



**Meeting Minutes (Revised DRAFT)
Tuesday August 12, 2025 - 3:30pm-5:00pm,
Chancellor's Reception Room – MEB 3103**

Those present included: *(New Senators*)*

Allied Health: Luther Gill, Brandon Walker, Amber Weydert, Brittany Hall, Stephanie Eschete*

Dentistry: Thomas Lallier, A.C. Liles, Eugene Antenucci*, Meric Karapinar-Kazandag*

Graduate Studies: None

Medicine: Suresh Alahari, Allison Augustus-Wallace, Jennifer Cameron (proxy for Gasparini), Jennifer Hart, Michelle Korah-Sedgwick, Brian Lochlann McGee, Maria Reinoso

Nursing: Jessica Teeter, Collen Story*, Quinn Lacey*

Public Health: Mei-Chin Hsieh, Chih-yang Hu, Susanne Straif-Bourgeois, Tung-Sung Tseng, William Robinson*

Library: Sharon Duffy

Ex-Officio: Rebecca Bealer, Shelly Dolan, Michael Boutte

Absent with Proxy: Sonia Gasparini (SOGS), Laura Bonanno (SON), Jolie Harris (SON)

Not present: Diedra Brewer-Hohensee (SOD), Andrew Catling (SOGS)

I. Welcome and Call to Order by President Cameron at 3:35 PM

II. Introduction of Special Guest(s)

Ben Lousteau – Vice Chancellor of Administration and Finance
(Information also relayed directly by Dr. Nelson)

- Planned faculty raises (4% merit/1% equity) that will be retroactive to July 1.
- Current pay in September check, Retroactive pay in October check

Dr. Porche – Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs:

- **Student Health new hires**
 - Physician with 60% effort devoted to student health
 - LPN started Monday, August 11th
 - Coordinator starting in late August
 - Employee Health to follow
- **ORS office restructuring, IRB and accreditation**
 - Hiring
 - Applicants for Executive Director are being reviewed by Search Committee
 - 3-5 will be selected for on-campus visits (25 applicants)
 - Analysts now number 5 (some are temps) with 2-3 positions left to hire
 - Clinical Trials Manager search has identified qualified candidates but offers have been rejected – insufficient salary cited by one candidate who denied the offer letter

- Grants Compliance Office hired Jessica Raymond, JD, her title is Grants and Development Coordinator – this is a second person in the office with Ann Clesi
- **SOM Reorganization Plan going to BOS**
 - Withdrawn from this meeting, planned for following BOS meeting
 - Working on Final Names for Centers of Excellence and Departments
- **SACSCOC**
 - Report has been submitted with response to 1 deficiency
- **QEP**
 - Started with focus on Financial wellness first
- **Baton Rouge Nursing program started with 35 students**
 - planned expansion to classes of ~100
 - Renovation of space in BR ongoing
- **Non-LSU Summer Researchers**
 - Working on streamlining the onboarding and approval processes
- **Academic Misconduct Committees**
 - Working on aligning and standardizing processes across Schools
- **PM23 revision / Faculty Handbook revisions**
 - Senate Faculty Handbook Review Committee will update faculty handbook 2026 edition to align with PM23 regarding the new ***Instruction track*** following Academic policy AA-14
- **School-wide committees**
 - Review of committees is underway
- **Question: Concerning Center of Excellence on Innovation and Education**
 - The LSUHSC committee will be looked at along with the realignment of the SoM

Alicia Edwards - *Assistant Vice Chancellor for Community Engagement*

- **Staff Senate**
 - Meets at 2PM (just before Faculty Senate)
 - Making a call for new Senators next week (looking for seven)
- **Community Engagement**
 - Will be Reaching out Soon

Ken Boe – *Assistant Vice Chancellor for Information Technology*

- Learning Management System (LMS)
 - Committee (Chosen by Deans) has met and are scheduled to view demos of Moodle 4.5 (currently 3.9), Canvas and Blackboard
- TurnItIn – Package includes AI detection
- GraphPad Prism Licenses:
 - 5-6 faculty are already set up and testing the system
 - Announcements to faculty in general are being distributed
 - 162 licenses have been purchased; portal is being setup; authentication is being setup
 - Contact IT if you would like to set this up.
 - [Service - GraphPad Prism License Request](#)

III. Public Commentary (2 minutes each) - None

IV. Approval of June Meeting Minutes

- Minutes approved in motion by Drs. Alahari and Liles

V. Recognition of Service and Welcome to New Delegates

- Sharon Duffy and Thomas Lallier were recognized for past service to the Senate.
- New Senators were welcomed and given a copy of the Constitution and Bylaws.

VI. President's Report (President Cameron)

See appended report

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

- No meeting since June
 - Approved Centers of Excellence
 - Trauma (new), Neuroscience (renewed) and Cancer (renewed)
- Next Meeting in September

VIII. Reports from Assemblies

Allied Health:

- New Strategic Plan is being rolled out in stages under the guidance of Brandon Walker

Dentistry:

- New Faculty Assembly President James Burns, and President-elect Diedra Brewer-Hohensee

Graduate Studies:

- The BSAC (Biomedical Sciences Advisory Council) is in the process of finalizing the Graduate Studies Handbook, that includes an updated dismissal and appeals policy.
 - The MD/PhD curriculum for the Biomedical Sciences Program is also being finalized.
- The Biomed PhD program was added, and 7 old PhD programs were removed from the 2025-26 Catalog.
 - In addition, there are two new M.S. tracks in the works, an M.S. Track in Translational Research and Genomic Medicine and a Translational Research MS track. This last track would also be designed to attract current medical students as a combined MD/MS with one year exclusively devoted to research in a 5-year dual degree program.

