

# LSU | Staff Senate

## MEETING MINUTES

April 17, 2024

President Joshua Duplechain presided over the April 17, 2024; Staff Senate meeting held in the Event Room on the Second Floor of the Barnes & Noble Bookstore at LSU at 10:30 a.m.

Unclassified

Executive/Administrative/Managerial

P - Tammy Millican ('24)

Professional/Non-Faculty

P - Bonner, Amber ('26)

P - Breaux, Kevin ('25)

P - Campen, Ryan ('24)

P - Canady, Robyn ('26)

P - Carney, Mo ('24)

P - Compton, Skylar ('26)

P - Duplechain, Joshua ('24)

P - Ferguson, Amanda ('24)

P - Gresham, Deanna ('24)

P - Guttner, Ginger ('25)

A - Hicks, Emmy ('24)

A - Jeffcoat, Danielle ('26)

P - Kennison, Jennifer ('25)

P - Lee, Quinneka ('24)

Pr - Martin-Whitaker, Neely ('25)

A - Miller, Cassaundra ('24)

P - Mimms, Anissa ('26)

P - Oster, Anthony ('24)

Pr - Owens, Jace ('26)

P - Phelps, Olivia ('26)

A - Rafati, Karina ('24)

A - Robison, Becca ('26)

P - Smith, Henri ('24)

A - Trahan, Amy ('25)

A - Washington, Valori ('26)

P - Waters, Bradley ('26)

P - White, Dayton ('25)

A - Williams, Amberlon ('24)

A - Williams-Carter, Tyrslai ('24)

P - Williamson, Jeannie ('26)

Classified

Skilled Crafts

A - Constance, Taylor ('25)

P - Corbitt, Brent ('24)

Technical/Paraprofessional

A - Matkovic, Igor ('26)

P - Nehlig, Mark ('24)

Clerical/Secretarial

A - Jensen, Jerri ('26)

P - Smith, Celeste ('26)

Service/Maintenance

A - Robertson, Winkeyssa ('24)

P - Indicates Present

Pr - Indicates Proxy

A - Indicates Absent

A/P – indicates Absence not Counted

## **GUESTS:**

Tricia Cobb, Faculty Senate Coordinator  
Benjamin Fernandez, Center for Geotechnical Engineering  
Tony Cavell, Center for Geotechnical Engineering  
Sheldon Lee, LSU Athletics  
Emily Smith, International Programs  
Casey Coughlin, Campus Federal Credit Union

## **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by President Joshua Duplechain at 10:30 a.m.

## **ATTENDANCE**

There was a quorum with two proxies noted.

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Senator Kevin Breaux led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – March 20, 2024, Staff Senate Meeting**

A motion to accept the minutes was made by Senator Deanna Gresham. The motion, seconded by Senator Dayton White, carried.

## **SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS PRESENTATION**

President Joshua Duplechain recognized the recipients of the 2023-2024 Staff Senate Fee Support Scholarship Award for staff employees.

The spring 2024 Recipients are:

Benjamin Fernandez is pursuing a degree in Geotechnical Engineering. After graduation, he plans to continue his research on monitoring subsidence using gravity with the LSU Center for Geoinformatics.

Sheldon Lee is pursuing his Master of Science Management degree. After graduation, he plans to continue to expand his current roles as LSU Athletics Director of Creative Content with new duties and responsibilities.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Joshua Duplechain reviewed relevant meetings in which he attended.

- Duplechain announced that the Executive Committee met with Clay Jones, Niki Norton, and Senator Anissa Mimms with Human Resource Management to discuss the results from the

engagement survey that was sent out campus wide. They will be invited to share the results with the full senate in an upcoming meeting.

- Duplechain announced that the Executive Committee had another meeting with Provost Roy Haggerty, Jane Cassidy, and Jackie Bach, where items of discussion included the culture at LSU, tuition remission for staff who have been employed at LSU for 6 months instead of 1 year would be eligible to apply, a stipend for the Staff Senate President as the Faculty Senate President receives one, and the status of waiving student fees for employees who are attending LSU which is still pending to happen soon.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Communication and Marketing**

Senator Ginger Guttner mentioned that the Resource Page is live. She asked for Senators to review and submit any further known resources at LSU to her to be included on the Staff Senate Website.

### **Education and Professional Development**

Treasurer Henri Smith reported that the committee has not received any applications for the Professional Development Fund. The Staff Senate Office is set to receive those applications.

President Duplechain plans on announcing in the next Newsletter.

