

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
Wednesday March 20, 2019
Harrison Board Room, Foundation Building



Attendance

Faculty Senate Executive Committee members present:

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|---|--|
| 1. Ken McMillin (President, Animal Science) | 2. Mandi Lopez (Vice-President, Vet Med) |
| 3. Joan King (Secretary, Food Science) | 4. Fabio Del Piero (Member-at-Large, Vet Med) |
| 5. Nan Walker (Member-at-Large, OCS) | 6. Judith Sylvester (Member-at-Large, Mass Comm) |

Parliamentarian: Louay Mohammed

Senators present (X = Present; A = Alternate; P = Proxy):

1	A	Fereydoun Aghazadeh (ENGR)	25	P	Katherine Henninger (HSS)	49	P	Laura Riggs (VET)
2	P	Kwame Agyemang (HSE)	26	X	Paul Hrycaj (LIB)	50		Tracey Rizzuto (HSE)
3	X	Priscilla "Lilly" Allen (HSE)	27	X	Stuart Irvine (HSS)	51	A	Bhaba Sarker (ENG)
4	A	Aly Aly (ENG)	28	X	Brendan Karch (HSS)	52	X	Dan Sheehy (SCI)
5	A	Kayanush (Kai) Aryana (AG)	29	P	Kyla Kazuschyk (MDA)	53	X	Stephen Shipman
6		Michael Banks (BUS)	30		Kelli Scott Kelley (AD)	54	P	Gregory Sioles (MDA)
7		Chris Barrett (HSS)	31	X	Yunjung Kim (HSS)	55		Carlos Slawson (BUS)
8	P	Dorin Boldor (ENGR)	32	X	Roger Laine (SCI)	56	X	Andrew Sluyter (HSS)
9	P	Jeffrey Brooks (Law)	33		Elecia Lathon (HSE)	57	X	Kevin Smith (SCI)
10	X	Konstantin Busch (ENG)	34	X	Julia Ledet (SCI)	58	X	Jared Soileau (BUS)
11	X	Prosanta Chakrabarty (SCI)	35		Vincent LiCata (SCI)	59	X	Kristen Stair (AG)
12	X	Cassandra Chaney (HSE)	36	P	Juan Martinez (PBS)	60	X	Rachel Stevens (HSS)
13		Brett Collier (AG)	37	X	James Matthews (SCI)	61	X	Brenton Stewart (HSE)
14	X	Belinda Davis (HSS)	38	P	Bryan McCann (HSS)	62	X	Judith Sylvester (MCOM)
15	X	Fabio Del Piero (PBS)	39	X	Mustajab Mirza (VCS)	63	X	José Torres (HSS)
16	X	Charles Delzell (SCI)	40	X	William Monroe (Law)	64	X	Matthew Vangiel (MDA)
17		Michael Desmond (AD)	41	P	Carl Motsenbocker (AG)	65	X	Nan Walker (Coast)
18	X	Rodrigo Diaz (AG)	42	X	Pius Ngandu (HSS)	66	X	Sonja Wiley (BUS)
19	X	Cyndi Dicarolo (HSE)	43	X	Rafael Orozco (HSS)	67	X	Cathy Williams (AG)
20	X	Levent Dirikolu (PBS)	44		Niki Pace (Sea Grant)	68	A	Donghui Zhang (SCI)
21	A	Brooks Ellwood (SCI)	45		Megan Papesh (HSS)			
22		Kenny Fasching-Varner (HSE)	46	P	Tracy Quirk (Coast)			
23		Gregory Griffin (ENG)	47	X	Suresh Rai (ENG)			
24	P	Kristen Healy (AG)	48	X	Maria Rethelyi (HSS)			

Guests:

Rachel Vanek	Judith Schiebout	Mallory Danzy	Taylor Bourgeois	Sarah Temple
Cameron Barney	Arend Van Gemmert	Hope Dawan	Stacia Haynie	Stanley Wilder
Lois Kuyper Rushing				

Consideration of the Minutes from February 18, 2019

Moved by Randy Durand and seconded by Cassandra Chaney.
 Approved unanimously with potential corrections.

