

LSU Agriculture Faculty Council Meeting
9:30 AM, Friday June 17, 2022
Efferson Hall



Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:37 AM by Becky Gautreaux, LSU AgCenter Ag Faculty Council Vice Chair.

Members In Attendance

Online:

Ashley Powell, Cecilia Stevens, Gary Stockton, Bei Guo, Blair Hebert, Brad Pousson.

In-person:

Vinicius Moreira (proxy for Richard Cooper), Becky Gautreaux, Chuanlan Lui, Al Orgeron, Chandra Theegala, Sun Chang (as himself and proxy for Kristin Stair, Richard Vlosky), William Afton, Sathivel Subramaniam, Nathan Lord, Stephen Harrison, Raj Singh, Evelyn Watts, Kenneth Gravois,

Absent:

Mark Shaffer, Stuart Gauthier, Daniel Swale, Sallye Dugas

Invited Guests

Ashley Gautreaux, Assistant Vice President, HRM

The LSU system releases Permanent Memoranda (PM) documents that cover all institutions whereas LSU AgCenter takes PM documents and create PS documents that are more specific to AgCenter procedures. Mrs. Gautreaux and staff are currently updating LSU AgCenter Policy Statements (PS documents). One, PS-36: Use of AgCenter funds to reimburse moving expenses, is being revised at this moment. The current wording states that reimbursement is limited to 75% of moving costs up to a maximum of \$3,000. The current proposed changes states that reimbursements are limited to 1/12th the annual salary, not to exceed \$7,500, and for the recipient to repay 50% if they vacate the position prior to 1 year with the organization. The aim is to make travel reimbursements for new hires more of an incentive to attract and keep faculty. PS-1 is currently under review as well.

Hampton Grunewald, Assistant Vice President, Governmental Affairs

It is too early to tell what the actual budget the LSU AgCenter will receive until everything trickles down through the LSU System from State Government to the State Board of Regents, then to the LSU Board of Supervisors, then finally to the AgCenter. Other variables such as mandated costs will affect how the monies are distributed.

Should have a better idea on actual budget in July. Dean Lee received \$1.5 million, and the Feral Hog Project received monies in Capital Outlay funding. Regulation of medical marijuana (*Cannabis sativa*) was transferred from the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry to the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals. Industrial Hemp (*Cannabis sativa* ssp. *Sativa*), with less than .03% THC, the main active ingredient in marijuana (short for delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol), is still viewed positively with legislators as an agricultural crop. The LSU AgCenter Hemp Working Group is stagnant due to loss of Ashley Mullens, who was leading the group. However, project proposals are still being requested by the research committee.

Fred Piazza, LSU AgCenter IT Chief Information Officer

1. LSU PM-39, passed and 01/2021, establishes the LSU Executive IT Governance Council (EITGC) and the EITGC provides oversight. There are AgCenter members on each of the operational/policy committees overseen by EITGC. Hampton Grunewald is a member of the EITGC.
2. The LSU AgCenter intranet site hasn't been updated for a decade. It still provides a handful of useful links if users know where to go.
3. Send broken links to Josh Y'darraga with LSU AgCenter IT.
4. Dynamics Update. The whole dynamics program will not be supported after June 30 and that presents a security issue. A new program (part of the Microsoft Software Package) will replace Dynamics. This will occur in a phased roll out with data entry being the first phase. Integration with Outlook calendar is a complicated issue. Meagan Franks (now in AEEE department) will be coordinating trainings for employees to learn the new system. She can be reached if there is any old data that needs to be retrieved even though all data will be saved and archived.
5. Do not use built-in apps (i.e. Apple Mail) with work related material. This presents a public records request issue. There is no clear precedent set by the courts on this matter as of now. Use the Outlook app to access LSU AgCenter email accounts. Employees can request more information from Fred Piazza on the public records statute.
6. Top system-level memoranda that involve IT. PM-36: Information Security sets the framework. PM-50: Review and Approval for Acquisition of Software and Services.
7. A list of Approved Software and Services can be found here:
<https://lsuagctr.sharepoint.com/sites/KB/SitePages/Approved-Software-and-Services.aspx>.
8. A list if Prohibited Software and Services can be found here:
<https://lsuagctr.sharepoint.com/sites/KB/SitePages/Prohibited-Software-and-Services.aspx>

Organizational matters

1. Council Member Methods of Communicating with Constituents.
 - Monthly staff conferences.
 - I sit down with my parish chair and inform them of the high points of our meetings.
 - Faculty meetings and FCS meetings.
 - I report in faculty meetings, when we have them, and I may occasionally send an email to my colleagues in my department, but my efforts are not at all systematic and fall far short of an adequate constituent feedback loop.
 - Just in faculty meetings.
 - I do give updates in our 4-H Quarterly meetings. I sometimes mention them in our NE Regional Administrative meetings which include Parish Chairs, Regional Coordinators (4-H & FCS), and Regional Director.

Old Business

1. Al Orgeron made a motion to accept the May minutes and Vince seconded the motion. Motion was voted in by membership.

Reports

1. LSU Board of Supervisors will meet on Friday, June 17, 2022, in concurrence with this LSU AgCenter Ag Faculty Council meeting.

Discussion Items

1. Unit Head Performance Survey is currently at a 37% response rate. This needs to improve.

Next Meeting

The next LSU AgCenter Ag Faculty Meeting will take place on Friday, July 15, 2022, at 9:30 AM.

Adjourn

Raj Singh made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Al Orgeron seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 12:22 PM.