

April 15, 2025

Dear Senators,

The end of the semester is quickly approaching, and we have reached our final scheduled meeting of this year's Senate. This month's report includes an eclectic assortment of items including a few relating to using Workday Student and final exam pick-up and drop-off through the Office of Disability Services.

1. Faculty Council Meeting/End of Year Meeting with the President

The end of year meeting with President Tate was held on Monday, April 14, from 3:30pm to 4:30pm, in the Ballroom of the Student Union. This was originally scheduled to be the Faculty Council meeting that we are supposed to hold every year, but a combination of the size of our faculty and restrictive state Open Meeting Laws makes achieving quorum extremely difficult. However, despite the format change it was an informative event. I provided an overview of the Senate's activities this past year while President Tate discussed the current state of LSU and his plans for the future. There was also a series of tough-but-fair questions touching on issues relating to tenure for librarians, DEI on campus, the state of academic freedom across the country, and the LSU Online funding model, among others. My appreciation to everyone who was able to attend what I think is always a valuable opportunity for faculty to engage with the administration.

2. Assistance with Workday Student

The Registrar's office has shared a very helpful <u>"Resources for Faculty" webpage</u> with guidance on utilizing Workday Student to complete various tasks, including how to find teaching schedules and view course rosters. The page, which also includes information for Faculty Advisors and Faculty Administrators, requires an active LSU account to access all resources. LSU AgCenter employees may encounter issues when attempting to access video links, and guidance for individuals who encounter this problem is available on the main page of the site.

3. Final Exams Through the Office of Disability Services

ODS has asked for assistance in familiarizing faculty with their final exam procedures for this term. During the week of finals, they will establish a satellite location in the Career Recruitment Space on the second floor of the Student Union for exam drop-off and pick-up. They will also have a help/information desk in that location for assistance with any questions faculty may have. As a reminder, paper-based exams will be administered in the Student Union and computer-based tests will be administered in Johnson Hall. ODS also has a team ready to scan proctored exams so they can be uploaded as quickly as possible for grading. Additional information about the exam process can be found in the online Accessible Information Management System, or AIM.

4. GLEAN

In response to faculty feedback, the FSEC worked with ODS to obtain a number of GLEAN licenses for faculty volunteers for this semester so they could learn more about the software and end-user experience. Executive Committee members Kyla Kazuschyk and Ken Lopata, both of whom participated in this effort, are coordinating a meeting between the additional faculty license holders and representatives from ODS, OAA, Student Affairs, and the General Counsel's office to share their experiences and the perceived strengths and limitations of the program.

5. Legislative Session

Senate leadership has been in regular communication with members of the administration, including the Office of Governmental Relations and the General Counsel's Office, about the state legislative session which began yesterday. While there are a number of bills which impact LSU, I am cautiously optimistic that we will avoid the type of significant infringements upon academic freedom and other faculty rights we have seen in other states such as Texas and Florida.

6. Administrative Process Improvement Committee

The Administrative Process Improvement Committee, or APIC, has finished updating its <u>website</u> and <u>submission procedures</u>. The committee's primary purpose is to "provide a forum for employees to identify potential opportunities for improvement in our operational and administrative processes and procedures" and can consequently consider a wide variety of issues. Recent issues addressed by the committee (of which I am a member) include the process for bringing outside visitors to LSU and communications around completion of the Louisiana Board of Ethics Form 413, "Complimentary Admission, Lodging and/or Transportation Disclosure Statement." The committee meets monthly during the Fall and Spring semesters and will take up business on an asneeded basis over the summer.

7. Faculty Senate Budget

Continuing a practice we began a few years ago, we have prepared a brief overview of the Faculty Senate budget for the 24-25AY. This document is available upon request by emailing <u>facultysenate@lsu.edu</u>.

8. Senator Elections

The university has completed the annual faculty census we use to determine allocations of Senate seats for the coming year, and we are in the process of contacting colleges to confirm the number of openings they have for Fall 2025. This year's total came in at 1,733 full-time faculty at the rank of instructor or above, an approximate 4.5% increase over last year. As a reminder, Senate seats are allocated at a rate of one seat for every majority of 25 Faculty Council members in a college, and elections to these seats are run by each college using their own internal allocation procedures. If the FSEC can be of assistance with the election process, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Sincerely,

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Daniel C. Tirone President, LSU Faculty Senate