

LSU Staff Senate Resolution 21-01

Staff Recommendations in Response to the Husch Blackwell Title IX Report
Senators R. Henry, T. Millican, M. Lane, H. Dawan, W. Ghebreyessus, Brad Sledge

WHEREAS, one of the primary charges of the LSU Staff Senate, the elected representative body for staff members, is to advocate for staff and serve as a bridge between staff and administration on matters of importance and concern; and

WHEREAS, the Husch Blackwell report, subsequent Louisiana legislative committee hearings, and various local and national news articles have covered numerous failures across the LSU campus related to Title IX and sexual assault response; and

WHEREAS, the University released an action plan based on eighteen recommendations from the Husch Blackwell report to include appropriate staffing of a new Civil Rights & Title IX Office, as well as improved Title IX and sexual assault response training, support, and resources. Although recommendations for disciplinary consequences for named staff within the report did occur, termination was not a consequence; and

WHEREAS, while LSU Staff Senate is charged with advocating for all staff, we also believe we have the responsibility to hold all fellow staff members accountable for providing high standards of service excellence to our students, faculty, and colleagues. We support LSU Student Government Resolution 24 and agree that the University should hold any employee accountable that violates Title IX procedures as these actions threaten the safety of our students, damage the University's reputation, and carry potential financial impact and liability for LSU; and

WHEREAS, the recent communication has been areas to which LSU staff members are considered responsible parties or mandatory reporters, the consequences for mishandling or failing to report incidents related to Title IX remain vague and unclear; and

WHEREAS, there is a perceived lack of viable possible avenues to assume challenges or consequences including but not limited to confidentiality and retaliation; and

WHEREAS, the LSU Board of Supervisors is a constitutionally empowered board granted the authority and responsibility to supervise and manage Louisiana State University campuses and is composed of one selected student member and two members from each congressional district. Three members from the state are appointed by the governor with confirmation of the Senate. The % R D U G R I 6 X h a n d U Y L V R U indicates, this governing board has significant influence on decisions across campus including those related to Title IX; and

WHEREAS, the makeup of the LSU Board of Supervisors does not appear to accurately reflect the LSU community in diversity of gender, race, thought, or industry. Specifically, the 2020 LSU Fall Facts report that more than 54% of the LSU community identify as female and there are currently only three female LSU Board of Supervisors. Additionally, (y)20 114.14 T 129 792 re W* n Bf 8 oc7 (F)6 (aup111.6T4 12 Tf s12 Tfd [(a)3 (a

