



Meeting Minutes
Tuesday April 14, 2026 - 3:30pm-5:00pm,
CSRB 563

Those present included: (Proxies*)

- Allied Health:** Brandon Walker, Brittany Hall, Amber Weydert, Stephanie Eschete,
Dentistry: Thomas Lallier (**proxy for Meric Karapinar-Kazandag**), Eugene Antenucci, A.C. Liles, Diedra Brewer-Hohensee
Graduate Studies: Sonia Gasparini, Andrew Catling
Medicine: Allison Augustus-Wallace, Jennifer Cameron, Brian Lochlann McGee, Maria Reinoso, Laura Pelaez, Michelle Korah-Sedgwick (**proxy for Jennifer Hart**), Suresh Alahari
Nursing: Collen Story, Jolie Harris (**proxy for Laura Bonanno**), Jessica Teeter, Quinn Lacey
Public Health: Mei-Chin Hsieh (**proxy for Susanne Straif-Bourgeois**), Tung-Sung Tseng, Chih-yang Hu (**proxy for William Robinson**)
Library: Sharon Duffy
Ex-Officio: Rebecca Bealer, Shelly Dolan, Michael Boutte
Absent with Proxy: **Meric Karapinar-Kazandag, Jennifer Hart, Laura Bonanno, William Robinson, Susanne Straif-Bourgeois**
Not present: **Luther Gill**

VI. Welcome and Call to Order by President Cameron at 3:31 PM

II. Introduction of Special Guest(s) – None

Dr. Porche – Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs: (Written Report)

- Correction: 70 Promotion and Tenure packets were sent to Baton Rouge in March; the number of 112 given in March VCAA report was wrong
- University Registrar Search committee formed, position posted
- Digital Badge Task Force working on policy
- CM75 adopted and revised
- SOM Reorganization was approved by Board of Regents at March meeting
- Dr. Scott Edwards will present “Intersection of Substance Use with Chronic Disease in Vulnerable Populations” at the April Board of Supervisors meeting in Baton Rouge.
- Pre-Commencement Dates/Times – NOTE: The Lakefront Arena has a clear bag policy. Clear bags no larger than 12”x6”x12” and small handheld bags no larger than 5”x7” are permitted.
 - Allied Health -May 13, 10:00 am - Lion’s Building, Room 130
 - Dentistry – May 13, 3:30 pm- Lakefront Arena
 - Graduate Studies – May 12, 11:00 am – HDC Room 335
 - Medicine – May 13, noon – Lakefront Arena

- Nursing – May 13, 8:30 am – Lakefront Arena
- Public Health – May 13, 9:30 am – HDC Room 335
- Commencement
 - May 14, 10:00 am – Lakefront Arena – doors open at 9:00am

Ken Boe – *Assistant Vice Chancellor for Computer Services* (Written Report)

1. On Thursday, **March 26th**, the Learning Management System Review Committee chose to go forward with Moodle as the LMS for LSUHSC-NO. The Master Services Agreement with MoodleUS is being negotiated for the LSU System. Once the MSA is complete we will move forward with confirming a statement of work, developing an implementation plan, and recruiting representatives to work with MoodleUS.
2. We are next going to kick off and exam software evaluation. Medicine uses a product from Questionmark for tests, but the other schools only use Moodle for testing. A testing platform would be more secure and is expected to be more supportive of varied question types than Moodle. We shall see.
3. An updated draft AI policy was submitted to institutional leadership for review and feedback on March 31st.

III. Public Commentary (2 minutes each) – None

IV. Approval of October Meeting Minutes

- Minutes approved in motion by Drs. Gasparini and Lochlan McGee

V. President’s Report (President Cameron)

See appended report

VI. Board of Supervisors Report (Senators Alahari and Dolan)

- Next meeting Thursday, April 23, 2026

VII. Reports from Assemblies

Staff Senate: (Boutte) –

- In their March meeting, the Staff Senate hosted Drs. Guzick and Porche reporting much of the same information reported to the Faculty Senate.
- Ben Lousteau (interim VCAFF) reported on ADA compliance and Employee Assistance through HR
- The Director of the University Police announce an Employee Self Defense class, and focused on “Awareness and Self Defense” presentation.

