

# LSU Council of Faculty Advisors Meeting

October 10, 2024

LSU A&M Administration Building, 11 a.m.

## **I. Call to order.**

Dan called the meeting to order at 11:06 a.m.

## **II. Roll Call**

Members present: Tirone (LSUA&M), Kimboj (LSUHSC-New Orleans), LaBorde (LSUA), Owen Carmichael - alternate (PBRC), and Rachelle Brown, (LSUE); Megan Flavin (LSUHSC-Shreveport) Kevin McCarter - alternate (Ag)

Members absent: Cassandra Williams (LSUS)

Guests: none

## **III. There were no public comments.**

Kimboj asked about the process for public comments. Tirone clarified that potential speakers should register one hour before the meeting.

## **IV. Approval of Minutes from September meeting**

The minutes were approved from the September meeting.

Introductions followed because of the number of guests in attendance. All were welcomed.

## **V . New Business:**

Three board regulatory things are on the Board's meeting agenda today:

Change in the board regulations dealing with Instructors adding instructor ranks. This will eventually become part of PM 23.

Change to sabbatical policy concerning who is eligible. Tenure status will now be taken into account. The thought is that sabbatical leave would be reserved for tenured faculty.

Resolution on DEI, but this isn't in the board packet for some reason. The Legislature has required all systems to identify state dollars spent on DEI programs. It's anticipated that this resolution will call for the board to direct the system to conduct a study of all DEI programming on all campus. The intent is to avoid any litigation that would be brought forth because of race in light of the recent Harvard decision. It should have verbiage to protect academic freedom and student groups. It should also protect faculty/staff caucuses. Scholarships that are race specific may need to be updated after this study. General discussion followed.

Kimboj mentioned there have been numerous discussions on his campus about PM 23. At LSU HSC the Human Resources group does not always understand or follow the faculty ranks, which admittedly can be confusing. We need make sure folks are categorized appropriately. Discussion followed about the lack of knowledge/training of HR staff on several campus.

General brief discussion followed about the Free Speech order and the request to have Mike the Tiger back in Tiger Stadium for LSU football games. According to the Vet School, Mike the Tiger is likely to stay as is to protect LSU's Sanctuary Status for Mike's habitat.

Provost Roy Haggarty stepped in to thank CoFA members for their service to the system.

Campus reports:

### LSU AgCenter

- AgCenter faculty have been awarded \$13.5 million in grants over the last 3 months
- October is National Farm to School Month! The LSU AgCenter's Farm to School program involves 33% of Louisiana school districts impacting approximately 288,083 students.
- Congratulations to LSU AgCenter Sea Grant agents, Mark Shirley and Thu Bui, on both receiving the United States Coast Guard Meritorious Public Service Award for their exceptional support of the U.S. Coast Guard's Safety Missions.

### LSU Alexandria

- The entire campus community has been laser-focused on accreditation reaffirmation over the past year. We are happy to report that last week, LSUA completed our SACSCOC OnSite Review which was a great success according to the committee's exit conference. The Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) Command Your Career was particularly well received and the committee gave special commendation to the full campus collaboration to help students realize their career paths and goals. A campus-wide celebration with cake and confetti was held early this week to mark the completion of the On-Site Review. The SACSCOC Board of Trustees will vote on LSUA's reaccreditation in June 2025.
- Faculty continue to be engaged in teaching and scholarship. The College of Liberal Arts recently released the 47th issue of The Jongleur which is LSUA's Art, Literature and Photography Journal. More than 85 works were included in this edition providing students opportunities for publication. Several faculty have made presentations over the past months and are continuing to lead student research projects.
- LSUA continues to grow! With our unprecedented enrollment growth, LSUA is nearing 7,000 students and has surpassed the undergraduate enrollment numbers of several regional state universities.

### LSU Eunice

#### Faculty Development

- LSUE-Eunice invested \$50,000 in Association for College and University Educators (SCUE) for professional development. Thirty (30) faculty members are participating in the 26-week education and training course "Effective Teaching Practice Framework". Completion includes ACUE Certification.

#### Faculty Publications and Features

- Dr. James Cordes, Biology is featured with colleagues in a recent Herpetology publication.
- Caldwell, G. H., Cantrell Jr, B. E., Paulissen, M. A., Cordes, James. E., Sievert, G., Sievert, L., & Walker, J. M. "Diploid Parthenogenetic Common Checkered Whiptail (*Aspidoscelis tesselatus*): Observations on the Species in Cimarron County in Extreme Western Oklahoma." *Sonoron Herepologist* 37 (3) 2024, VL - 37. Published September 1, 2024.
- Two of English professor, Dr. Maura Cavell's poems will appear included in Volume 14

Issue 6, the autumn publication of *Poets' Espresso Review*.

