

Minutes of the December LSUS Faculty Senate Meeting
Red River Room in the University Center
3:00 p.m.
December 3, 2018

Present: Doug Bible, Tom Du Bose, Kevin Jones, Zsolt Lengvarszky, Jason Mackowiak, Laura McLemore, Russ Perry, Harvey Rubin, and Cheryl White
Absent: Beverly Burden

President Mackowiak called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m. He welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked about the approval of the minutes of the October meeting. Senator Jones moved that the minutes be approved, and Senator Perry seconded the motion. The senate voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

President's Report

President Mackowiak explained that he has been ill. However, he has been active in talking with administrators and faculty about the Pilot Program. Because of his illness, he had not been able to attend the latest Association of Louisiana Faculty Senates at LSU-Alexandria. He said that Mary Jarzabek had not been able to attend either because of an injury to her arm. Senator DuBose explained that he was unable to attend because of a prior commitment, but he and the President concurred that Dr. Brian Salvatore had been present at ALFS.

Provost's Report

The Provost passed on the Chancellor's apologies for not being able to attend today's meeting. He and Vice-Chancellor Lessiter are busy finalizing work on the major campaign that will be submitted to Baton Rouge. Faculty Senators and other faculty members as well as chairs and dean are helping with this work. A major concern is how best to package the suggestions about funding. She said that often donors are not interested in contributing money for things such as leaking roofs, and so alternative funding must be employed for such things. Senator Perry asked what donors seemed interested in funding. The Provost replied that Laura Perdue had mentioned that people wanting to donate were interested in professorships, scholarships, and LAPREP as well as in projects pertaining to the Red River. The Provost passed on the Chancellor's thanks to faculty for their hard work during the Fall 2018 semester. She added that enrollment was up. She said that the number of summer graduates for 2018 was 450, while the number of fall grads was 781. The previous year's numbers were 240 for summer grads and 521 for fall

graduates. These numbers indicate an increase in 87.5% for summer and 51% for fall.

The Provost also spoke about the housing situation for students. We are not able to buy out the current owners of student housing because of the astronomical price they are asking. However, LSUS is committed to initiating and maintaining a strong presence in student development in regard to housing

The Provost extended an invitation to Senators and guests to seek out Dr. Ken Bain's book, *Effective Teaching and Learning: What the Best College Teachers Do*.

Dr. Jordan mentioned the issue of faculty research and reminded everyone that Dr. BinShan Lin will be providing information on this issue in his presentation later this afternoon. She announced that a workshop about sabbaticals is under consideration for some time in summer of 2019. Two people applied for sabbaticals this year, and decisions will be made on December 12.

Senator Bible brought up the matter of parking and asked about parking at tomorrow's get-together with SUSLA. He asked whether LSUS personnel could park in the Southern parking lot. Dr. Cannon spoke up and said that she and the Provost would look into this matter.

President Mackowiak returned to the issue of research and sabbaticals: What should faculty away from campus because of research and sabbaticals do about classes and substitutes for their classes? He also pointed out that many faculty are unclear about what sabbaticals involve. The workshop this summer should help to provide information about these concerns. He pointed out that summer would be an ideal time for people to take sabbaticals when they would not necessarily need an entire semester to carry out their work or complete their project.

Dr. Jordan mentioned the brunch this coming Sunday for online graduates. About 300 online students will be participating in the graduation activities.

The Provost extended an invitation to a colloquium on January 3rd on the LSUA&M campus from 9 in the morning until 1 in the afternoon. The guest speaker will be Dr. Ken Bain, author of *Effective Teaching and Learning: What the Best College Teachers Do*. Dr. Jordan and Dr. Helen Taylor will be in attendance that day.

Dr. BinShan Lin's research presentation

Dr. Lin then delivered his presentation, assisted by President Mackowiak and Shelby Keith. A copy of the presentation will be posted as an addendum to these minutes on the LSUS Faculty Senate's website.

At the conclusion of the presentation, the President pointed out that there is some disagreement and confusion about what is research and what is development. Dean Siska pointed out concerns pertaining to Research and

Development: shouldn't faculty do their own research as opposed to paying for someone else to carry out research for them? Should we have a discussion about this matter?

The Provost expressed how thrilled she was at the number of faculty applications for Research and Development grants, and she thanked Dr. Lin and his committee for all their hard work. She also thanked Dr. Lin for spending time with new faculty and helping them to understand the application process and procedures. She also reminded faculty that LSUS and the Noel Foundation are also sources for funds for research and development.

Vice-Chancellor Cannon's report

The Vice-Chancellor began by congratulating the people who had received Research and Development grants. She then explained that she was trying to get budgets set up quickly. State funds need to be utilized before June 30. She announced that the Veterans' Resource Center should open around December 15 that the new Barnes & Noble bookstore opens today. Work on the Collaboratory is moving forward.

Vice-Chancellor Cannon next spoke about the panels on the IT building that need to be replaced. We may need to employ emergency funds for these repairs. Work on the roof of the HPE Building is still a concern. Work on the roof will most likely begin in April. We shall also be looking into various ways in which the HPE Building can be re-purposed. Workers have installed new dispensers for paper towels and toilet paper in restrooms around campus. These replacements were undertaken in order to save money by making it more difficult for people to walk off with paper towels and toilet paper. Even though the new bookstore and the new paper dispensers are now off the books, we are still working on forty other such projects.

Development

There was no report.

Old Business

There was no official old business, but the President reminded the Senate that tenure and promotion are still concerns and will probably come up again at later meetings.

New Business

The only item of new business involved changes in the FPRs. Senator McLemore pointed out that the forms for the FPR have not been changed in ages and that many of the numbers put down in the evaluations are not relevant to what people are actually doing. President Mackowiak concurred with her and said that some aspects of the forms may not be relevant any longer. Senator Bible said that the FPR, after some revisions, is still used in Business. A related issue the Senators discussed is the notion of merit: what does it mean, and how is it defined?

The Provost told the Senate that she had been talking with deans and department chairs about these issues. Chairs will be working on first drafts of performance reviews. Many conversations are going on across campus on these issues of FPR and merit.

Observations and Concerns

Senator Jones wondered whether or not we had reached any sort of conclusion on the issue of FPRs and evaluations. It was pointed out that Senator Burden, who had raised this concern originally was unable to attend today's meeting, and so it might be wise to wait until she was present to revisit the issue.

President Mackowiak reminded the Senate about the get-together with SUSLA tomorrow, and reminded people that grades were due on the coming Monday. He also urged faculty to attend commencement.

Senator McLemore moved that the meeting be adjourned, and Senator Rubin seconded her motion. The Senate adjourned at 4:03.