

## LSUS FACULTY SENATE

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2020, 3:00 PM

#### ZOOM

**I. Call to order** 3:02 p.m.

**II. Present:** Cory Coehoorn, Doug Bible, Matyas Buzgo, Helen Wise, Roger Zhao, Laura McLemore, Kim Minsun, Sayed Zaidi, Russ Perry, Clara Joa, Brian Salvatore, Allen Garcie, Adel Darrat.

**III. Approval of the Minutes:** There being no additions or corrections, the minutes of the May 1, 2020, meeting were approved.

**IV. President's Report:** Doug Bible reported that all fall meetings will be by Zoom. He thanked all who helped open campus this semester. He noted that all faculty must be prepared to offer courses online. He commented on all the improvements on campus and the work currently going on. He introduced new senators Kim Minsun, Sayed Zaidi, Roger Zhao, Clara Joa.

#### **V. Administrators' Reports:**

**A. Chancellor's Report:** Dr. Clark thanked faculty for their efforts during the pandemic. He thanked the Pandemic Action Team for their hard work. He reported that eight students have tested positive and twelve have been quarantined. He thinks our instance of Covid 19 is very contained and announced that reporting will be on Fridays. Dr. Clark stressed the importance of class seating charts for contact tracing and expressed satisfaction that there were no positives on soccer team. He reported that hurricane damage was minimal. He recommended the faculty make a point of seeing changes in the Port. He reported that LSUS has 9,528 students enrolled, which represents 17% growth over last year. He observed that Angel Martin and seven alumni were nominated for the Chamber of Commerce "40 under 40." LSUS Athletics has the highest ever grade point average for the spring semester. LSUS Athletics is a five-star championship character institution, the highest character award for a university from NAIA. Dr. Clark said he had put a pay raise for faculty and staff in this year's budget, but he probably won't be allowed to give a pay raise. If we are, it will be a merit raise, based on the most recent review. He reported that the Board of Supervisors meeting will be on Friday [September 11]. There is talk that Tom Gallagin may be made President without a search.

**B. Provost's Report:** Helen Taylor opened by asking for a moment of silence in remembrance of Tara Williams-Hart. She thanked everyone for the teamwork on reopening. She then yielded the floor to Shelby Keith to talk about Kaltura. He expressed his appreciation to the faculty for their co-operation. He explained that some Kaltura recordings did not get moved to

the Cloud last week during a file migration. Everyone should be aware in case a quarantined student cannot view them. He also noted that if a faculty member does not project well, students can't hear and ITS is looking at miking options for the classroom. ITS is trying to solve this problem temporarily until they can acquire the desired equipment. Dr. Taylor mentioned that laptops are available to students with financial need through a committee on laptops headed by Brian Sherman, Dean of the Library. She announced that the Spring schedule is due October 15. She has asked Deans to prioritize hiring requests for the next academic year (2021-2022). Following Dr. Taylor's remarks, Matyas Buzgo asked a question about synchronous captioning, to which Scott Hardwick responded.

**C. Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs:** Barbie Cannon reported that LSUS's 2020-21 budget is \$61,556,704. Of that, state appropriations are \$8,562,308. Thus, the bulk comes from student tuition and fees and some unrestricted revenue. She thanked her departments for their work on re-opening. Renovations on the Pilot Point apartments began in mid-July on 75% of the units and are close to completion. She reported that the management company is doing a good job. Barbie noted that The Port has been renovated over summer and features a healthier menu, grab and go, and is looking at a dinner option in the future. Some discussion and questions followed regarding the apartments and the construction on Millicent. Barbie responded that the apartments are at about 70% occupancy; the timing of the planned connecting road to the campus will depend on whether funding is distributed this year or next, and it will take about eighteen months to complete once construction begins.

**D. Vice Chancellor for Strategic Planning:** Julie Lessiter reported on enrollment, which is approximately 9500 students, up 17% from last year. LSUS has 356 entering freshmen this fall, up 14% over last year. She credited Admissions, Enrollment Management Group and Noel Levitz with this success. Transfer student numbers are down but continuing student numbers are up. Graduate student numbers are very high. Her team is working to put together the recruitment plan. Since recruiters cannot go out to high school, they are working on a digital marketing plan. Strategic enrollment plan is through year one with action items readying for year two. She thanked everyone who has worked to get so much accomplished ahead of schedule. Another piece they're looking at is the Retention Plan. She reported that the SACSCOC interim report is due in March. She has been working on it all summer. There are twenty-five standards; seventeen are written right now. She is also looking at the budget and implementation for the LED plan. The plan is to improve digital dexterity of students through use of technology in classrooms. She noted that technology has been critical in the work environment for students. Questions and discussion followed about the SACSCOS five-year report and about the discrepancy between what students need and what they actually have.

**E. Assoc. Vice Chancellor of Human Resources and Purchasing.** Bill Wolfe thanked everyone for their cooperation in reopening.

**V. Old Business** – None.

**VI. New Business:** Doug Bible reported that the list of new and reappointment committee members had been sent out. He asked for approval using the Chat function in Zoom.

**VII. Observations & Concerns:**

Brian Salvatore presented a Power Point on mold and asbestos in the Science Building. He expressed concern that mold growth is out of control and health is a problem. He believes there has been negligent asbestos abatement in the building, which has not been confirmed by the contractor. He noted that he called attention to this at the May meeting. He urged administrators to hire competent experts. He called for students to be informed about the situation because some have respiratory problems. After his presentation Brian called for an executive session of the Faculty Senate to discuss problems and come up with a solution and made a motion to the Faculty Senate that it go into executive session to discuss the issue following the Senate meeting. Discussion ensued. The motion was not seconded. Doug Bible said he would call a meeting of the executive committee but was unsure about when that would be.

**VIII. Adjournment:** There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 4:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. McLemore, Secretary