Public Comments on Agenda Items

None.

President's Report

- List narrowed to four candidates for interviews in next two weeks for Associate VP of HRM. Search for VP for ORED started, Ken met with the interim VP of ORED who has some ideas for improvement.
- There was a discussion with BOR Commissioner Hunter-Reed and Deputy Commissioner for Strategic Communication Meg Sunstrom on Attainment of a Master Plan Goal.
- Ken McMillin has met with VP Cassidy and Provost Haynie on several items. They are open to suggestions.

4. At the BOS meeting they are establishing a Center for Analytics and Research in Transportation Safety, a letter of intent for a BFA in Film and TV, a change in the name of the Public Administration Institute and the FS Resolution 18-02 was mentioned as not having anything done about it yet.
5. There will be April Elections. Ken is working on getting the nominating committee together for nominating President, Vice President, Secretary and two Members-at-Large. Faculty Senate Budget and Advisory Committee elections will also be held and for Committee on Committees. There will also be elections for faculty senate members. The representation is one member for each 25 faculty in a college. COA and COE and HSE have increased representation. COS will be down one senator. Ken McMillin will send out information to policy committees to colleges that have policy committees. Other colleges have an apportionment system for choosing faculty senators.
6. Tomorrow he will represent LSU at the Louisiana Colleges and University Faculties panel. Asking for salary increases, faculty representation on governing boards.
7. The Capital Campaign Kickoff is March 28 and 29. He suggested making a small donation to keep in the loop about fund raising being done to support us.
8. The LSU Faculty Club, Inc. is having a Faculty Club building 80th year anniversary on March 29. Related flyers were handed out

Q&A Summary:

None.

Update on Strategic Initiatives – Dr. Isaiah Warner, Vice President of Strategic Initiatives

Delayed until April meeting.

Recycling and Sustainability Plan – Sarah Temple, Camus Sustainability Assistant Director

Inaugural zero waste event planning seminar on April 5 at 3 pm at the Faculty Club. They have partnered with LSU entomology to compost food which is then being used by facility services for the grounds at LSU. They are asking for one to two people from each organization on campus. They will talk about how organizations can have events with zero waste. Next is Spring Greening Day on April 11 from 10:30 to 2 pm. They plant plants around campus at designated areas. Anyone who volunteers gets a free t-shirt and lunch. Any organizations that send more than 10 people can earn a \$200 stipend. IN February they started composting all food waste. They sent 75 tons of food waste diverted from the landfill. In the fall she wants to do a more thorough update for sustainability.

Q&A Summary:

None.

Old Business

Second Reading Resolution 19-02, “Students Rights and Responsibilities,”
Sponsored by Faculty Senate Executive Committee on the behalf of the Staff Senate

Read by Ken McMillin

Whereas a student enrolled at Louisiana State University should be aware of rights granted and upheld by the administration and their responsibilities necessary to receive these rights, and

Whereas students of the University are protected by established policies, which are numerous and not always easily accessed, and

Whereas there is no central document that informs students or faculty members of these rights and responsibilities, and

Whereas a central document will emphasize and clarify such rights and responsibilities that a student at the University may have and of which faculty members should be aware, and

Whereas violations of these student rights may be addressed by filing a complaint to the Student Government Judicial Branch, and

Whereas the Judicial Branch may offer an endorsement of the validity of the student complaint through a judicial opinion, and

Whereas the proposed list of student rights and responsibilities is not exhaustive and based upon existing policies and practice, including the [Code of Student Conduct](#), [Faculty Handbook](#), [PS-22 Student Absence from Class](#), [PS-29 Management of Courses and Classes](#), [PS-30 Student Privacy Rights](#), [PS-44 Student Grading](#), [PS-45 Courses and Curricula](#), [PS-48 General Appeal Procedure Available to Students](#), [LSU General Catalog](#), [LSU Schedule Booklet](#), and the [Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974](#),

