



FACULTY SENATE

Meeting Minutes
Tuesday March 12, 2024
3:30pm-5:00pm, CSRB-563

Those present included:

Allied Health— Luther Gill, Alanna Glapion, Megan Majoue (also proxy for Amber Weydert), Brittney Wright
Dentistry—Thomas Lallier (also proxy for Molly Rosebush), A. C. Liles, Diedra Brewer-Hohensee
Graduate Studies— Andrew Catling (also proxy for Doug Johnston)
Medicine— Allison Augustus-Wallace, Jennifer Cameron, Jennifer Hart, Michelle Korah-Sedgwick (also proxy for Sanjay Kamboj), Brian Lochlann McGee, Stefany Primeaux, Maria Reinoso
Nursing— Jolie Harris, Aimme McCauley, Sam Mauldin (also proxy for Jessica Teeter)
Public Health— Chih-yang Hu, Susanne Straif-Bourgeois, Tung-Sung Tseng (also proxy for Mei-Chin Hsieh and Henry Nuss)
Library – Sharon Duffy
Ex-Officio—Rebecca Bealer, Judy Crabtree
Absent: Shelly Dolan

Welcome and call to order by President McCauley at 3:31PM

In accordance with the Louisiana Constitution, Article 12, Section 3, and La. R.S. 42:11-28, the Faculty Senate Meeting for the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center – New Orleans is hereby convened.

Approval of January 2024 Special Session meeting minutes

Approval of February 2024 meeting minutes

Both sets of minutes approved in single motion by Sen. A.C. Liles. Second by Sen Tom Lallier. None opposed, none abstained.

Administrative Update

Ben Lousteau: Interim Vice Chancellor of Administration and Finance

- Parental Leave – No movement on this issue at Baton Rouge campus so no update for us.
- Lights on Dental Campus are repaired and functional again.

Dr. Steve Nelson: Chancellor

Gave an update of current issues and topics he is working on as newly named Chancellor:

New Medical Student Classes

- In State vs Out of State students
 - Pros of attracting out of state students include diversifying the class and higher tuition; about \$25K more for out of state students; tuition difference is not significant revenue with the small class sizes we have at the HSC, for ex, a class of 200 medical students.
 - Pros of in-state students include keeping students with roots in LA
- Ranking System
 - He supports utilizing a ranking system for student applications; helps with responding to inquiries from students who did not get accepted

MEB Renovation

- Have \$65 Million guaranteed from the state for this project
- He understands the disruption it is causing but knows it will be worthwhile to have 200,000 sq ft of new research space
- Will help with attracting new talent
- 2-2.5 years to completion

Dental Campus Renovation

- Installation of new chairs is underway
- Have \$44 Million from the state
- Design phase is starting; will last a few years before work starts
- Considering the option of renovating Delgado and Stanislaus buildings at downtown campus instead and relocating Dental program; cost is about the same; many factors to consider in this decision

Accreditations

- Dental CODA Accreditation
 - Went well and expect to pass with no significant issues
- SACS is upcoming for entire institution
- LCME for Medical School is upcoming
- Public Health also has one coming soon

Strategic Plan

- Expects to have ready to review in a few weeks

NCI Designation

- MOU was signed by Tulane, Ochsner, LSU, LCMC, LSUHSC, LCRC to work together on this effort and LSUHSC will lead it
- Dr Joe Ramos has been hired full time for the effort and is meeting with faculties
- Vet School and Pennington funding will also be applied toward meeting the \$10 Million funding minimum to qualify for the designation
- Advantage of working as a partnership is combining resources; need to demonstrate collaboration between sites.

Commencement in May

- Has invited Gov. Landry as commencement speaker and he accepted
- Dr Nelson believes in importance of establishing relationships with leadership in Baton Rouge and will invite people and host events on a regular basis as part of this effort

Responses to Questions:

Raises

- Has spent \$21 Million the past 2 years on merit and equity raises
- Plans to spend another \$10 Million this year and has to obtain permission from Baton Rouge
- School of Medicine provides the funding for these raises and has the money available
- Noted that it is difficult for salaries to catch up when starting at a low salary

Open Positions

- Doesn't expect to eliminate any open positions that are posted
- Hopeful that the renovation projects will help attract new people

- Baton Rouge doesn't generally like to use outside search firms for positions except at the highest levels
- Dean positions:
 - Dental is highest priority so Dr. Southerland can resume full VCAA role
 - Others may be given 2-3 year terms to gain stability

Contract with LCMC

- Not unusual for contract to be unsigned
- Recognizes that UMC has not been physician friendly in the past
- Is hopeful that the current CEO will make a positive change regarding relations with LSUHSC

Ken Boe: Asst Vice Chancellor for Information Technology

Moodle

- Working with Baton Rouge to ensure our Moodle interface will work with their system
- Moodle is moving to an outside hosted system and not staying in-house; working to ensure smooth transition into Baton Rouge service

MS CoPilot (AI Tool)