A motion was approve to omit the reading of the School reports at this meeting, and move on to Old business.

Allied Health:

- **No Report**

Dentistry:

- Preparation for renovations are ongoing.
 - Plans are to renovate Aud C, making Aud A and B unusable
 - Planned alternative teaching space in the basement

Graduate Studies:

- Updated Graduate Assistant Policy: stipends increase to \$37,500, provide 75% of cost of student health policy, Full tuition & fee waiver (per state law). Position is limited to PhD students and governed by Health Science Center Policies, as well as state/federal rules), for Full-time students, in Good Academic Standing, Hired at 50% effort for maximum of 20 hours assigned work.
- MS & MS/MD track in Clinical Translational Science led by Dr. Rivera has been approved; details will be added to the website soon.
- The following specializations have been approved for the Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences: Physiology, Interdisciplinary Oncology, Genetics, Infectious Disease and Host Response, Neuroscience, Pharmacology.
- Grad Appreciation Week was the first full week of April.
- The first year graduate students have selected their home lab for their PhD and MS.

Medicine:

- Medical student match: went well; 49-50% of students staying in state, 80-85% in LSU schools.
- Basic science reorganization: Board of Regents approved names and mergers of departments
 - MGI - Microbiology, Genetics, and Immunology
 - PBET - Pharmacology, Biochemistry, and Experimental Therapeutics
- NCI designation: still top priority of new administration
- Construction
 - 5th floor MEB: finalized, researchers starting to move in
 - Walkway to CALS on target to open in summer
 - Walkway to UMCNO over Tulane: no timeline, will cost ~17million, but now out of legal process

Nursing:

- Curricular revision: seeking a consultant to facilitate updating the curriculum content for undergraduate and graduate courses
- Digital Accessibility: once trained, faculty will begin checking/revising syllabi, Moodle pages and PowerPoints
- The BR campus aims to admit 90 students in the fall (3rd admission cohort); construction should be completed at the end of summer 2026 (it is on track to finish)
- The Shreveport campus will graduate its second May cohort next month

Public Health:

- No Report

Library:

- April Information Sessions:
 - **Thursday April 16** – 12pm as part of an IT Office Hours presentation
 - Hands On Accessibility: Creating & Fixing Documents in Word, PowerPoint, & Acrobat Pro
 - **Wednesday April 29** – 12pm – Ische Library Room 405 or via [Zoom](#)
 - Covidence for Systematic Reviews: Essentials for Students and Researchers
 - VisualDx session was held on April 8 and recording link will be posted on the Library Instruction [webpage](#) .
 - All Library sessions are recorded and available on the [Library website](#).
- New products on McGraw Hill's Access platform added:
 - [AccessAnesthesiology](#) and [AccessPediatrics](#) have been added to the Library collection.
 - Both feature online access to textbooks, case studies, board prep resources, teaching modules, and multimedia content for these specialties.

VIII. Unfinished Business

- **Faculty Evaluations Committee report (Senator Lallier)**
 - The Committee met with Jane Behlen (Assistant Director, HRIS & Talent/Organizational Development) and Bralin Artigues (Associate Director of Human Resources) on Friday, February 27th and March 14th
 - Much was discussed about elements in the proposed revised electronic Evaluation Instrument (PageUp) to be used for the March 2027 evaluation of Year 2026.
 - Plans are to bring a revised version of the test forms to the **Deans on May 4th**
 - And then to the **May 12th Senate meeting** for comments and Ratification
 - **Salient Changes:**
 - All Electronic System (PageUp?) involving Annual Planning and Evaluation
 - Example:
 - June 2026 – December 2026 – Faculty Self Evaluation for year 2026
 - March 2027 – Supervisor meeting for Annual Evaluation of 2026 and Planning for 2027
 - Separation of Core Values from Evaluation Calculation (needs Deans' approval)
 - Faculty Activates changing from 3 to 5 Categories
 - Research, Teaching, Clinical Service, Admin Service
 - School Service (including External committees)
 - Faculty Activates will now total to 100%