- Three of Art Instructor Symantha Jones' mixed-media artwork is featured in a two-page spread of the most recent edition of *New Visionary Magazine*, Issue 11.

#### Faculty Professional Awards and Honors

- LSUE Director of Nursing Dr. Mae Simoneaux was recently chosen as an inductee into the prestigious Academy of Associate Degree Nursing (AADN). The Fellow Selection Committee of the Organization for Associate Degree Nursing (OADN) selected Dr. Simoneaux for her exceptional role modeling for students and faculty colleagues as well as her advocacy for advancing associate degree nursing education. Dr. Simoneaux joined LSUE in 2020 and has served as the program's director since 2022. Her induction will take place on October 31 in Tampa, FL at the OADN 2024 Convention.

- Braneshea Moore, an assistant professor of nursing at LSU Eunice, has been named the 2024 Elsevier Educator of the Year by the Foundation of the Organization of Associate Degree Nursing (OADN-F). This is one of four major awards given by the organization with upwards of 10,000 members. The award is to honor an exceptional educator that uses innovative teaching strategies, motivates students to perform at their highest levels, works cooperatively in the college and/or clinical setting, and demonstrates meaningful participation in college, professional, and community activities. Moore will be awarded on October 31 in Tampa, FL at the OADN 2024 Convention.

#### General Faculty News

- Faculty is grateful for an increase to base pay, the Faculty Senate has requested clarification on the methodology for allocation. The Chancellor and Provost are discussing and will report back to the Faculty Senate in early October. The increase will be retroactive to August 2024.

- Two new officers were elected on September 9, 2024: Rachelle Brown, Faculty Senate Chairperson and Dr. Robert Jones, II, Faculty Senate Vice Chairperson.

- A weekly "Faculty 411" email began on September 30, 2024 to provide additional information presented by Senators to the wider Faculty Senate.

#### LSU Health Sciences Center, New Orleans

##### School of Medicine

- Renovation of nearly 200,000 square feet of laboratory space on the top three floors of the Medical Education Building is on schedule for completion in December 2025. Our recruitment efforts to bring funded cancer researchers onto the faculty are ongoing. We have had several successes and are working on several more. We are also continuing recruitment efforts for several leading cancer physicians.

- The School of Medicine strategic plan should be completed next month.

- The School is preparing for LCME accreditation in October 2025.

School of Nursing: Received our National League for Nursing Center of Excellence designation for 5 years, third consecutive designation.

## School of Public Health

- The American College of Epidemiology (ACE) awarded Dr. Edward Trapido the *Distinguished Service Award on September 11, 2024*. Over the course of 21 years, Dr. Trapido was the President of the American College of Epidemiology, the Chair of two of its annual meetings, the Chair of the Education Committee, and is currently a member of the Communications Committee.
- Dr. Trapido is the founding President of the ACE Research and Education Foundation and currently serves on its Board of Directors. In addition, he serves as an Associate Editor of the ACE's affiliated journal, the *Annals of Epidemiology*. He is the Guest Editor for the *Annals* on an upcoming special issue on AI in Epidemiology.
- *School of Public Health has been awarded a five-year, \$2.3 million grant* from the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), to drive new research led by Dr. Tung Sung Tseng.
- This initiative, titled "Effectiveness of a multilevel integrated intervention for low dose computed tomography lung cancer screening and smoking cessation among African Americans," marks a step forward in supporting combining lung cancer screenings and smoking cessation to ease the burden of cancer among African Americans.
- According to the American Lung Association, Black individuals with lung cancer were 15% less likely to be diagnosed early, 19% less likely to receive surgical treatment, 11% more likely to not receive any treatment, and 16% less likely to survive five years compared to white individuals.
- The School of Public Health has launched its 3.0+ Scholars Program, which promises admission to our Master's Degree Program in Public Health for students graduating from any Louisiana University with at least a 3.0 GPA. Residents of Louisiana who matriculated outside the state but have achieved a 3.0+ GPA will also be admitted.
- The School has begun planning its in-person offering of the Master's Degree in Public Health in Baton Rouge. The program is designed to increase the public health workforce needed for Louisiana and is being developed *in coordination with* Dr. Courtney Phillips, Provost Roy Haggerty, and President William Tate IV. The initial focus of the Program will be on Epidemiology and Population Health

