

LSU Council of Faculty Advisors Meeting

April 26, 2024

LSU A&M Administration Building, 9 a.m.

I. Call to order.

Dr. Bazayev called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

II. Roll Call

Members present: Bazayev (LSUA&M), Greaud (LSUE), Kimboj (LSUHSC), LaBorde (LSUA), Newton (PBRC), and Vlosky (LSUAg)

Members absent: Alexander (LSUS)

Guests: Carol Friedland (LSUAg), Cassie Jobe (LSUE) Param Singh (LSUA&M) and Dan Tirone (LSUA&M)

III. There were no public comments.

Discussion followed about should we add anything about attendance. Consensus was to keep as is and that the campuses should engage with the group. Hopefully covering travel will help.

Kimboj suggested that terms be set at one or two year terms as determined by the institution. Tirone noted all of the suggested changes so that he could submit the updated document for approval by the president.

Kimboj moved

Council of Faculty Advisors' Report
Prepared and delivered by Inessa Bazayev, chair, CoFA

26 April 2024

Dear Supervisors,

Since our last meeting, there has been a lot of good progress at the LSU System.

LSU-

The School of Public Health has also been engaged in strategic planning. They envision a healthier Louisiana population with a workforce addressing the structural and emergent issues affecting public health.

For the upcoming year, Governor Landry has released his priorities that included the LSU AgCenter and the College of Agriculture. Dr. Matt Lee, Vice President of Agriculture and Dean, submitted a \$20 million wish list to the governor's office for the current legislative session. Current grants awarded at the Ag Center/College have a 53% fringe benefits charge to account for increasing costs.

the coming weeks. A successful university accreditation is crucial, for it enables us to receive the hundreds of millions of federal funding that support our research and educational mission and overall pursuit of excellence.

Earlier this year, President Tate has articulated in his commitment to have LSU system join the elite group of other universities that belong to the Association of American Universities better known as the AAU. The association was founded over a century ago as a champion of leading research universities. President Tate underscored this again at our end-of-the-year meeting with the faculty earlier this week. To provide an analogy that may resonate with a broader segment of the Louisiana population, the AAU is the academic equivalent of the Southeastern Conference in athletics, the premiere group of institutions in the country who expect and deliver excellence. We know that LSU is fully capable of setting high goals and achieving them, as evidenced by recent national championships in football, baseball, women's basketball, and now gymnastics. The lesson we can also take away from these successes is the importance of institutional commitment. The sustained success in athletics is a reflection of LSU's unwavering support to funding the programs and recruiting the best student athletes and coaches and providing them the tools they need to compete. The pursuit of AAU will require a similar and equally unequivocal investment in academics so we can recruit and retain the best faculty and students possible and provide an environment in which they can stay and flourish. We know that, if properly supported, we can achieve this coveted status and that it will provide us with national and international recognition for our outstanding research and academic on par with our athletic accomplishments.

The faculty welcome this challenge and look forward to working with President Tate to realize his vision. However, we cannot do it alone. As with any team, success is only achieved if every member fulfills their role. We will need your leadership, vision and support to reach the benchmarks required to join the association. Events such as the recent SACSCOC reaccreditation visit are a useful reminder of the importance of an independent board committed solely to the management of its university system without any competing external influences for the success of our university. We are