### **Staff Benefits and Policies**

Senator Ryan Campen announced that he is putting a packet of information together to be reviewed and then a report will be sent to Human Resource Management.

### **Staff Appreciation and Events**

Member-at-Large Mo Carney reported that Staff Appreciation Week will be held April 22-26.

Below is an outline of events being planned:

- Monday – Treasure Hunt and Brain Teasers
- Tuesday – LSU vs Nicholls with a baseball tailgate where Staff Senate will host a tailgate at Alex Box as Campus Federal Credit Union cooks and serves jambalaya. The beverages, cookie cakes, and t-shirts will be provided until we run out.
- Wednesday – Deans, Directors, and Department Heads departmental staff appreciation
- Thursday – Crawfish Boil on the Parade Grounds which is being co-sponsored by the Lt. Governor's Louisiana Seafood Promotion & Marketing Board
- Friday – Happy Hour at Lod Cook where the Staff Senate will provide the appetizers, and employees can buy their drinks and socialize after work.

Treasurer Henri Smith announced that on Wednesday, April 24, from 8:00 – 10:00 a.m. the College of Human Sciences & Education Staff Appreciation will host a Breakfast Buffet and all Senators have been invited to attend.

Senator Dayton White suggested to send out calendar invites to the full senate for all of these events that are scheduled.

Information about Staff Appreciation Week has been posted on the Staff Senate Website.

Volunteers are needed and the sign-up will be recirculated electronically for participation.

## **LIAISON REPORTS**

### **Civil Service Commission**

Senator Taylor Constance submitted a written report for the meeting that was held on April 3, 2024, which was included in the meeting packet for review.

### **Faculty Senate**

Senator Dayton White submitted a written report for the meeting that was held on February 20, and March 18, 2024, which was included in the meeting packet for review.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Staff Senate Budget**

Treasurer Henri Smith provided a written financial report for February that was included in the meeting packet for Senate review.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **General Election Results**

New employees who were elected or re-elected to serve in the Unclassified Employee Group are:

Anthony Oster with the Center for Advising & Counseling

Ashly Collins with the Graduate School

Carli Faulkner with the LSU Cox Communication Academic Center for Student-Athletes

Debbie Blanchard with School of Veterinary Medicine

Derek Wilson with Information Technology Services

Henri Smith with the College of Human Sciences & Education

Mchael Bonnette with Athletics

Mo Carney with Athletics

Quinneka McDonald with Residentil Life

Stephenie Franks with the College of Business

Tammy Millican with Facility & Property Oversight

New employees who were elected or re-elected to serve in the Classified Employee Group are:

Whitney Butler with the College of Art & Design  
Winkeyssa Robertson with Facility & Property Oversight

### **Executive Officer Nominations**

The Call for Staff Senate Executive Officer Nominations is now open. Nomination requests will be circulated to all Senators electronically with a description outlining each position. The deadline to submit your nominations is Friday, April 26, 2024.

### **May Meeting**

During the May meeting, the Executive Officer election speeches will be given by candidates ahead of a vote.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Casey Coughlin with Campus Federal Credit Union announced the LSU Kiwanis Club will be selling Jambalaya plates tomorrow from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at the Nelson Memorial Building. They will accept cash, check, or Venmo as forms of payment.

Secretary Quinneke Lee announced that on April 7, the Black Faculty & Staff Caucus celebrated the Black Scholars event. Over 400 students were recognized with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher. It was a great event with members of upper leadership attended.

Lee announced that they are also honoring tenured faculty and staff who are members of the 100 Membership Club (Group 100) through the Founder's Day Celebration where those proceeds got to other scholarships on campus.

Lee also announced that the Disability Faculty & Staff Caucus is looking for Executive Committee Members.

Member-at-Large Mo Carney announced that the Staff Stripes Awards is accepting nominations.

Staff Senator April Birthdays:

- Senator Dayton White celebrated his birthday on April 4.
- Senator Valori Washington celebrated her birthday on April 6.
- Senator Celeste Smith celebrated her birthday on April 8.
- Senator Danielle Jeffcoat celebrated her birthday on April 16.
- Senator Jace Owens will celebrate his birthday on April 25.
- Senator Ryan Campen will celebrate his birthday on April 30.

Happy Birthday!

**MOTION TO ADJOURN** – With there being no more business, Secretary Quinneke Lee made a motion to adjourn. The motion, seconded by Senator Bradley Waters, carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Quinneke Lee, Secretary

QL/mm