## Allied Health

- East Guilbeau, 3rd year Physical Therapy student is recipient of the 2024 Association of Schools Advancing Health Professions (ASAHP) Scholarship of Excellence!
- The ASAHP's Scholarship of Excellence, a prestigious award that recognizes the best in the field, has been bestowed upon East. This award, which carries a monetary value of \$1,000, is given to a student who has shown exceptional achievements in their academic programs and has the potential to take on leadership roles in their professional paths.
- First year MOT student Ashley Carswell is one of only three occupational therapy students in the nation to win the American Occupational Therapy Association E.K. Wise

scholarship!

- This scholarship recognizes students who demonstrate leadership, community service, and strong academic standing and whose application essay reflects their plan to contribute to a well-prepared and diverse occupational therapy workforce.

Occupational Therapy Pi Theta Epsilon Honor Society

- On Friday October 4, the Department of Occupational Therapy inducted its 25th cohort of students into the national occupational therapy honor society, Pi Theta Epsilon (PTE).
- Membership in PTE is an honor and reflects the students' top academic status in their class and strong leadership potential.

Pennington Biomedical Research Center

- The 2024 Men's Health Summit was held on Saturday, Sept. 14, at the Pennington Biomedical Conference Center. The event attracted more than 300 people from across the region for health screenings, vaccinations, and educational sessions.
- Pennington Biomedical's Center for Military Performance and Resilience has partnered with the U.S. Army to assess the health and nutritional status of active-duty members. The study is funded by the Department of Defense and is called the Military Health and Nutrition Examination Study – MHANES. It is modeled on the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey – NHANES.
- In July, Dr. Steven Heymsfield gave testimony to the US Congress House of Representatives on the safety and efficacy of GLP-1 drugs as anti-obesity medications.
- The Pennington Biomedical Conference Center will be the site for a new 5-year NIH grant that will bring 180 postdoctoral fellows and early career faculty from across the country to Baton Rouge to train in cutting-edge procedures and methodologies for obesity and related research.
- Our *Small Shifts* campaign continues and is now engaging over 2,400 participants across Baton Rouge and the greater Metro region. The Small Shifts focus for October is on Managing Stress and Anxiety.

LSU Shreveport

- LSU Shreveport continues to see rapid growth in enrollment. Our summer numbers were up 20% and our fall numbers are at an all-time record of 10,467; this is still trending upwards as we complete our Fall AP/2 semester. Our retention rate is up 8%. Our students come from 61 Louisiana parishes, every US state, and 80 countries. LSUS awards more graduate degrees than any other university in Louisiana. 60% of our undergraduates are first generation and we are the top ranked university in the state in the national Economic Mobility Index. LSU Shreveport is fully leaning in to the Board of Regents' Master Plan to move students to prosperity. All this is due to the hard work of our faculty and staff through innovative degree programs and plenty of support for student success from our staff.
- We are about to open the first new building on campus in 30 years, our Science Research

Annex, to support the growth of our science programs, and to expand opportunities for students to work with faculty on research projects. We are also opening a Business Engagement Center and a new Advising Suite.

- Faculty at LSUS continue a sustained record of publications and grants. For example, this semester Dr. Subhajit Chakrabarty in Computer Sciences received an NIH AIM-AHEAD grant of \$129,258 for his project, “Measuring Health Access for Colorectal Cancer Outcomes in Louisiana. AIM-AHEAD is an NIH funded Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning Consortium to Advance Health Equity and Researcher Diversity. Dr. Chakrabarty’s Co-Investigators on this collaborative inter-institutional project include: Dr. Steven Conrad, LSU Health Professor of Medicine, Emergency Medicine, Pediatrics, and Surgery; Dr. Peter Siska, LSUS Professor of Biological Sciences (GIS specialist); and Dr. Debarshi Roy, Alcorn state University Assistant Professor of Biology (cancer biologist).
- Dr. Marisa Connell, from the LSUS department of Biological Science received \$224,798 for “Identifying the mechanisms by which Kin17 promotes EMT,” a 2-year project through the NIH-funded LBRN. This study will seek to identify the downstream effectors of Kin17 in driving the transition to metastasis and identify chemotherapy drugs what will most effectively treat cancers that overexpress Kin17.
- These are just a few samples to indicate how LSUS is thriving and adapting meet the demands of our changing world.

