

LAMAR STATE COLLEGE PORT ARTHUR
Faculty Senate Minutes
October 6, 2023 12:06 p.m.

I. Attendance.

A. Present

Academic Faculty: Michelle Askew, Caitlin James, Dr. Percy Jordan, Zeb Lowe, Martin Mantz

Technical Faculty: Kim Arrington, Brandon Buckner, Jim Cammack, Adriane Champagne, Albert Faggard, Toy Thornton-Wycoff

Absent: Maurice Abelman, Brent Campbell, Morgan Chaddick, Dr. Michelle Judice, James Powell, Carl Richardson, Rikki Solis

B. Staff Representative: Diana Crutchfield

C. Adjunct Faculty Representative: Sonya Briscoe, absent

D. Guests: Leah Alsibaa

II. Call to Order.

A. Meeting called to order at 12:06 PM by Brandon Buckner. The meeting was synchronistical on-line and in-person in Student Center 422.

III. Approval of Minutes.

A. Faculty Senate meeting minutes are available in Teams folder for review and in hard copy form at the meeting.

B. Motion to approve the September 2023 minutes. Seconded and approved.

IV. Correspondence.

A. No correspondence was received.

V. Old Business

A. An Ad Hoc committee comprised of Zeb Lowe and Brandon Buckner was created to look into a survey for Faculty and a survey for Staff regarding improving the moral on campus. This will not include raises.

VI. New Business

- A. A question regarding pay especially for faculty with lab assignments was referred to the Finance Committee.
- B. Pay break down was also discussed regarding additional students over the class capacity.
- C. Question regarding students with special needs not covered in the Accommodations Request given instructors or perhaps students without documented needs.
- D. Dr. Wang from Lamar University Faculty Senate presented an overview of items of interest that they are looking into. These items included policies on grievances, tenure, graduate assistants, and promotion. The salary issue includes hiring new faculty with less experience for higher salaries than current equitably qualified faculty members. An effort is being made to equalize the pay scale.

VII. Committee Reports

- A. Academic Issues: Chair, Zeb Lowe. Question regarding pay and late start classes. Why is the information regarding late start dates so late to the instructors? Is there a chance that an additional worker could be hired to help with set up and clean-up of science labs? Synchronization needs to be achieved between dual credit and college meeting dates and times. A lot of hours are being lost due to the extended number of days the school districts set aside for testing and teacher work days. Since dual credit students do not come to class on Fridays why can't they do some of the testing on Fridays?
- B. Facilities: Chair, Caitlin James: MM 101 has not had a working projector since the beginning of the semester. It has been pursued through the department and submitted via a work request to IT.
- C. Faculty Development/Welfare, Brent Campbell: No report.
- D. Faculty and Campus Relations: Chair, Dr. Percy Jordan: No report
- E. Finance and Compensation: Chair, Jim Cammack: No report,
- F. LIT Faculty Senate: No report.
- G. LSC-O Faculty Senate: No report.
- H. Tribute Fund: Percy Jordan, currently \$130. Senators' dues \$10 a semester.
- I. TSUS CFS report: Brandon Buckner - First order of Business was to elect a Vice President for the TSUS-CFS because the previously elected VP Audrey Taylor, Ph.D. has resigned from Sul Ross University. Previously that position was held by Jim Cammack. A volunteer came forward to replace Dr. Taylor and a vote was conducted with unanimous acceptance of Dr. Jennifer Miller-Ray, Ph.D. from Sul Ross as her replacement.

Faculty Senate Meeting
Minutes (10-2023)

Once a full complement of Officers was elected and the Members introduced, a brainstorming session was held to bring up topics to discuss Dr. John Hayek, the TSUS Vice Chancellor for Academic and Health Affairs. The meeting will be face-to-face in Austin, Texas Friday, October 20, 2023 from 9:00 - 11:00 am with a Zoom Option

That meeting will begin with We will begin with "roundup reports" from each institution in the system and then we will move to specific points. I will give the report for LSCPA and also bring up the topic of Faculty Retention across the TSUS.

Other topics discussed and assigned to specific members were:

Effects of DEI legislation

Tenure and Port Tenure review

Faculty Retention- Brandon Buckner

Faculty Salaries – Salary Compression

Post Covid Learning Loss

Textbook issues (Booksmart)

Equity Raises that were given at LU

Meeting adjourned at 12: 50pm

J. Staff Report: Diana Crutchfield. No report.

VIII. Announcements

A. Ground breaking for the new Health and Science Building will be Monday, November 6, 2023 at 4:00 PM..

Meeting adjourned at 1:25 PM

Minutes submitted by:


Michelle Askew, Secretary

October 6, 2023
Date