

**Ad Hoc Faculty Senate IT  
Committee Meeting  
26 April 2023  
11 am, 1008 B Center for Computation and Technology**

**Minutes of the Meeting**

**Called to Order** by Singh at 11:00 am.

**Present:** Param Singh (Chair), Ken Lopata, Juana Moreno, Fabio Del Perio, Fanny Ramirez, Larry Smolinsky, Craig Woolley (Ex-Officio), Sumit Jain (Ex-Officio)

**Absent:** Gerry Knapp

**Public Comments:** There were two public comments: Scott Baldrige (College of Science) and Doug Granger (College of Science).

- Baldrige raised four concerns: (i) privacy and concerns with sniffer programs, (ii) faculty spending too much time on IT forms and procedures, (iii) lack of sufficient details in current policy documents, and (iv) lack of faculty involvement in the process of policy revision. Thanked the Faculty Senate for taking leadership on this important task and requested that this committee be made a standing committee and given veto power on policy matters.
- Granger raised following points: (i) Lack of details on how to obtain exceptions and referring to PS-121-ST1 emphasized how million-dollar experiments will be shut down if no exceptions are provided for routers on campus. Monies would have to be returned to funding agencies and LSU will get bad press. (ii) The language in various policy statements is open ended and there is no information on baselines. Provided example of PS-132. (iii) The way these policies are written they can be subject to potential abuse (example used PS-121-ST2).

**Presentation by CISO Sumit Jain and CIO Craig Woolley:**

- Woolley emphasized that ITS would work collaboratively with this committee to address all faculty needs and current concerns. Policies will all have possible exceptions on a case-by-case basis. Some details of how to get exceptions are in PS-120-ST4.
- Jain commented on the need for policy revisions due to Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (GLBA) compliance which affects federal aid to students. This affects mostly recruitment, Bursar's office, student aid etc. Since this data trickles down to all faculty therefore these revisions are necessary campus wide on all devices used on LSU network independently of ownership of the device. The need for creating a robust security environment was emphasized.
- Smolinsky raised privacy concerns and protection to faculty when using personal devices for grading etc. Singh stated that none of the policies refer to academic freedom. Lopata commented that end point protection measures can not be given higher priority than legal compliance and academic freedom. Jain replied that apart from public record or legal requests only units which can have access to this data are HR, LSU auditors, and student advocacy and accountability. Moreno requested that all these details should be included in the policy statements. Committee members also expressed concerns on safety of information when Jain informed that a LSU employee was fired on attempts to access privileged information.

## New Business

- Status and revision of IT Policies PS-120 to PS-133
  - Del Perio moved that the ad hoc FS IT committee shall be made a standing committee by the Faculty Senate in Fall 2023, that it needs at least a month more to thoroughly go through all policy and standard revisions, that this committee shall regularly inform FSEC and IT Governance Council about its proceedings. The motion was seconded by Lopata. In the subsequent discussion Smolinsky questioned why these policies are going to be voted in a hurry on 5/3/23 by IT Governance Council. Requested to delay the vote. Jain restated compliance issues. Craig informed that even if IT Governance Council votes on the current policies, this collaborative process for policy revision will continue and if needed re-voted by IT Governance Council. Craig also noted that ITS has been working on these documents for one and half years. Smolinsky questioned why faculty have only got a week to review these policy revisions before the vote of IT Governance Council. Motion passed unanimously.
  - Woolley and Jain informed that policies and standards will both go through the same process of approval with various committees, IT Governance council and the Office of Academic Affairs. All members of the committee and its advisors will have access to policy files which can be edited. Further, all faculty members at LSU will receive a view only link for the policies. Faculty Senate leadership will be requested to share the documents with all faculty members.
  - Lopata stressed the need for a summary sheet to make the policies clearer.
  - Ramirez raised the issue of how much power the committee has to modify the policies. Craig replied that this will be an ongoing collaboration and standards will be living documents. The committee's input will be valued, and rational explanations will be provided for any unincorporated suggestions.
  - Moreno requested the internal audit report to understand the requirements and the actual timeline for compliance.
  - Singh presented slides on improving policy statements with examples, and procedures followed in other universities. Emphasized need of a life cycle document, procedural flowchart, and what can be moved from standards to policies using some examples.
- Discussion of Future Meetings
  - Woolley expressed a strong desire for continuation of this collaborative effort and to meet before the next IT Governance Council meeting on 5/3/23. The committee unanimously agreed to meet on 5/1/23 to continue discussions, especially to focus on PS-120 and PS-121.

Adjourned 12:30 pm.