#### LSU Health Sciences Center, Shreveport

##### School of Allied Health Professions

- Dr. Deborah Smith, PhD, MPH, BSN, Assistant Professor of Public Health was recently awarded the LACaTS Roadmap Scholar Award. She will conduct a study among non-Hispanic Black and Hispanic adult women to assess the associations between social determinants of health factors and cervical cancer as well as examine the association between levels of health literacy and willingness to undertake the HPV vaccine and cervical cancer screening.

##### School of Graduate Studies

- The Master of Medical Science Program, now in its third year, is proving to be successful in strengthening applications for medical school with 80% (12 of the 15) of the program graduates being accepted into medical school.
- The Graduate School has launched a research mentoring program with a curriculum reflecting national standards in effective mentoring.

##### School of Medicine

- Steven Flynn, MD, PhD, Associate Professor of Ophthalmology in Monroe has successfully engaged in graduate medical education delivering far reaching impacts by developing study materials covering basic science and clinical concepts that are now hosted on the American Academy of Ophthalmology’s website. His teaching modules get upwards of 20,000 views on the AAO website each month from national and international audiences.
- Dr. Wayne Orr, PhD, Professor of Pathology and Translational Pathobiology and Director of the Center for Cardiovascular Diseases and Sciences was elected as the President-Elect

of the North American Vascular Biology Organization.

### LSU A&M

- LSU received as many as five NSF CAREER awards in the past year, a leading indicator of top research universities' ability to attract talent:

<https://www.lsu.edu/mediacenter/news/2024/10/02-nsf-career-awards.php>

- Our advances in energy research continue with a new well for CO2 research being drilled at PERTT in collaboration with industry partners Halliburton and ExxonMobil:

<https://www.lsu.edu/eng/news/2024/09/lsu-pertt-new-co2-research-well>.

- LSU and our Championship Health Partner Our Lady of the Lake Health just announced the first round of awards for the Collaboration in Action program, which aims to solve cancer, obesity, athletes' health, and more. This comes from Our Lady of the Lake Health's \$170 million watershed investment in LSU announced in 2022:

[https://www.lsu.edu/mediacenter/news/2024/09/24\\_olol\\_lsu\\_research.php](https://www.lsu.edu/mediacenter/news/2024/09/24_olol_lsu_research.php)

- LaHouse was awarded a competitive NSF grant, \$1.5 million, to develop flood risk reduction software that helps Louisiana homeowners look at different flood scenarios and see how mitigation strategies available today might perform under various future climate conditions: <https://www.lsuagcenter.com/articles/page1727895990655>

- Boyd Professor Suzanne Marchand has been elected president of the American Historical Association, the largest professional association for historians in the world, while Boyd Professor Gabriela González has been elected vice-president of the American Physical Society.

### Discussion of Cross-System Faculty Collaboration

Discussion ensued on topics that might be of interest to faculty across the system. Items mentioned were faculty communication and collaboration across the system; HR and retirement issues; faculty governance; and PM 23 which addresses faculty appointment and promotion. Tirone mentioned that the State Retirement Task Force is bringing everyone to the table about retirement for higher ed. Much discussion followed, particularly about retirement options. It was suggested that we perhaps look at a date in the spring for a Senate Summit outside our regular meeting time so that we are not so constrained by time to get to the board meeting.

### **VI. Adjourn**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:24 a.m.

**Attachments:** Agenda for 10/10/24

### **LSU Council of Faculty Advisors Meeting**

11:00am, October 10, 2024

UAB Building, Room 112

LSU, Baton Rouge

- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Public Comments\*
- BoS Chairperson Mr. Jimmie M. Woods Sr. and Vice Chair Mr. Patrick C. Morrow
- Approval of Minutes from September 6, 2024 Meeting
- New Business
  - Campus Reports
  - Discussion of Cross-System Faculty Collaboration

Adjournment before 12:30pm

\*It is intended that public comments may be made (1) when they relate to a matter on the agenda and (2) when individuals desiring to make public comments have registered at least one hour prior to the meeting by emailing [facultysenate@lsu.edu](mailto:facultysenate@lsu.edu). When registering, individuals should identify themselves; the group they are representing, if appropriate; and the topic on which they would like to comment. To ensure that the meeting is conducted in an efficient manner, each individual will be limited to 3 minutes for their public comments and the Chair reserves the right to limit the total number of public comments if necessary