

LAMAR STATE COLLEGE-PORT ARTHUR
Faculty Senate Minutes
April 1, 2022 12:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting

Attendance:

Academic

Michelle Askew
 Jim Cammack
 Dr. Tina Capeles
 Caitlin James
 Dr. Percy Jordan
 Dr. Michelle Judice
 *Zeb Lowe
 Christina Wilbur

Technical

Maurice Abelman
 Doneane Beckcom
 Michael Betar
 George Bohn
 Brandon Buckner
 *Dr. Blas Canedo
 *Helen Fonteno
 Tonya Harbert
 Sarita Medhekar
 Matthew Roe
 *Michael Sparrow

Staff: Ruth Nelson **Adjunct Rep:** Chelsey Galloway

Guest: none

*Denotes Absence

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 12:00 PM by James Cammack

FYI: Faculty Senate meetings' minutes are available in the Teams folder for all members to review.

Approval of Minutes March 2022 minutes were approved.

Correspondence No correspondence.

Old Business

- Covered in Executive Faculty Senate meeting.

New Business

Committee Reports

Academic Issues: Christina Wilbur reported.

* Dr. Offord has scheduled an online preview of the proctoring software, Respondus Monitor, video meeting this coming week. Sam Houston (IT support) partnership still being

considered. The solutions were **Respondus Monitor** and **Turn it in** and would go into effect in Fall 2022.

* Database of repeat plagiarism offenders possibly being compiled.

Facilities: Chair, George Bohn: A/C issues campus-wide seem to have been resolved.

Faculty Development/Welfare: Chair, Tonya Harbert: no report.

Faculty and Campus Relations: Chair, Tina Capeles: would like clarity in syllabi and Faculty Handbook regarding student civility expectations and repercussions.

Finance and Compensation: Chair, Michelle Askew: Nothing new. Still waiting for Salary report, requested in November 2021 meeting, from Mary Wickland and Tammy Riley.

LIT Faculty Senate: Chelsey Galloway: not enough attendees for a meeting.

LSC-O Faculty Senate: Michelle Judice, no report. (Jennifer Bryant resigned as Faculty Senate President there).

LSCPA Staff: Ruth Nelson: Summer & Fall '22 registration now underway.

Tribute Fund Report: Brandon Buckner, Faculty Senate VP, \$120 in fund now; contributions welcomed.

Executive Committee Report – Jim Cammack and Brandon Buckner virtually met with Dr. Reynard and Dr. Millsap.

Executive Committee meeting: Monday, March 28, 2022 3:00 – 4:20 PM

Raises/Compensation

Budget meetings have concluded– we asked if raises were possible for fall. They don't know yet. They will have to run the numbers. But, budgetwise -- it is a lean year -- emphasize retention and recruitment; They don't want to have to look at eliminating positions.

Working to increase enrollment

- student services reaching outside this area – BISD sending students letter of intent; nursing program in Jasper
- Working to add online education with inmates (so shut-downs would not cancel classes)

Working on ways to help carve out times for ECHS students to have more structured time to work (addresses retention)

Why other colleges are able to compensate better?

- Their answer: larger enrollment and class sizes. Campus may not keep low enrollment programs.
- LSCPA salaries lower than other colleges in the system.
- Online class sizes – are not based on classroom sizes anymore. Millsap said they discussed this several years ago--the chairs and Dr Reynard and Millsap -- and they tried to make the course size pedagogically correct instead of based on classroom size—the current class sizes are based on this now.

Weather Closure: need for timely notification

- Reynard emphasized we are never expected to drive in weather that is threatening, don't drive through water.
- Administration was unaware PNG and Nederland announced cancellations the day before
- In the future, they will try reaching out to HS in weather events and give better notice

Sam Houston IT partnership and proctoring services

Sam Houston IT partnership agreement has been signed – campus did not get proctoring software with partnership -- but hopefully earmarked some money for it depending on how the budget shakes out.

Final Exam Schedule: perhaps revisit the final exam schedule before next academic year?

- Consensus of faculty is we prefer it the old way.
 - Some students have multiple finals same day
 - Many instructors “front-loading” by giving finals earlier in the week.
 - The turnaround time to give finals and turn in grades tight. Simple multiple-choice finals instead of essays, etc. ECHS students are then stuck in classroom.
- Dr. Millsap pointed out the old way had problems, too. The rationale for the new final exam schedule was:
 - a. Wanted to eliminate conflicts within the final exam schedule
 - b. Wanted more instructional time in case we needed it (storms, pandemic, etc.)

Dr. Millsap said instructors can give exams Tuesday instead Thursday and pointed out that students had exams on same days in the past.

Dr. Reynard suggested we see what other schools are doing: she thinks Lone Star College has a final week, but San Jacinto doesn't. Open to options --

Dr. Millsap suggested that we also look at how assessments are structured --having more earlier feedback (assessment) in the semester -- might be better for learning outcomes, too

We asked if faculty could start exams on Thursday the week prior to finals--they said possibly but they have to worry about contact hours of the class.

Dr. Millsap indicated that they are open to changing exam schedule.

Adjunct loads and loads from other institutions --many adjuncts have full loads on other campuses and also teach classes here, sometimes before full-time faculty have overloads (we recognize we need an adjunct pool)

- LSCPA does not have a policy on adjunct loads. Adjuncts evaluated on effectiveness in classroom
- Asked if SACS cared how large adjunct loads were. Administration said not really.
- SACS instead will look at total number of part-time vs full-time contact hours, not concerned with loads of adjuncts per se.
- Full time need to not have too great of a load that they cannot attend to other non-instructional aspects of job

Lines in Seahawk Cafe:

Complaints that lines at the Seahawk Cafe have been long and slow. Customers try to call ahead to order but nobody answers the phone. Dr. Reynard said yes, they were aware of the problem The manager had surgery before Spring Break --another employee broke ankle. Maria Garcia in Business Office pitched in and cooking and culinary students were also assisting.

In conjunction with the Build Back Better Grant application Ben Stafford is working on, Alejandra Y. Castillo Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development -- visiting LSCPA--only 10 locations were chosen for visits

Commencement Speaker: Friday, May 13, Harrison Keller, the Commissioner of Higher Education for the State of Texas. The system office will fly him in; speaks at Sam Houston then

Other notes

- **32nd Annual Citizen Bee (3/24)** was a success. 10 participants from 5 area schools

- **Golf Tournament (3/25)** was a success (scholarship fundraiser). Sold out (36 four-person teams) probably 14 tents with cooking teams & 2 dozen industrial vendors

Upcoming Events

Recruitment Event: Seahawk Saturday, Saturday, April 2nd, 9 AM-1PM Students start at Ruby Fuller then to MMED; escorted to buildings where programs they are interested in are located

18th Annual Gulf Coast Gala: (scholarship fundraiser) on Saturday, April 30 in the Parker Center

Expressions Magazine Reception: Monday, May 9, 5:30 PM, in the Performing Arts Center

Incentive Awards: ceremony Wednesday, May 11, 2:00 PM, in the Parker Center

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM by James Cammack