Therefore, be it resolved that the LSU Faculty Senate affirms the Student Senate request that the LSU Student Bill of Rights and Responsibilities will be:

1. Students have the responsibility to know and follow the [Student Code of Conduct](#).
2. Students have the right to [meet with professors or instructors](#) concerning their classes.
3. Students have the responsibility to [attend class](#) and to seek out work for which they have missed in the case of an excused absence.
4. Students have the right to make up course work for absences deemed excusable by [PS-22 Student Absence from Class](#) or an individual professor.

5. Students are responsible for providing [reasonable advance notice](#) and appropriate documentation to be excused from class or an assignment.
6. Students have the right to access the syllabi in their courses and to any changes that are made during the semester in accordance with [PS-29 Management of Courses and Classes](#).
7. Students have the right to view [updated grade information](#) during the semester.
- ~~8. Students have the right to appeal the decisions of their professors in accordance with [PS-48 General Appeal Procedure Available to Students](#).~~
89. Students have the responsibility to make [appeals of final grades](#) within 30 days after the beginning of the next regular semester.
940. Students have the right to re-schedule a final examination if there are three final examinations scheduled within a 24 hour time period [per the Final Examination Schedule for each semester](#).
104. Students have the responsibility to request to the Dean of their College that their exams be re-scheduled when this occurs [per the Final Examination Schedule for each semester](#).
1142. Students cannot have their opinions weighed negatively when expressed within the context of a course and the course material. [Students have the right to express their opinions within the context of the course and the course material and to be graded on mastery of course material and not on personal philosophy or other personal characteristics.](#)
128. Students have the right to appeal the decisions of their professors in accordance with [PS-48 General Appeal Procedure Available to Students](#).
13. Students have the right to confidentiality of their records in accordance with [University FERPA privacy guidelines](#).
14. Students have the right to access [free on-campus resources](#) when available and appropriate for an assignment.
15. Students have the right to be considered stakeholders in the University policies that affect their abilities to achieve academic and personal success on campus.
- The list of student rights and responsibilities is not exhaustive and is based upon existing policies and practice, including the [Code of Student Conduct](#), [Faculty Handbook](#), [PS-22 Student Absence from Class](#), [PS-29 Management of Courses and Classes](#), [PS-30 Student Privacy Rights](#), [PS-44 Student Grading](#), [PS-45 Courses and Curricula](#), [PS-48 General Appeal Procedure Available to Students](#), [LSU General Catalog](#), [LSU Schedule Booklet](#), and the [Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974](#).

Q&A Summary:

Senator

Why was number 8 moved?

Ken McMillin

We moved it in the last Faculty Senate meeting.

Andrew Sluyter

What is the issue with links? So, attend class links to PS-22, etc.

Ken McMillin

Yes, that is correct.

Stephen Shipman

The 'for' may not need to be there.

Ken McMillin

That is exactly how the policy reads.

Lilly Allen

Is this the first Bill of Rights for students?

Ken McMillin

Yes, this is the first. It was brought up a few years ago and nothing happened but was recently brought up by the students again.

Senator

For number 10 where they go to the dean shouldn't there be something else if they dean is out?

Ken McMillin

This is right out of the policy.

Dorin Boldor

If a student comes to a faculty concerning the final exams what do we do?

Ken McMillin

The student has to go to the Dean and the Dean decides which final exam is moved. The students have to request three weeks in advance from their Dean.

Vote: Unanimously approved.