- Percentage of each category will be recorded in Initial Faculty Self-evaluation (March except 1st Year)
 - Supervisor will record actual percentage of effort and discuss any differences with the faculty member (throughout the year and at Annual Evaluation)
 - Changes will be tracked
 - One 5-point scale score for each of the 5 areas (slider, whole numbers only)
 - Annual Evidence can be added to Comments Section
 - Evaluations will be submitted with PDF of Faculty CV (mandatory)
 - Other supplemental attachments can be added to each section.
 - Eg. Course Evaluations, PDFs of publications, ...
 - All Activities Scores will be Auto Calculated to a single combined score (weighted by % effort, and reported to 1 decimal place (Eg. 4.3/5.0))
 - Appeals via Handbook Section 10.10, no automatic 2nd review.
- **Call for Nominations for President Elect and Secretary**
 - Please consider self-nominating has generated one nominee for President-Elect, and one for Secretary
 - If you would like to nominate another individual, please contact them about their interest in the position
 - Please contact Drs. Cameron and/or Lallier with questions concerning the expectations of each position
- **ADA compliance (Senator Cameron) – AA22 Digital Accessibility Policy**
 - Policy AA-22 was presented, describing the requirement to adhere to Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) policies, but giving little guidance about how to accomplish this goal.
 - Much discussion ensued.
 - **A motion was unanimously approved to:**
 - Request from the Administration clearer guidance on how to make our electronically distributed material (eg. Websites, Moodle sites, and emails) ADA compliant. This would include clear guidance on the procedures for Word, PowerPoint, and PDF documents. It would also be most helpful for faculty to access to SiteImprove reports and recommendations (as these may be more stringent than Microsoft Assessability functions), as well as practical remediation tips.

IX. New Business –

- **New CM-75 Scientific and Research Misconduct policy and Faculty Handbook**
 - CM-75 has been created and approved to ensure that our procedures for investigating **Scientific and Research Misconduct adhere to the new guidelines published by DHHS**
 - This incorporates information and policies already in the Faculty Handbook

- The Handbook will be revised to refer to CM-75, and delete this duplicate information, to ensure that we only have one set of published policies for these investigations
- **LA HB1063 by Rep. Charles Owen**
 - This proposal includes changes to four areas
 - Advertising and hiring approvals for Administrative positions (Dean's and Above)
 - BOS Review of all courses in all degree granting programs
 - Defining a Faculty Deliberative Body (eg. Senate) as only including tenured full professors with a one-year term limit and the *president* selected by the President of the university.
 - A reporting mechanism for students involved in "major campus disruptions arising from legal or policy violations", including the names of the Admissions officers who reviewed the applications of the sanctioned students.
 - This proposal has been sent to the House Education Committee, but has not been put on any agenda

XI. Adjourn at 5:01

**President's Report
April 2026**

Lallier Notes:

- Meeting with Dr. Porche on April 9, 2026
 - Provost search:
 - 1 named candidate – Interim provost Troy Blanchard
 - 27 people of interest
 - 12 are being pursued for more information
 - A short list will be created for public dissemination and interview
 - All must be tenured, full professors with Dean or above experience from a University
 - Baton Rouge is investigating Post tenure review
 - Baton Rouge is investigating a fast track program for select LSU students to reserved slots for Medical School admission (after 3 years if UG school and no need for an MCAT)
 - Flagship-wide and effort to review all Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) to scrub DEI language
 - Dr. Springate is heading an effort to create a combined MD/MBA program with UNO
- LSU Flagship Transformation
 - 29 committees are hard at work
 - Looking and policy changes and consolidation (big picture perspective)
 - **Academic Committee** is to:
 - Enhance student experience
 - Leverage programs across campuses
 - Protect Program Autonomy
 - Deadline = May 1 for recommendations
- SACSCOC Accreditation
 - Awaiting response to initial documents
 - Final documents may be due in September

Jennifer

Jennifer Cameron, Ph.D.
President, Faculty Senate
LSU Health New Orleans