Medicine: Aug meeting postponed to the 14th

Nursing:

- First BR Campus class has started with 32 students. Plans to expand to 200 by next Fall. Will be renovating to move to a larger space.

- Shreveport campus graduated 4 students in May and 5 are planned for August
- CBE update: all graduate and undergraduate courses have completed revisions to the most current AACN Essentials. The CCNE Substantive change report has been submitted for the graduate program. The undergraduate program has until October to submit.
- Three faculty will be honored in October for receiving Fellow of the [American Academy of Nursing](#), (FAAN) designation for significant contributions to the nursing profession and healthcare. Drs. Manning, Davis and Chatmon
- Post-Masters to DNP Nurse Educator is being offered on-line this fall with BSN to DNP Nurse Educator Degree moving next year. This is the first fully on-line program.

Public Health: No Updates

Library:

- May Informational Sessions:
 - **Introduction to StatPearls for Faculty Admins** – Wed August 13 at noon
 - **Introduction to EndNote 25** - Wed August 27 at noon
 - Classes are held in Ische Library Room 405 in person and on Zoom. Classes are being recorded and will be available on LSU Health Digital Scholar, our Institutional Repository, for viewing at the end of the month.
- The 2024 NIH Public Access Policy is now in effect. NIH-funded researchers now have new requirements to meet for sharing their published articles and supporting data. The Libraries held an Informational session about it on July 2. It is available to view in Digital Scholar and there is a Resource Guide with the latest updates. Please reach out if you have any questions about complying with the new policy.
- We are collecting materials for a Hurricane Katrina historical project and accepting donations of pictures, artifacts, and more. It will be part of a campus-wide symposium sponsored by School of Public Health. It's being held the week of August 25-29. If you have something to contribute or would like to provide an oral history of your experience, please contact the Libraries.

IX. Unfinished Business

Faculty Evaluation Committee

- Met prior to the removal of Dr. Southerland
- Initial plans were formulated
- Have not spoken to Dr. Porche on this issue, will be discussed at next Exec meeting

X. New Business

Call for Volunteers to the Faculty Handbook Committee by Dr. Augustus Wallace
Announcement of work of Wellness Committee by Shelly Dolan

XI. Adjourn at 4:39

This meeting was followed by a reception in honor of outgoing officers and new delegates.

FACULTY SENATE
President's Report
August 2025

LSU Health – New Orleans Senators and Faculty,

It is an honor to be serving as the President of the Faculty Senate of LSU Health New Orleans for the 2025-26 academic year! I am a firm believer in the role of faculty governance in maximizing the effectiveness of an academic institution in executing its mission. I invite members of the faculty to stay abreast of the workings of the Faculty Senate. Meeting agendas and minutes are posted to the Faculty Senate website and can be viewed here: [Faculty Senate webpage](#).

I also encourage faculty to share their thoughts and concerns on issues that impact the Health Sciences Center community with the Faculty Senate. This can be done by accessing the Faculty Senate contact form, which is posted on the website and linked here: [Senate Contact Form](#). Faculty can share comments via the form or register to speak during the public comments period of a Faculty Senate meeting. The Senate welcomes general faculty input!

On August 7, the Senate Executive Board met with VCAA Dr. Porche. Dr. Porche requested that the Senate Faculty Handbook Committee review and revise the handbook to align with the newly issued PM-23, which officially codifies the Instruction track. He described new changes to student health, which includes the addition of three new staff: a clinician with 60% effort devoted to student health; a full-time LPN; and a coordinator. These new staff are expected to restore student health services that have been unavailable in recent years. The long-term plan is to continue expanding services to include employee health services as well.

Dr. Porche also provided an update on the hiring of staff for the Office of Research Services. The office welcomes Grants and Development Coordinator **Jessica Raymond, JD**, who will work with Ann Clesi in the Grants Compliance Office. IRB analysts currently number 5 (some on temporary assignment) with ~2-3 permanent positions remaining to be filled. A search has been conducted for a Clinical Trials Manager, but the position currently remains unfilled. Applicants for Executive Director of ORS have been reviewed, with 5 candidates selected by the Search Committee for in-depth interviews on campus. Functional aspects of the IRB office were also discussed, focusing on ways to improve communication of lapsed training to investigators and their teams, and improving efficiency of review of protocol amendments to add or remove personnel.

The Office of Academic Affairs is also undertaking a review of policies (AA policies posted on the Academic Affairs website) and Health Science Center – wide standing committees. In terms of committees, some restructuring is planned. The Executive Committee for Health and Safety, the General Safety Committee, and the Infectious Disease Committee are expected to be dissolved. New proposed committees include the Behavior Intervention Team Committee, the Lab Safety Committee, and the LAHEFSA Committee. Three committees are being considered for refreshing/restructuring, including the Library Advisory Committee, the Parking Committee, and the Planning and Implementation Committee. Committee rosters and chairs are also under review.

I am looking forward to a productive 2025-26! There are lots of changes afoot at the Health Sciences Center, and it is a great time for faculty to engage with administration and shape the future of LSU Health.

Warm regards,

Jennifer

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