Second Reading Resolution 19-03, “Establishment of a Legal Defense Fund,”

Sponsored by Faculty Senate Benefits Advisory Committee

Read by Andrew Sluyter

Whereas legal defense funds have long served to defend the rights and advance the interests of diverse professional and public interest groups, such as the Legal Defense and Educational Fund of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund, and the American Association of University Professors Legal Defense Fund;

Whereas such legal defense funds pay expenses involved in lawsuits when such groups are forced into justifiable litigation, whether as plaintiffs or as defendants, to defend their rights or advance their interests;

Whereas beginning in at least 2010 employer contributions to LSU’s ORP (Optional Retirement Plan) failed to meet the legally required minimum, and university faculty members have been forced to sue the Teachers Retirement System of Louisiana and the LSU Board of Supervisors for relief (<http://upload.lsu.edu/senate/lawsuit%20regarding%20retirement.pdf>);

Whereas the plaintiffs (Profs. Kevin Cope and Roger Laine) have since 2014 paid the costs of that litigation out of personal funds and individual contributions;

Whereas that litigation might eventually result in substantial relief for the plaintiffs and all other participants in the ORP, with estimates ranging up to over \$100 million;

Whereas the lawsuit is proceeding slowly and will certainly incur further costs before resulting in a judgement;

Whereas that lawsuit is only one of several issues that involve conflict between LSU’s faculty and its management, other examples including violations of academic freedom and due process for which LSU has since 2012 been under censure by the American Association of University Professors;

Whereas the foregoing conflicts are longstanding and persistent, with no indication from management of interest in working toward a resolution, so that any reasonable person would expect them to continue for the foreseeable future;

Whereas the continued underfunding of higher education by Louisiana’s state government has persisted for more than a decade, so that any reasonable person would expect additional conflicts to arise between LSU’s management and its faculty related to low salaries, poor benefits, scarce resources, and a deteriorating physical plant;

Whereas the faculty’s ability to seek legal recourse could encourage management to seek solutions to such existing and potential conflicts through a more robust and comprehensive shared governance of the university than currently pertains;

Whereas the major impediment to the faculty engaging in justifiable litigation remains a scarcity of funding to retain lawyers;

Whereas the faculty might be able to secure funding for the purposes of such litigation through individual donations, as have already been used to support the ORP lawsuit;

Whereas the faculty might be able to secure additional funding from foundations, professional associations, private benefactors, philanthropic organizations, public appeals, and other sources;

Whereas standing as a not-for-profit corporation is necessary in order to issue tax receipts for such donations and otherwise solicit, manage, and spend funds in a transparent and appropriate manner;

Whereas the faculty of other postsecondary institutions as diverse as Kent State University, Diablo Valley College, Windsor University, Southern University, and the University of Washington have at various times created legal defense funds to defend faculty rights and advance faculty interests;

Therefore be it resolved that an ad hoc committee of this body, made up of members with relevant expertise, be timely formed to investigate the possibility of establishing a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation tentatively named the “University Faculty Legal Defense Fund of Louisiana,” associated bank accounts, crowdfunding campaigns on GoFundMe or similar services, and/or anything else necessary to a legal defense fund for the protection and advancement of faculty rights and priorities.

Q&A Summary:

None.

Vote: Unanimously approved.

New Business

First Reading Resolution 19-04, “Election of Graduate Council Membership,”

Sponsored by Faculty Senate Executive

Read by Ken McMillin

Whereas the LSU Board of Supervisors Regulations Article I Section 2.B.2 Duties authorizes the faculty or Faculty Council to establish curricula, fix standards of instruction, determine requirements for degrees, and generally determine educational policy, subject to the authority of the Board, and

