

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

Date: 09/18/25; 1230-1400, Location: Sandel 238 and Teams

Roster									
Guests: Provost McEacharn, Dr. Susie Cox, Melissa Leporati, MaryAnn Thomas									
CAES		CBSS		CHS		COP		Library	
☒	Boldin, James	☒	Ashby, Jason	☒	Hardy, Tyesha	☒	Comeau, Jill	☒	Pilcher, Heather
☒	Carey, Nancy	☒	Broadway, Megan	☐	Hawsey, Leah - excused	☐	Jackson, Keith		
☒	Couvillon, Ross	☐	Bruce, Paul Robert	☐	Jones, Ashanti	☒	Tice, Hilary		
☒	Koers, Gregory	☐	Johnson, Mark	☐	Perry, Holley - resigned				
☒	McGuire, Pat	☒	McDaniel, Janelle	☒	Robinson-Jones, Paula				
☒	Murru, Siva	☒	Tolleson, Josh	☒	Showers, Jo Ellen				
☒	Rowley, Brendan	☒	Traweek, Adam	☒	Traxler, Karen				
☒	Tresner, Clifford	☒	Walker, Bruce						

X=Present; *Indicates member at large

Agenda

- Discuss and vote on proposed changes to Senate's Constitution and Bylaws - Committee assignment sign up reminder - Evaluate need to continue 2024-2025 senate projects - TABLED - Review emeritus policy - TABLED	- President Castille's university address - Past-president voting - Nomination of CHS Allied Health senator - University calendar discussion with Dr. Cox and Ms. Leporati
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Call to order	Time: 12:30 pm Presiding: Dr. Hilary Tice Recording: Dr. Jill Comeau Video/Audio Recording via Teams		
Announcements	Committee sign ups		
Approval of Minutes	08/21 minutes approved unanimously by a quorum via an online survey	NA	N/A
Unfinished Business	Not addressed outside of the posted agenda for the meeting		
New Business			
Item Description	Action		Follow Up Plan
Proposed changes to senate’s constitution and bylaws: Provost McEacharn (P McE) Q and A 1230-1300	- President Castille not available to come to meeting - P McEacharn appreciated the invitation and reinforced the president’s tenets: painful transparency, data-driven decision making, etc. - Review of dates and actions taken by president 04/11: President Bruno mentioning exigency (painful transparent) 06/09: President Castille took office - Deficit of 12 million this year, 5-6 million last year - Required cuts to all departments - Goal: budget under control and avoid furlough and exigency - Group met daily about the budget, including Bill Graves (VP Business Affairs), Kristi Davis, Sami Owens, Anne Case Hanks, multiple times per week Deans have control of budgets, must sign off on decisions - President made an executive committee instead of having an administration council - Restructure is almost done - Detailed email to be sent out about what has been done in last 5 months - Positions have not been filled in all areas - Information to be sent out about structure of the university including responsibilities and location - ULM is financially OK but worried about cash flow		N/A

	• Minimal reserves • Fall tuition cash flow comes in the beginning of Fall (around “now”) ○ Positives ▪ VCOM: masters and biomed sciences and in process of preference of ULM student applications for DO program ▪ LA Delta: integration of degrees and access to ULM resources ▪ Meeting with community groups and members: agriculture, Monroe Chamber of Commerce ▪ Social media presence ▪ Meeting with donors and request funding for operating resources • Q and A Discussion ○ Sen Walker: amount in reserves? PMcE: 14K when Bruno left ▪ Payroll: 2 million ▪ 1.5% increase in enrollment ▪ Decrease in freshman enrollment: ~110 = \$1 million ▪ Have 1 recruiter: lost 3 and current one is new to job • Have presence in local HS, plan to expand to smaller private schools in Baton Rouge (BR) area ▪ Mission for student success and maintain enrollment ○ Sen Rowley: detail in budget email? PMcE: Cannot release private info about personnel, active cuts should be done and holes will not be replaced ○ Sen Rowley spoke about dispelling rumors about cuts are needed ○ Sen Rowley asked about University Council, PMcE: president ready to go	
Past president election	• Dr. Anderson cannot serve as past president due to an administrative promotion • Sen. Walker nominated to serve as past president ○ Sen. Tice called the question for Sen. Walker to be nominated, with no deliberation ○ Unanimous vote (21) for Sen. Walker to serve as past president	N/A
Proposed changes to senate’s constitution and bylaws 1300-1345	• Executive session and secret voting were not requested • Decided to vote at the end of the discussion of each proposed change • Current Faculty Senate By-laws adopted 03/23/73 ○ Senator Tice discussed inquiry into whether bylaws/constitution are policy, the purpose of the senate, and SACSCOC information related to shared governance but no faculty senate mentioned • #3: Attendance policy revision ○ Sen Boldin: requested information if this is a problem	Tabled proposed changes to be voted on electronically

