is composed of 20 members from both the College of Ag and the AgCenter. Dr. Chang, Kristin Stair and Mark Shafer attended the Faculty and Staff Forum. Main points mentioned included everyone is expected to wear masks in buildings as well as on campus and special leave for 14 days is available for employees who test positive for Covid.

A discussion concerning international students took place. These students can defer but must give a 2 week notice prior to the start of classes. Chinese students will not be able to attend the Fall semester due to the Embassy being closed since February.

Other discussions included:

*Phase 2 reopening issues:

Virtual Field Days are getting positive comments and responses. Clientele like being able to view the Field Day tours in their own time.

Parish offices are still being staffed at 25%; agents are finding new ways to stay in touch with clientele.

Parish 4-H agents reported parishes are adapting to new meeting formats such as Project Club meetings, After School Clubs, and virtual club meetings.

FCS agents are conducting virtual programming, filming videos, and distributing information on Facebook pages.

*East Baton Rouge Parish has had no ANR presence since September/October 2019. The Council requested a resolution be drafted to address this issue in support of opening the position and getting it filled as soon as possible.

Announcements included: Board of Supervisors will meet August 14. The next Faculty council meeting will be August 21. Albert Orgeron will be filling the remainder of Kylee Brown's term on the Council. A special meeting will be on August 13 to discuss the Remote Work Policy.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting and was seconded at 11:03 am.

The next Faculty Council meeting is August 21. The scheduled 2020 Faculty Council meetings are September 18, October 16, and November 20 unless otherwise announced.