Whereas the Faculty Senate possesses all of the powers conferred upon the Faculty Council by regulations of the Board of Supervisors or otherwise, and shall exercise such powers in a manner consistent with the policies of the Faculty Council, and
Whereas Faculty Senate Standing Committees, including Admissions, Standard, and Honors; Budget Planning and Advisory; Courses and Curricula; General Education; and Library, have shared governance with Office of Academic Affairs, and
Whereas Faculty Senate Resolution 10-03 “Replacing the Current System of Appointments with a New System of Elections for Members of the Graduate Council” noted that appointment of Graduate Council members is incompatible with principles of shared-governance and recommended election of Graduate Council members was adopted on March 15, 2010, and
Whereas Faculty Senate Resolution 11-17 “Elections for Members of the LSU Graduate Council” restated the need for election of Graduate Council members to advise the Graduate Dean and was adopted on November 3, 2011, and
Whereas the Graduate School and Graduate Dean have implemented requirements that do not necessarily further graduate education as indicated in Faculty Senate Resolution 12-1 “Graduate Faculty Status: Confidence in Colleagues and their Credentials” on annual certification of Graduate Faculty Status of each faculty member, and
Whereas recent Deans and Interim Deans of the Graduate School have indicated agreement with the election of Graduate Council members to be advisory to the Dean, but have not taken any actions to implement this change, and
Whereas recent changes in Graduate School policies were not voted upon by the Graduate Faculty, which is not aligned with shared governance principles,
Therefore, be it resolved that the LSU Faculty Senate authorizes the Faculty Senate Executive Committee to immediately conduct elections from among the full Graduate Faculty members in the Colleges of Engineering, Human Sciences and Education, and Humanities and Social Sciences and School of Coast and the Environment to fill the vacancies in the Graduate Council that will occur this year, and
Therefore, be it further resolved that the LSU Faculty Senate will conduct elections for Graduate Council representatives each spring semester to fill vacancies in the respective Graduate Council College or School member terms that expire each year.

Moved into discussion.

Q&A Summary:

Senator

Did you say again that the graduate school den was supportive of this?

Ken McMillin

They have expressed support that it’s time we do this.

Andrew Sluyter

How big is Graduate Council?

Ken McMillin

There are two to four colleges that have lots of graduate students and they each would have two. We would probably still follow that. This staggered election allows transition without changing Graduate Council as a whole all of a sudden.

Lilly Allen

Is there overlap with Course and Curricula people? What does this counsel do?

Ken McMillin

Every faculty member is a member of the faculty counsel. FS is the delegated body of the faculty council that makes decisions. That is different from the Graduate Council that advises the dean.

Senator

They advise the dean, they don’t take actions themselves.

Ken McMillin

Some of the Graduate Council members do not understand that they should be representative of graduate faculty in their college and graduate faculty at large. The intent is to have more graduate faculty input.

Stacia Haynie

Some members of the Faculty Senate are not members of the graduate faculty, so she wants to be sure that the graduate faculty have input into this.

Ken McMillin

Only the graduate faculty in each college would vote on their representative.

First Reading Resolution 19-05, “Elsevier Library Serials,”*Sponsored by LSU Libraries, Brook Ellwood, Judith Shiebout, and Paul Hrycaj*

Read by Nan Walker

Whereas the cost of academic journals has increased 521% between 1986 and 2015, threatening the scholarly communication system in every discipline; and

Whereas journal expenses at the LSU Libraries currently consume 48% of its total budget, up from just 24% 10 years ago, which has resulted in an unacceptable decrease in library support for books, databases and other collections, staffing, and services; and

Whereas LSU’s current 5-year contract with the commercial publisher Elsevier expires at the end of 2019, at which point it will cost at least \$2M/year; and

Whereas new document delivery technologies have become available, giving LSU alternatives to subscriptions that are fast, convenient, and free to users; and

Whereas limiting expenditures for Elsevier journals will free up funding that will allow the Libraries to address long-standing collection deficiencies; and

Whereas similar initiatives are in progress this year at research institutions around the world,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Faculty Senate of Louisiana State University supports the LSU Libraries’ effort to reduce Elsevier expenditures, subscribe to the most important Elsevier journals and replace cancelled journal subscriptions with expedited document delivery services.

Moved into discussion.