	▪ Sen Tice and Sen McDaniel: was an issue during COVID but we already have a policy ▪ In past, there have been individuals with attendance issues but addressed directly ○ Vote: Yes 0, No all (21), Abstain 0 • #2: Fully open meeting ○ Sen Tice: consider internal only or internal and external, ○ Sen Tresnor: inquired into recording of meetings and whether they could be posted, with Sen Tice responding that recorded meetings are not available at the moment outside of resource for secretary ○ Sen Tolleson: logistics about an open meeting and non-senator members requesting to speak ▪ Sen. Tice response: Raise hand and be called by senate president to speak ○ Sen. Walker: is currently open to faculty who want to come, if fully open would include staff, students, admin ▪ Concern for safe space with admin ○ Sen. McDaniel: faculty senate already can invite administration if it decides to ○ Vote: Yes 0, No all (21), Abstain 0 • #1: Provost/VPAA serve as Ex Officio Member ○ Sen Rowley: forum discussion included whether to add provost as an ad hoc member ○ Sen Tice: ULL does not have this and recommended against adding them as a member in any capacity ○ Sen Walker: lawyer contact said do not do this, give rights away ○ Sen Rowley: some say yes in survey but includes admin and minimal respondents ○ Vote: Yes 0, No 20, Abstain 1 • #6: Incorporation of faculty senate members into University Council ○ Discussion included whether to wait for more information/tabling or agree to participation ▪ Many senators concerned there may be loss of faculty senate to have representation and faculty could be cherry picked by provost or other admin ○ Current University Council constitution document states Faculty Senate President and nonexec board senator are members ▪ Recommend add to bylaws/constitution -> CBL subcommittee to draft wording	
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	○ Vote: Yes (21), No 0, Abstain 0 ● #7: Incorporation of faculty senate decisions should be addressed by the university council ○ Discussion included whether this was needed in the bylaws ○ Sen McDaniel: could consider voting to forward items to university council ○ Concerns from senators over having enough information to vote on were made ○ Vote: Yes 10, No 0, Abstain 11 ● Motion to table additional proposed bylaw/constitution changes and vote online ○ Walker first/Rowley second/All yes	
University Calendar Discussion Dr. Cox Ms. Leporati 1345-1400	● Dr. Cox: make decisions early (Midfall for next academic year) and request feedback from multiple groups (financial aid, athletes, faculty senate, student accounts, etc.) -> dean and exec council ○ Final draft always on webpage, if changes occur then need to repost ○ Details requested regarding specific steps considered ▪ Based on feedback, increased Thanksgiving Break, avoid 2 day University Week ○ Request to try to get fall break to line up with local schools, issues with 8 week courses ● Ms. Leporati: reviewed HR calendar and nine-month faculty payroll ○ Discussion of timing of spring break being so late ▪ Concern for student approval with having Good Friday off too, but can consider ▪ Students would not like having no Spring Break and finishing school 1 week early ○ Time sheets required for salaried employees due to legislative auditing (same at LA tech) ● Recommend putting faculty senate representation, Sen Rowley volunteered	N/A
Committee Sign Ups -Academic Standards (AS) -Constitution and By-Laws (CBL) -Elections (E) -Faculty Welfare (FW) -Fiscal Affairs (FA) -Ad Hoc Committees:	None, reminder for signup by 09/22	Committee sign-up deadline 09/22

**Faculty Handbook (FH) **P&T (PT)			
Open Forum	NA		
Adjourn	Time: 1402	Call to end: Tolleson first, Boldin second	