

**Faculty Senate Budget & Planning Advisory Committee Minutes (Approved March 27, 2024)**

***Thursday, Feb. 29, 2024***

**E.J. Ourso College of Business, Business Education Complex (BEC) Room 2526.**

**Members in Attendance: Dana Hollie, Judith Sylvester (Chair), Robert Cook, James Canfield, Wei-Ling Song, Favio Piero, Joan King and Ad Hoc member Tommy Smith**

**Guests: No guests were in attendance**

**Absent: Mike Martinez**

**Meeting was called to order with a quorum and minutes were approved.**

Chair Judith Sylvester reported that she had invited Vice President and Chief Data Officer Keena Arbuthnot and Vice President for Enrollment Management & Student Success Danny Barrow to our March 27 meeting. Both affirmed interest in speaking with the committee. However, a similar appeal to meet with Provost Haggerty has yet to receive an answer. We plan to meet with him in April for our final meeting of the semester if he agrees.

We are interested in why LSU data collection has been moved to a new data center rather than residing solely with the Office of Management and Budget. Robert Cook reported that as a regular grant writer, he is frustrated with the lack of accessible data routinely required from granting organizations. The chair noted that demographic data regarding faculty was outdated on the website and some changes have been made in how data is reported for students. Given the importance of enrollment to the LSU operating budget (and faculty salaries), we want an update on enrollment trends, outlook for the number of 18-year-olds in the pipeline, out-of-state students and any trends that can be identified.

Tommy Smith told us that as of now, Governor Landry has not put any money for faculty raises or graduate student stipends in his budget. We are wondering whether LSU faculty and this committee can be more involved in assisting lobbyists and administrators working with legislators to improve our budgetary outlook. Smith said that this will be more impactful in the '25/'26 budget than the '24/'25 budget.

Although equitable raises remains our priority we began the discussion of what else we could do to help with retention [and morale] should we be denied raises. Things to consider:

- Giving tuition breaks to spouses and dependent children.
- Childcare costs or compensation.
- Parking costs and availability
- Better publicizing the businesses/services that give discounts to faculty/staff and expand the list.

We also asked about the budgetary impact that flooded buildings during our heavy rains earlier in the semester. Smith said that insurance would pay for much of it. Also, in the case of contractor error, as in the case of the Engineering Building where a valve put in backward caused damage in the freeze, the

company will be responsible for rectifying the error. However, LSU administrators have not communicated with the campus community about the budgetary impact.

We then discussed issues with facility services, such as failure to clean bathrooms, floor and empty trash. We also noted many bathrooms have broken faucets and toilets and lack soap or other sanitation materials. The chair was authorized to contact Facility Services to establish a dialog. (The results of that contact have been reported to the committee.)

The chair continues to complain to Parking and Transportation Services about the difficulty of finding free places for the faculty attending governance committee meetings to park given the restrictions now on the C parking sticker and the additional \$250 required for a universal sticker. As a result, we held the February meeting at the E.J. Ourso College of Business, Business Education Complex (BEC). However, recording the meeting was more challenging than in Manship locations.

Respectfully submitted