



Faculty Executive Committee Meeting

11 October 2022

3:15pm, School of Music Board, Virginia Howard-Martin Board Room

Present: Inessa Bazayev (President), Daniel Tirone (Vice-President), Meredith Veldman (Secretary), Kyla Kazuschyk (Member-at-Large) Parampreet Singh (Member-at-Large), Kevin Ringelman (Member-at-Large)

Absent: Mandi Lopez (Past President)

Guest: Provost Roy Haggerty

The meeting was called to order by Bazayev at 3:15 pm.

Public Comments: None

FSEC Minutes Approval from 15 September 2022: passed with corrections.

President's Updates

- Bazayev and Tirone met with the LSU System faculty representatives on 10/10 to strategize for the first meeting of the tenure task force established by SCR 6: Oct. 25, 10 am, State Capitol. This first meeting looks like it will be mostly housekeeping.
- Fs Resolution 22–07, “University Participation in Consortium of Universities Studying Slavery”: LSU will join and so the resolution is no longer needed. The chair of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee will withdraw the resolution at the Faculty Senate meeting on Oct. 20.
- Brightspot Strategy Group (firm hired by LSU to build new library) is now gathering feedback from stakeholders. Bazayev met with Gundela Hachmann (chair of FS Library Committee) and reps from Brightspot on 10/11 to talk about faculty concerns and vision. Need ten faculty members for a focus group on Oct. 18, 9:00-10:30.
Kazuschyk moved that Bazayev email senators and ask them to contact their depts and units: faculty to self-nominate; Bazayev to make sure that the ten represent all colleges. T seconded. Passed unanimously.

Provost's Updates

Haggerty announced impending changes in the allocation of resources. He identified five challenges:

1. Need faculty and staff annual raises
2. Need to increase stipends and provide benefits for graduate students

3. Need to allocate resources to priorities (e.g. the “Pentagon,” reducing class sizes)
4. Need to maintain library budget, can’t afford to cut subscription budget but inflation means the cost rises every year
5. Need to move into modern budgeting system (in part, to assure the revenue for challenges #1-4).

Haggerty explained that the current budgeting process (“incremental budget” = do what you did last year, with little tweaks), while politically easy, is insufficient to meet the challenges.

Hence:

Beginning with FY 24: LSU will implement **a zero-based budget**. Each unit (at the level of deans, vice-presidents, vice-provosts) will propose a budget, with justifications for each line. Budget hearings will follow to determine the actual allocation.

FY 24 will also see LSU increase all graduate stipends to \$23,000 minimum pa, plus health benefits.

1) A committee has been appointed to write an implantation plan before July 1 (start of fiscal year): Bazayev is on this committee, chaired by Jim Spencer, and including V-P Jane Cassidy, Lyric Mandel (grad student assoc pres), Tommy Smith (Budget), Joyce Whitfield (HR), Chad Siegfried (faculty-Kinesiology). By Dec. 1, committee must provide an overview of sufficient detail to allow departments to plan. By Feb. 1: committee must provide enough detail to allow depts and units to write offers to graduate students.

2) Until such a plan is in place and the zero-based budget is implemented, Haggerty is making hiring decisions based on rudimentary analysis of:

- majors per faculty member,
- degrees awarded, research \$s,
- student credit hours,
- # of extramural awards,
- job market in that field.

A majority of new hires will go ahead, but Haggerty is postponing some to allow additions in strategically important areas, plus funds for faculty raises, grad stipends, library subscriptions.

To move forward, Haggerty plans to appoint a new faculty committee to advise him on how to assess need for hires by unit. Wants this committee’s input by time of budget hearings so he can re-assess decisions made. Proposes that this committee comprise 3 faculty nominees from FS, 3 Boyd Professors, 2 undergraduate students, 1 graduate student.

Looking more long-term, Haggerty plans to appoint a separate committee to devise a qualitative rubric to set budget priorities in general.

Provost Haggerty then left the meeting.

In the following discussion, all agreed that the results of the changes Haggerty described are clear: fewer graduate students will be hired, and the Arts and Humanities face the threat of gradual faculty attrition and reduction to the status of “service” departments.

Veldman moved that FSEC invite Haggerty to announce the changes in resource allocation and the budgeting process to the Faculty Senate at the FS meeting on Oct. 20. Singh seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Singh proposed that the FSEC meet on Tuesday, Oct. 18, 3:15 pm, to decide on faculty nominees for Haggerty’s hiring advisory committee members. Tirone seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Tirone moved to revise agenda: New Business first. Singh seconded; passed unanimously.

New Business

- **Agenda for Senate Meeting on October 20**

Tirone moved to approve the agenda where item 8 = Provost’s Report, item 9= FSEC presentation on standing committees, item 10= FS LSU Press Committee report; contingent on on confirmations from Haggerty and Press Committee chair Brannon Costello).

Tirone noted that Res 22-06 (Revision to Article VI: Election of Officers of the LSU Faculty Senate Bylaws) will have to have 2/3 vote of all Senators to pass. If attendance is too low on Oct. 20, the resolution will have to be postponed to the next meeting.

- **A/V Vendor for Faculty Senate Meetings**

Emily Hatfield recommended that a professional firm be hired to run the A-V at FS meetings. Quote: \$1310.00 per meeting. In the ensuing discussion, all agreed this cost was too high. Tirone moved that Bazayev reach out to Emily Hatfield about fixing already existing V-V infrastructure. Veldman seconded the motion; approved unanimously.

- **Resolution 22-08 Revision to Article VI: Election of Officers of the LSU Faculty Senate Bylaws**

Approved revised draft.

Tirone moved to postpone remaining agenda items until the next FSEC meeting on Oct. 18. Veldman seconded, approved unanimously.

Adjourned 4:49 pm.