Q&A Summary:

Senator

She brought this proposal up in one of their faculty meetings and one faculty mentioned two issues. There is no formal rule right now about how many ILL journals that can be requested. She has to get permission to download more. They do not send online appendices which are important. That issue needs to be addressed.

Dean Wilder

There has been a rule of five downloads for many years. There is no legal basis and the rule of five is being discarded across the country. There has been a procedure change in the library the past year. He will check to make sure people are not receiving erroneous messages. They consider the appendices to be part of the document.

Senator

He endorses this concept. Elsevier has been hard to deal with. There is one thing in the resolution that is not defined well, how will we determine the most important journals?

Dean Wilder

They will look at the last twelve months of use and make an order of greatest to least use. They want to include the highest used journals from Elsevier. They will have some other method besides the numerical to decide.

Senator

Other universities have gone with \$1 million cut-off and UC has done a complete cut off.

Dean Wilder

UC has had great success. The country of Norway has also cut their Elsevier packages.

Stephen Shipman

Using criteria based on downloads, have other more complicated algorithms been considered, like by department or college or school? What is most used journal is most expensive one?

Dean Wilder

Using strict departmental use does not work well since lots if interdisciplinary use. This approach has simplicity. He wouldn’t want to close out other alternatives. No decision is final.

Dan Sheehy

Could the resolution include the list of the top 100 journals so we can see what is on there?

Senator

Based off of what UC did, we are looking at cutting subscriptions in half and bickering over who gets what. We need reconciliation about which journals are kept.

Ken McMillin

We are able to keep our relationship with Elsevier while still saving money. New faculty may be more accustomed to finding article online. Maybe a department can make a case for keeping a journal.

Dorin Boldor

They were trying at UC to put all the money into open access. In this proposal here will there be open access.

Dean Wilder

Elsevier was totally against open access which killed the deal. LSU is open to having open access articles here. We have a deadline to deal with.

Dean Wilder

We have a way to get access to online content. We are considering Open Athens. Online access has advantages for the library.

Senator

He supports the resolution. He uses the online document access. He has heard complaints about Elsevier for a number of years and he would be happy to get rid of them.

Andrew Sluyter

Why do we only include Elsevier? Why not include other publishers? Is Elsevier really that bad compared to others? Can you make it more generic?

Dean Wilder

Their degree of collaboration in working with academia internationally is bad. This is a shared international problem, it's not just an LSU problem.

Dorin Boldor

We have around 1700 LSU faculty; do we know how publications we have a year as faculty? If trying to increase visibility of LSU research can we put the savings towards open access at LSU?

Dean Wilder

That's a great idea. There is already an open access publishing fund. The idea to use more of the freed money to this type of use is good idea.

Ken McMillin

More professional society's publishing their own journals is such that Elsevier and others have been able to reduce the costs. Smaller publishers they offered them help in publishing. There are a lot more options.

Dean Wilder

They have looked at turnaround time by unit. Over 70% of interlibrary loan transactions are filled within 24 hours.

Stephen Shipman

How does this work legally? How will Elsevier respond to this?

Dean Wilder

You will still be able to browse and see titles. The ability of libraries to do interlibrary loan is built into the code. They negotiate terms of interlibrary loan. Anything we stop subscribing to, will be available through interlibrary loan. They are responding with their 39% profit.

Ken McMillin

They are cutting people.

Stephen Shipman

Elsevier cannot meddle in interlibrary loan.

Charles Delzell

Where does the number come from of \$2 million per year?

Dean Wilder

There is a reference for that.

Charles Delzell

How are these other schools still getting access?

Dean Wilder

They are using document delivery.

Charles Delzell

He heard all math journals from Elsevier would be cancelled. Someone thought we could save money through less administration.

Dean Elsevier

Selling what faculty members do to publishers and then buying it back is a plague on academia. The only way to get a new subscription at LSU is to cut something else here.

Andrew Sluyter

How seamless will it be to request an article?

Dean Wilder

We have the current system in place now. We are talking about adding a new concept that involves less people.

