

# LSU | Staff Senate

MEETING MINUTES  
February 16, 2022

President Amber Salvadras presided over the February 16, 2021, Staff Senate meeting held in 225 Peabody Hall at 10:30 a.m.

## Unclassified

### Executive/Administrative/Managerial

P - Tammy Millican ('23)

### Professional/Non-Faculty

P - Alvarez, Capri ('23)  
P - Braden, Laurie ('22)  
P - Carney, Mo ('24)  
A - Clemmons, Jill ('23)  
P - Cummings, Ellen ('22)  
A - Duplechain, Joshua ('24)  
A - Garner, Karen ('22)  
P - Garza, Jorge ('24)  
P - Ghebreyessus, Walta ('22)  
P - Harb, Ryan ('23)  
P - Herman, Catherine ('22)  
P - Hicks, Emmy ('24)  
P - Law, Shemeka ('24)  
A - Lee, Quinneka ('24)  
P - Levesque, Jonathan ('22)  
P - Nickerson, John ('22)  
P - Rafati, Karina ('22)  
P - Sansoni, Gerald ('23)  
P - Shaw, Linda ('24)  
A - Shows, Haley ('23)  
P - Slocum, Jenee ('23)  
P - Smith, Henri ('24)  
P - Stone, Megan ('23)  
A - Trahan, Amy ('22)  
Pr - Walker, Jason ('24)  
Pr - Washington, Valori ('23)  
P - Williams-Carter, Tyrslai ('24)  
P - Wilson, Derek ('23)  
A - Yan. Le ('22)

## Classified

### Skilled Crafts

P - Corbitt, Brent ('22)

### Technical/Paraprofessional

P - Matkovic, Igor ('23)  
P - Nehlig, Mark ('24)

### Clerical/Secretarial

Pr - Salesneves, Sarah ('22)  
P - Salvadras, Amber ('22)  
P - Sparks, Donna ('24)

### Service/Maintenance

A - Christopher Hopkins ('24)  
A - Robertson, Winkyessa ('24)

A – Indicates Absent

P – Indicates Present

Pr – Indicates Proxy

## **GUESTS:**

Matt Lee, Academic Affairs  
Olivia Phelps, Human Resource Management  
Roxane Berthelot, Campus Federal Credit Union  
Brian Ainsworth, Campus Federal Credit Union  
Anthony Ware, Campus Federal Credit Union

## **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by President Amber Salvadras at 10:30 a.m.

## **ATTENDANCE**

There was a quorum with three proxies noted.

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Amber Salvadras led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – January 19, 2022 Staff Senate Meeting**

A motion to accept the minutes was made by Senator Henri Smith. The motion, seconded by Senator Megan Stone, carried.

## **GUEST SPEAKER – MATT LEE, ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

President Amber Salvadras introduced Matt Lee with Academic Affairs.

Matt Lee thanked the Staff Senate for their service and for the opportunity to speak with the group today. He currently serves as the Interim Executive Vice President & Provost at LSU. His administrative motto is “Excellence through Innovation”, and he ardently supports the Scholarship First initiative established by LSU President Tate. Prior to this appointment Lee served as the Vice Provost for Academic Programs and Support Services as well as Associate Vice President for Research and Economic Development. He is a sociologist by training with his scholarly work having been centered in criminology, public health, and community resilience. Matt Lee earned his PhD from Louisiana State University in 1999.

Matt Lee shared that at LSU we are setting records. Enrollment looks great with one of the largest classes of non-traditional diverse students attending. We have more PEL eligible students than ever before.

Lee is pushing for student success and bringing more pressure than ever before. The 4-year graduation rate has increased to 45.9% with the next cohort to be over 46%, and that continues to increase. LSU is seeing more online enrollment from 2,200 to over 3,000 students. Dual Enrollment is also way up.

LSU is setting records with regards to research awards to the institution totaling \$166 million with a goal of receiving over \$200 million.

The strategic planning process begins soon with a focus on 5 focal areas of expertise:

- BioMed/Health Care/Cancer designation
- Cyber Security and Leadership
- Ag Technology and Food Science
- Coastal and Environmental research
- Energy transition

Some other updates mentioned is that LSU is revisiting the funding model for graduate students as well attracting post-doctoral talent with the FUTURE Program. The SEC Profit Sharing has offset the cost of athletic operations. LSU is also looking to provide resources for current students to better serve them with having at risk students attend counseling sessions earlier than in the past. LSU is Flagshipping!

The floor was opened for questions.

President Salvadras thanked Matt Lee for attending today's meeting.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Amber Salvadras reviewed relevant meetings in which she attended.

- Attended a meeting with Kimberly Lewis, Executive Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer. In this new role, Lewis will focus on executive-level planning, implementation and assessment of financial and administrative strategies, policies and procedures, which enhance LSU's core mission of discovery, learning, diversity and engagement. Lewis will work closely with senior leadership across all of LSU's campuses, serving as chief advisor to the president and the LSU Board of Supervisors on all fiscal and administrative matters.
- Attended the University Council Meeting
- Held the Executive Committee meeting in preparation for the month of February
- Attended a meeting with Matt Lee
- Attended the first search committee meeting for a new Provost

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Staff Appreciation**

The Staff Appreciation Committee met to the plan the end of the year event for staff. There was also a discussion regarding the Professional Development Fund where an online application

form is being created. There is also a program number that has been generated in Workday.

### **Staff Benefits, Policies & Development**

The committee met to discuss a campus climate survey for staff. The committee will meet with representatives with Human Resource Management to discuss further.

### **Campus Communicators**

There was a written report for the Campus Communicators committee meeting that was held last month for review.

### **Pregnancy & Parenting**

The committee is planning an inaugural event called. A Stroll through the Oaks on April 2, at 10 a.m. The registration fee is \$15. They are reaching out to business to be a sponsor at the Parent Resource Fair as well. The LSU Staff Senate is contributing \$300 towards this event. A link will be sent out to all who would like to register.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Staff Senate Budget/Gift Fund**

Treasurer Catherine Herman provided a written financial report that was included in the meeting packet for review by the full Senate.

#### **Staff Senate General Election Timeline**

The Staff Senate General Election timeline was distributed in the meeting packet as well as mentioned during the meeting.

#### **Staff Senate Fee Support Scholarship**

There was an approved amendment to the Staff Senate Fee Support Scholarship award which has been raised to \$500 per person instead of \$250.

### **Values & Vision**

The Staff Senate held a discussion about the organizations values and vision as we work on strategic planning. We need to inspire and grow as a stronger team. LSU wants to be a model employer for all staff with regards to professional development, the community we build, appreciation, recognition, career paths and retaining employees.

### **Campus Parking**

There was a follow-up discussion regarding parking due to Brian Favela visiting with the full Senate last month.

## **Staff Senator Photos**

The Office of Communications & University Relations has resumed scheduling for those who still need to take a professional headshot.

## **Future Guest Speakers**

If anyone has any suggestions for a Guest Speaker, please send those to the Executive Committee.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **March Meeting**

Tiffany Mason with the Office of Risk Management.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Staff Senator Birthday**

Staff Senator March Birthdays:

- Senator Henri Smith celebrated her birthday on February 9.
- Senator Igor Matkovic celebrated his birthday on February 12.

Happy Birthday!

President Amber Salvadras announced that a Staff Senate Social has been scheduled on Thursday, February 17, at 11:30 a.m. at Torchy's for lunch for those who are able to attend.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN** – With there being no more business, Past-President Jonathan Levesque made a motion to adjourn. The motion, seconded by Senator Capri Alvarez, carried.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

John Nickerson, Secretary

JN/mm