**FACULTY SENATE MEETING AGENDA**

**Wednesday, December 2, 2021, 11 AM**

**Zoom**

**I. Call to order 11:02**

**Present: Cory Coehoorn, Laura McLemore, Minsun Kim, Felice Williams, Aadel Darrat, Alex Mikaberidze, Syed Zaidi, Doug Bible**

**II. Approval of minutes:** Doug Bible moved to approve the minutes of the November meeting, Adaal Darrat seconded. There being no corrections, the minutes were approved.

**III. President’s report:** No report.

**IV. Administrators’ reports:**

 **a. Chancellor:** Dr. Clark commented on the article in *Best of Times* magazine about LSUS Northwest Louisiana Archives, written by an LSUS student. He also remarked on the hiring of a new football coach at LSU and the insane amounts of money going into inter-collegiate athletics. He will be attending the Board of Supervisors meeting next week. Dr. Clark reported that Spring registration is down about 1,000 students down which equals $7 million in revenue. By comparison, in Spring 2020, at this point we had 5821, we are now at 5,668. Pre-registration has been held back because students must have a vaccination record already on file or have asked for an exemption in order to register. By state law, students must be granted an exemption from testing for registration if they ask for one. We have students who could, but have not, filed for their exemptions. The exemption is only to allow them to register. Dr. Clark made the decision to authorize those students without exemptions to go ahead and enroll. He has used Cares Act institution dollars for testing on campus, which costs about $25,000 per week. He has notified students that every student will get Cares Act money which we hope they will use to register for Spring. The maximum award is $725. Every student will get at least $325 (full-time students). All full-time students are eligible for funds now. There are students who have applied and been admitted but have not enrolled. Dr. Clark noted that the footprint of the campus has not grown but the number of students has. Backroom work required to sustain enrollment takes a lot of work. A request has been made that we go beyond the January 1 deadline for input on H.R. 150. The delay was prompted by the Board of Supervisors and Board of Regents failure to complete the EAB contract. Dr. Clark reported that commencement ceremonies have four scheduled times on December 16 and 17. The speaker will be Porter Braswell, co-founder and CEO of the leading career advancement platform for Black, Latinx, and Native American students and professionals .

 **b. Provost:** Helen Taylor asked Senators to help disseminate information about commencement. All faculty should attend at least one of the four graduation ceremonies. There will be socially distanced seating. Everyone must wear a mask. ABAT Accreditation site visit this week. Richard Watson, in Computer Science, put a lot of work into this effort. Dr. Taylor is planning a kick off on Jan. 6 for the spring semester. In addition to review by Chancellor Clark, President Tate is also requesting to review faculty dossiers. We have four requests for tenure. Until their applications have gone off campus and been approved, promotions will not be official. Dr. Taylor complimented Alex on his work and announced Cheryl White is presenting on her work on the Shroud of Turin through the Smithsonian. She thanked everyone for the work they are doing and for the successful semester.

 **c. Scott Hardwick** announced Christmas luncheon in the UC Ballroom on December 13. It will be a hybrid event. There will be the usual events and a gingerbread house competition, which is new. The Alumni Office is collecting toys for children in hospitals. Outstanding staff awards will be given out.

 **V. Continuing Business:**  None.

**VI. New Business**

* Use of online versus physical evaluations for courses. Cory introduced this discussion. Is there a preference either way? Doug Bible noted that we had some courses still 100% online and they will continue to have online evaluations. Cory asked if the trend is to online evaluations. Richard Watson said there was definitely a decline in responses with online evaluations, but his previous university was going to online evaluations. Cory asked how students could be stimulated to provide input. Doug Bible suggested that perhaps students could fill out the online evaluation in class on their devices. Scott Hardwick said it might be possible. He noted that the LSUS Faculty Senate asked to go back to paper from online a few years ago because of the poor response. He said the software we have is the only hybrid (online/paper). He said it’s possible to make the survey instrument more mobile friendly. Students do get multiple email reminders but we do not currently have text capability. Cory asked if it’s easier logistically to do online evaluations. Scott said yes. Helen Taylor noted that hard copy evaluations are a lot of work for office personnel. The online version would alleviate that. She said a lot of other schools seem to be allotting class time for completing evaluations using a mobile phone or laptop. Shelby Keith said everyone going to their phones on WIFI at the same time could slow the process down. Doug Bible said we should wait until the next meeting to vote since this is new business.

**VIII. Observations and concerns**

* Helen Taylor mentioned E-Sports competition. Wendell Riley said this is the first in a series of tournaments. He said the E-Sports tournament is a good opportunity to showcase the cyber collaboratory and the university. George Foreman, Jr. is an alum and a supporter of this program. Wendell recommended that everyone watch the intro even if they’re not interested in watching the tournament. Dr. Clark said George Foreman, Jr. will be working with us on some summer programs, too, for lower income community students. The program came as a result of Julie Lessiter’s connections in California with the Louisiana Economic Development team.

 **IX. Adjournment**

 There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at **11:38 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. McLemore, Secretary