Nan Walker

If you reduce Elsevier by \$1 million how does that affect your budget?

Dean Wilder

The first step is to get permission to do this. The next step is what to do with the money we free up. Half of it could go back into journal subscriptions in new areas to better match our collection to the researchers at the university.

Ken McMillin

He recommends changing wording to 'specific' rather than 'most important'.

First Reading Resolution 19-06, "Support for LSU 100% Tobacco Policy & Anti-Vaping Education Programs,"

Sponsored by Judith Sylvester, Mass Communication

Read by Judith Sylvester

Whereas LSU was required by Act 211 to establish a tobacco policy on campus by Aug. 1, 2014

Whereas the policy is 100% Tobacco-Free, including combustibles, vaping devices (e-cigarettes) and smokeless tobacco (chewing tobacco)

Whereas LSU has failed to enforce the policy and ignored all warnings that vaping, especially the use of Juul, is a trend on campus

Whereas LSU further ignored that the lithium batteries in vaping devices can explode, causing serious injury or death from the flames and shrapnel expelled during the explosion and failed to ban e-cigarettes from campus as it had hoverboards

Whereas a campus-wide stratified random sample survey (referred to in this resolution as "the survey") was conducted during the fall 2018 semester by Dr. Judith Sylvester through her SmokingWords program with 1,242 responses collected from undergraduate students, graduate and professional students, administrators, faculty and staff indicated that the percentage of students who are aware of LSU's 100% tobacco-free policy has fallen from 93% in 2015 to 79% in 2018

Whereas the percentage of students using combustibles on campus has remained at about 12 percent, the percentage using vaping devices on campus has increased from 4% in 2015 to 27% in 2018

Whereas students reporting seeing vaping devices (e-cigarettes) used on campus has increased from 63% in 2015 to 93% percent in 2018

Whereas 77% of the students who vape prefer Juul, a product that delivers about 5 percent nicotine — which is roughly as much nicotine as is in a pack of cigarettes, according to the company

Whereas vaping devices are essentially nicotine delivery systems, and nicotine is a highly addictive substance

Whereas of the 190 students surveyed who use tobacco products, 42% said their tobacco use had increased since entering LSU, 35% said it had remained the same and 23% said use had decreased

Whereas 23% of the students reported having asthma, allergies or other breathing problems, and 46% of students reported avoiding areas of campus to prevent exposure to secondhand smoke or vapor

Whereas both the Centers for Disease Control and the Food and Drug Administration have declared vaping to be of epidemic proportion in middle/junior high schools and high schools but has not addressed the problem on college campuses

Whereas 99% of tobacco users started before age 26, and every day more than 1,200 people in this country die due to smoking

Whereas FDA-sponsored research indicates that nicotine has negative effects on the brains of teenagers and adolescents and that vapor from e-cigarettes contain chemicals that can be detrimental to both the user and secondhand to non-smokers/vapers

Whereas the FDA has taken steps to prohibit tobacco companies from marketing Juul and other vaping products to adolescents and young adults, including candy-like flavors

Whereas the Louisiana legislature will soon consider a law raising the tobacco purchasing age to 21

Whereas LSU has a responsibility to educate its students about the dangers of all types of tobacco use and to enforce its 100% tobacco-free policy for health and safety reasons

Whereas an earlier survey Dr. Sylvester conducted with colleges/university with established tobacco policies indicated that while student support is useful, public support from top administrators is critical to the success of the policy

Therefore, let it be resolved that LSU take the following steps immediately:

