

LSU Agriculture Faculty Council Meeting-*Minutes*
9:30 AM, Friday June 16, 2023
Room 212, J. Efferson Hall



Call to Order

Rich Vlosky, LSU Agricultural Faculty Council Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:33 AM.

Attendance *proxies are in parentheses.

In-person

William Afton, Andre Brock, Carol Friedland, Ken Gravois (Rich Vlosky), Steve Harrison, Claudia Husseneder, Nathan Lord, Donnie Miller, Maddox Miller, Sathivel Subramaniam, Sara Shields, Raj Singh (William Afton), Rich Vlosky, and Evelyn Watts.

Remote

Sun Joe Chang, Bruce Garner, Bei B Guo, Kerry Heafner, Vinicius Moreira, and Cecilia Stevens,

Absent

Chris Dunaway, Michael Mamp, Kristin Stair

Invited Guests

Dr. Matt Lee, Vice President of Agriculture/Dean College of Agriculture

Dr. Matt Lee is serving as Chair of LSU Police Department Chief Search Committee and couldn't make the meeting. He provided some comments in email to address the questions below.

1. Administrative/Legislative Update

There are still things that need to be worked out and sorted and it will take a bit before it can be disseminated to the entire organization. Once details become much clearer an organization-wide update communication will be delivered.

2. LSU System/AgCenter Budget Clarification

- a. Break down the budget numbers in depth provided by his email from President Tate. The individual items listed as funded amount to much more than the \$232 million alluded to in the introductory statement. Does that mean some of them are budgeted but may not be realized (the continuing authorization items maybe)?
- b. The investment total is far less than the invested items listed.
- c. What is a continuing authorization for the two building renovations listed?
- d. What is the meaning of the items listed as priority 1, 2, 3, etc.?
- e. Bottom line, how will the *final numbers look to the AgCenter once the BOR and President Tate make priority decisions?*
- f. *What is the increase, if any, over our base budget for 2022?*

Again, once details become much clearer and organization-wide update communication will be delivered.

3. Global Network shuttered? Are there plans for an AgCenter international administrative function?

The LSU AgCenter Global Network positions wind down on June 30, 2023. Some of those functions will likely devolve to departments if they still want to engage in those activities. Others will take place with International Programs. Low value activities will likely desist.

Dr. Fred Piazza, Chief Information Officer, LSU AgCenter

1. "Pain-Point" Committee formed-LSU AgCenter IT and LSU A&M ITS collaboration for jointly appointed faculty members.

Vinicius Moreira, Mark Schafer, Claudia Husseneder, Nathan Lord, and Evelyn Watts are the council members serving on the LSU AgCenter IT/LSU A&M IT committee to explore ways to help AgCenter staff on campus better connect to LSU A&M services. July 5, 2023, will be the first initial meeting.

Dr. Tara Smith, Executive Associate VP and Director for the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service

1. Question relates to LERS and evaluations conducted this spring. Is there going to be a revision process for rankings of agent performance WITH field agent input.

Agent expectations are being reviewed, as mentioned previously. There will be overreaching expectations for all agents with specific program metrics within each discipline. The documents can be shared with the council moving forward. The information is not or will not be anything new but rather serves to bring consistency across the program areas moving forward. To the best of Dr. Smith's knowledge, the evaluation rankings are not slated for revision at this time.

2. Is the LSU AgCenter still offering specializations for field agents with accompanying pay increases. Any details will be appreciated, such as how many hours are required, what the pay increase is, what fees employees are responsible for, etc.

Specialization will not be offered moving forward. Those currently enrolled in a specialization program will be allowed to complete the process, but no new specialization requests will be approved moving forward. An email update will go out to inform all field faculty of this change.

Ashley Gautreaux, Assistant Vice President; Department, Human Resource Management

1. Policy project updates
 - a. No feedback was received on PS 47 (IT Security). It will be posted soon.

- b. Old LCES document on Youth Protection and Youth Development will be revised, modernized, updated, and added as an LSU AgCenter Policy Statement soon.
 - c. The first draft PS 42 Promotion and Tenure is not available at this time but will be soon. Mike Salassi and Tara Smith are reviewing it now. Some of the updates to PS 42 include statement on 3-year appointment reviews, departments may appoint a mentor committee changed to must appoint, and expanded guidelines on external reviewers (i.e., external reviewers should not have a relationship with the person under review).
 - d. It has been pointed out that the Property and Equipment policy is dated and needs to be modernized. Look for Ashley Gautreaux to start this project on time.
2. Ashley Gautreaux reminded the council about the security breach with State of Louisiana OMV. LSU AgCenter offers employees the services of Force ID to help with identity theft issues. An email will be sent out to all employees to inform them about this service. You can enroll at any time. No need to wait for enrollment period.

Organizational Matters

1. Council “**Monthly Moments**” Update. (Rich Vlosky)
 - a. Goes to ALL AgCenter and ALL CoA

From: NEW EMAIL: LSU Agricultural Faculty Council <LSUAgFacultyCouncil@agcenter.lsu.edu>

Sent: Wednesday, June 14, 2023, 4:38 PM

Subject: LSU Agricultural Faculty Council Monthly Moments

LSU Agricultural Faculty Council Monthly Moments

Dear Fellow College of Agriculture/LSU AgCenter Faculty Members,

The LSU Agricultural Faculty Council provides a formalized structure for faculty input within the LSU AgCenter and College of Agriculture by serving as a communication liaison between the administration and the faculty. The Council represents the faculty as a whole including extension, research, teaching, departments, research stations, and disciplines. The Council serves as a formal advisory body to liaise between faculty and the Vice President of Agriculture/Dean of the College of Agriculture. The Council is a means for faculty input on actions, procedures, and policies. It is also a conduit and generator of new ideas that benefit the faculty, the administration, and other stakeholders.

The LSU Agricultural Faculty Council meets monthly.

From these meetings, agendas, minutes, and ancillary ad-hoc documents are generated. Since the Council represents all agricultural faculty members, we want faculty to be able to access council information, which can be found at the [council's website](#). Content on the website includes the

[council by-laws](#), a list of [council members](#) and contact information, all [meeting minutes](#) from 2002-present, [agendas](#) 2021-present and [ad-hoc documents](#).

Click to read the [Agenda](#) and [Meeting Minutes](#) from the most recent council meeting.

Please email me any comments or suggestions you have regarding the Council.

Regards,
Rich, Chair

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Chair, LSU Agricultural Faculty Council, LSU AgCenter/College of Agriculture
<https://faculty.lsu.edu/ag-faculty-council/index.php>

Old Business

1. Sathivel Subramaniam made a motion to accept the LSU AFC May meeting notes. Claudia Husseneder seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Reports

New Business

Remaining 2023 Meeting Dates

January 20	June 16	November 17
February 17	July 21	December 18 8:30 a.m.-
March 17	August 18	11:00 a.m. (Current and
April 21 (Cancelled)	September 15	New Members)
May 26	October 20	

The next LSU AFC meeting will take place on July 21, 2023, in Room 214 Efferson Hall.

Adjourn

Andre brock made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:35 AM/ Sara Shields seconded the motion. All voted in favor.