- All employees will get licenses for this product
- It's a web version; similar to ChatGPT in functionality
- Data and information will be private and not shared or used by Microsoft
- This is an important issue regarding using AI tools and ours will be secure

CoPilot for Microsoft 365

- AI tool that works with Outlook, Teams, Word, PowerPoint, and more
- Cost is much higher (~\$300/user/year)
- Starting with a small test group

EndNote

- Getting a site license
- All will soon have access to this citation manager

DDoS Attack on 3/11/2024

- LSUHSC.edu website was hit with a Distributed Denial of Service attack
- Appears that the only purpose was disruption
- Our security and firewall systems held up during the attack and the only impact was slow internet response
- At one point, the attack was sending 20,000 requests to access our domain (lsuhsc.edu) per second; it started at 10pm on 3/10 and ramped up each hour until early afternoon on 3/11
- Acknowledges that communication with users was not great and needs to be improved during these situations
- Noted that the Dec 2022 attack on our IT system was investigated and found to not be an attack after all. A threat of attack was received and precautionary actions were taken. However, our 3rd party investigators found no attack was identified. Overall, the outcome was better systems and security after undergoing the ordeal.

President's Report (President McCauley)

From Executive Council meeting with Dr. Southerland:

#1. SACS accreditation activities have completed for Dental Hygiene in Alexandria and Shreveport's off campus instructional site for the School of Nursing with no recommendations.

#2. CODA Visit is complete at the dental campus. School of dentistry is anticipating full accreditation.

#3. The new Registrar's office is meeting with all schools to reiterate and reinforce policies.

#4. This Health Science Center is working with GNO Inc. To potentially develop a working relationship with a marketing firm. Connected with the Louisiana Secretary of Economic Development. To promote the Health Science Center.

#5. Maxient (reporting system) is pending a proposal for a Title 9 case coordinator.

#6. LSU A & M and HSC legal counsel is working to define student non-academic misconduct and the committee composition and hearings.

#7. Currently, the VCAA is reviewing all committees, formal appointment letters / terms of appointment, and formal training within the Health Science Center.

Board of Supervisors Report (Senators Kamboj and Nuss)

No update of significance at this time.

Old Business:

Faculty Handbook Revision Committee Update – Sen. Augustus – Wallace

- Committee has been meeting
- Will have suggested wording available for full Senate review by end of March; will be circulated for input and review
- Met with Jill Fragoso in HR to discuss some of the revisions
- Three primary topics include:
 - Definition of FTE and clarity about how term is applied to workload
 - Clarity regarding promotion process for Research and Education tracks, especially looking at post-doc
 - Use of Gratis and Clinical in titles
- Other issues with titles include the need to align with Shreveport so there is consistency in the medical disciplines; Also some of our titles do not match with those used in Baton Rouge such as inclusion of the word Clinical.
- Some of the issues are significant and will not be fully resolved with this cycle of revision. Some changes to titles will have impacts on institutional systems that need to be considered.
- The process for handbook revisions is for the committee to make suggestions, then send them to the Faculty Senate for review and input, then Dr. Southerland needs to approve all changes.

Motion to move other agenda items to next meeting due to time constraints:

1st motion by Sen. Liles, 2nd motion by Sen Lallier

Senators were asked to start to consider nominations for Executive Board positions for 2024-2025

Items tabled:

Hunger Free Campus designation/initiative

New Business

- Bylaws and Parliamentary Procedures
- Call for Nominations for 2024-2025 Faculty Senate

Reports from Assemblies

Allied Health:

- Research Day on 4/8
- Guidelines for Promotion & Tenure Committees are being developed

Dentistry:

- National Dental Education meeting just concluded
- National Dental Research meeting is starting soon
- National license exam held this week

Graduate Studies:

- Revamping Year 1 curriculum; courses have been approved and going to the Registrar; Noted that the Registrar office has important timelines that need to be followed for new courses
- Membership criteria in Graduate Studies is being evaluated

Medicine:

- Presentation by Shannon Palombo from the EQUIP committee at last assembly meeting
- Showed training modules for Quality Improvement studies; These training modules could have institutional-wide usage

Nursing:

- Shreveport and Alexandria accreditation visits are complete and were successful

Public Health: No report

Library:

- Now offering classes on an on-going basis to all faculty, students, and staff. There will be at least two per month on rotating topics.
- The March schedule is Introduction to PubMed on 3/12 at 2pm and Introduction to RefWorks on 3/21 at 2pm. Classes will be available via Zoom and in person in the Library. Contact the Library to register or to request a topic for a future class.
- Update on IT Server installation on 5th floor of the Library
 - Space has been cleared for construction
 - Journals were removed and reshelfed to clear the space
 - Students are being impacted by the noise of the demolition and will likely be disrupted by the construction noise too
 - Signage is posted in the Library and space is available on the 3rd and 4th floors
 - Discussion of need to inform students of available study spaces on campus

Public Commentary (2 minutes) - No members of public in attendance.

Adjourn at 5:07PM

Motion by Sen. Mauldin, Second by Augustus-Wallace.