1. Establish a permanent community committee including representatives from Student Health Services, Student Life, the Athletic Department, Student Government, Campus Sustainability, LSU Public Affairs/Strategic Communication and any other interested group or organization that will promote LSU's tobacco-free policy to students, faculty, staff and campus visitors.
2. The committee will track trends in tobacco use, especially among students, to determine the best ways to promote and enforce the policy and to maintain adequate funding for educational initiatives and possible tobacco cessation programs for students, faculty and staff.
3. The committee will further provide educational information regarding vaping and smoking research, FDA regulation of tobacco products, changes in Louisiana tobacco laws, up-to-date health information and to create counter messages to tobacco company promotions. Such information should be delivered through signage, posters, handout materials, social media messages and sponsorship of events, such as the national Great American Smokeout in November and Kick Butts Day in March or campus events that are promoted as tobacco-free. Establishing a peer to peer tobacco education program is recommended.
4. Establish and promote a hotline on campus so that those with questions about the policy, who are seeking cessation information or who are sensitive to secondhand smoke/vapor, are pregnant or have other health concerns can report infractions of the policy, such as vaping in classrooms and congregation of smokers/vapers in spaces that pose a health risk to employees and students. Tobacco-related trash accumulation also should be reported.
5. Request that faculty include a notice in their syllabi that vaping in classrooms is prohibited by the LSU 100% tobacco-free policy.
6. Require strong, public administrative support for LSU's 100% tobacco-free policy that is maintained from year to year so that all incoming students and new faculty and staff are aware of the policy and any penalties attached to it and so that visitors to campus are made aware that LSU is 100% tobacco free.

Moved into discussion with one abstention.

Q&A Summary:

Lilly Allen

Are people aware that tobacco is one strain of drug? People spoke more than tobacco.

Judith Sylvester

The policy defines it as tobacco. We are aware of other things. When we did the policy in 2014 e-cigarettes were just starting to be used.

Ken McMillin

The FDA regulates this and is considering banning all vaping for people under age 21.

Judith Sylvester

Other things are illegal, but tobacco is not.

Paul Hrycaj

The word free should be in the title.

Andrew Sluyter

We used to have stickers in the front of the room that say not eating, drinking or smoking.

Judith Sylvester

Yes, we can bring this back. Students are using these in classrooms, especially Juul which does not make a cloud. Students see other people using them in class. She would love to have access at our Lab school to educate them also.

Senator

She is all for this, but her concern about having a policy in the syllabus since there is no punitive action makes her nervous.

Judith Sylvester

There are punitive actions in their policy.

Ken McMillin

Every instructor is in charge of the classroom. You can ask them to leave. Chief Thompson is concerned, and President Alexander is concerned about this. How do you stop a habit or behavior?

Senator

We can all tell people to stop smoking and threaten to call the police.

Judith Sylvester

They can be pretty nasty to you. It's hard to tell with the JUUL product.

Paul Hrycaj

He was under the impression that the police cannot do anything.

Judith Sylvester

The interpretation from the previous police was that they do not have to do something. There could be fines. She would like to have them do community service and clean up the butts.

Stephen Shipman

If we did have a policy to report something we see and did report to the police, would anything be done?

Judith Sylvester

Police are pretty busy. We tried to do it peer to peer, but that didn't work. She used to do signs on campus, but she doesn't have the money anymore.

Paul Hrycaj

He would like to be able to call the police and have them do something.

Senator

In the classroom setting instructors should be able to confiscate the e-cigarettes.

Judith Sylvester

That may not be legal and make welcome negative contact. Turn them in. You can ask for their ids.

Mandi Lopez

It has gone to vaping in the restroom, but there is no detection mechanism.

Judith Sylvester

She asked for cameras in areas where they smoke but was told they cannot do that.

Cassandra Chaney

Can a student come back and sue the university saying they are an addict and we are creating problems for them?

Lilly Allen

Her research relates to nursing homes. Do we have a designated smoking area?

Judith Sylvester

No, we do not. We would have to have a little pavilion and we were advised not to do that and don't really have areas for those.

Senator

Does the policy get suspended for game days?

Judith Sylvester

No one pays attention. The other SEC schools also have these policies. She thinks the Athletic Department could do more. A good education program would help.

All moved to adjourn at 5:03 pm