

## LSU Council of Faculty Advisors Meeting

June 15, 2023

LSU A&M Administration Building, Room 112, 8:00 AM CST

### I. Call to Order

Dr. Kamboj called the meeting to order at 8:05 AM.

### II. Roll Call

Drs. Kamboj, Rich Vlosky, Stumpf, Mandi Lopez, Greaud, and Carmichael were present.

Drs. Alexander and Garcie were absent.

### III. BoS Chairperson Ms. Valencia Jones and Chair-elect Mr. Jimmie Woods

Ms. Jones was present. She expressed her support for the Council of Faculty Advisors (CFA) and expressed partnership between the Board of Supervisors (BoS) and CFA. The CFA discussed with Ms. Jones about the possibility of faculty raises, including raising salaries to the SEC average. The ongoing concern about retirement program equity between faculty who signed on to TRSL, vs. those who signed on to ORP, was also discussed. The CFA thanked Ms. Jones for taking the time to work collaboratively with the CFA.

### IV. Approval of Minutes from April 21, 2023, Meeting

Dr. Carmichael moved to approve the minutes from the April 21 committee meeting with edits proposed by Dr. Vlosky incorporated into those minutes. Dr. Stumpf seconded the motion. All present voted to approve the motion.

### V. Chairperson Report

Dr. Kamboj discussed the state allocation for LSU system funding with the CFA. Allocations for new infrastructure was discussed. Dr. Kamboj then discussed CFA membership and chairship transitions with the committee. Several members will roll off the committee by September, making the composition of the committee at the time of the next CFA meeting (September 8<sup>th</sup>) unclear. Election of the next CFA Chair, Vice-Chair, and Recorder will be discussed via email until the time of the September 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

- a. Round Table Campus Updates including discussion about retirement plan options.

**Dr. Lopez** reported the following on behalf of LSU-A&M:

- The faculty appreciate the opportunity to work with the Office of Academic affairs and Information Technology Services on IT policies, especially those that impact teaching and research.
- The Faculty Senate Executive Committee is working on updating the LSU faculty handbook.
- Concerns have been raised across several LSU colleges about hiring practices. There are reports of administrators making unilateral decisions about faculty hiring without consulting or informing search committees. The faculty expect more transparent communication with search committees to avoid misunderstandings that negatively impact faculty recruitment and retention.

- It was recently discovered that individual colleges are not familiar with the process to secure a temporary medical parking permit for limited mobility during recovery from illness or injury. It is important to support our faculty members who to return to work despite physical challenges. Faculty put forth that the process needs to be clearly communicated to administrators and mechanisms for delivery of permits to individual colleges established to avoid the need to navigate to and through the student union.
- Faculty were approached by students enrolled in the summer Louisiana Biomedical Research network program because of numerous problems related to scheduling, communication, receipt of LSU ID and email, payment, and resources. The students reported that they had inadequate means to secure food and that their messages to the program contact were not returned. The faculty mentors expect that the current issues will be resolved immediately so that the students have the housing, meals, and funds that are part of the program.

**Dr. Carmichael** reported the following:

- PBRC is pleased to report that 4 of its faculty were promoted from the Assistant Professor to Associate Professor level, and two were promoted from the Associate Professor to Full Professor level, effective July 1, 2023.
- PBRC is also celebrating a commitment to create a one million dollar endowment for postdoctoral fellow support from former Executive Director Claude Bouchard and his wife Monique Chagnon.
- Finally, PBRC is mourning the passing of longtime supporter Mr. John Henry Hernandez, who was instrumental in establishing several Endowed Chair positions within the Center.

**Dr. Stumpf** reported that LSUA plans to address salary inequities for faculty and staff. LSUA salaries are well below those of its peer institutions. So far, it is not clear how far the equity adjustments will go.

At the meeting in September, LSUA will send a list with faculty salaries from instructor to full professor to the BoS, pointing out how much faculty salaries are below those of its peers. This will obviously also depend on the raises that faculty will receive later in the summer. Dr. Stumpf asks the representatives of other schools to provide similar lists. We can then compare schools in the LSU system to each other and to the appropriate peer institutions.

**Dr. Vlosky** reported that the organizational structure for the LSU Ag Center has been realigned to where it had been in the recent past. There is now a Director of the Louisiana Ag Experimental Station (a research arm of the Ag Center). There is also a Director of the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service. Faculty at the Ag Center appreciate the reorganization and agree with the Ag Center moving in this direction.

**Dr. Greaud** reported that LSU-E is still continuing its reaccreditation work which is a major effort. The Faculty Senate met in May; the faculty is trying to work with administration to work through concerns about summer teaching workloads and and overload adjustments.

**Dr. Kamboj** reported that the LSUHSC-NO faculty are thankful that President Tate supported critical campus projects in the new LSU budget. LSUHSC-NO is also initiating a Staff Senate that will complement the existing Faculty Senate, and provide a forum to address Staff concerns. Faculty are pleased that the new CALS building is open on campus, and it has been populated with clinical faculty.

Basic science faculty are being moved from the MEB top 3 floors due to lab upgrade construction projects. Finally, LSUHSC-NO will be celebrating Juneteenth on Monday June 19<sup>th</sup>.

b. Faculty Report to Board

The faculty report to the Board was delivered as follows by Dr. Kamboj:

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VI. Old Business

No old business was presented.

VII. Public Comments

No public comment was registered.

VIII. Additional Agenda Items

None

IX. Adjourn

Dr. Kamboj moved to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Carmichael seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 AM.