



**School of Medicine Faculty Assembly
Minutes
Thursday, November 6, 2025
4:00pm-5:00pm
Zoom Meeting**

In Attendance: A. Abreo, G. Athas, A. Augustus-Wallace, A. Bennett, Calandria, J. Cameron, M. Cook, J. Crabtree, J. D'Souza, L. Davis, J. Gardner, S. Garner, M. Harrington, J. Hart, S. Kamboj, M. Korah-Sedgwick, C. Leblanc, N. Loganantharaj, L. Marrero, L. McGee, J. Patrick, L. Pelaez, P. Prasad, S. Primeaux, M. Reinoso, J. Schoen, L. Simon Peter, A. Taylor, E. Wisner, A. Wolfe, R. Zambrano

Absent: Ali; Berthelot; Castellano; Reske; Smith; Tanner-Sanders; Vaitaitis

Proxy: Abreo-Proxy for Wisner

Welcome and call to order at 4:00pm by President Reinoso

Dr. Reinoso modified the Meeting Agenda to accommodate our Guest Speaker's Arrival at 4:30 PM.

Approval of October 2025 Minutes: Dr. Augustus-Wallace; Moved by Dr. Bennett, with seconded by Dr. Cameron **Vote:** None opposed. Approval of Minutes: Passed. Meeting minutes were/are posted on SOM Faculty Assembly Webpage.

https://www.medschool.lsuhschool.edu/faculty_assembly/FA%20Minutes%206-5-25%20final.pdf

Reports:

a. Executive Committee (meeting w/Dr. DiCarlo): (Dr. Reinoso)-Postposed due to Dr. DiCarlo having another meeting.

b. Administrative Council (Dr. Bennett): Requested notes for this section due to sound distortion (awaiting receipt of agenda and notes.)

c. Faculty Senate (Dr. Cameron): Introduction of Special Guest(s) Jill Frago – Director of Human Resources

- Crisis Leave – Active July 1, 2025; 68 faculty have donated 9,000 hours
- Parental Leave – Active January 1, 2025
- 75 employees have been shifted from Non-exempt to Exempt due to re-evaluation of duties of supervisors and managers, salaried with monthly pay, no overtime
- Coursera – Free online courses for continued education available to faculty and staff
- Maxient – Active: online system for tracking Employee and Title IX issues; Continue to call HR with issues, they will submit to Maxient when appropriate
- Employee evaluations – New system (PageUp) to be implemented after next cycle (for Y2026); Current system will be used for Y2025 (reviews in Jan-Mar 2026)

Ben Lousteau – Vice Chancellor of Administration and Finance

- Raises coming in September check, October will include July and August; letters should go out soon.

- The LSU President search is ongoing, and is hoped to conclude in six weeks two

Dr. Porche – Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs: (Written Report)

- October Board of Supervisor Agenda items were: 1) School of Medicine Basic Sciences Reorganization; 2) Doctor of Nursing Science in Nursing to PhD in Nursing Alumni degree conversion; 3) Office of Research Services-Search Committee has provided recommendations for the Executive Director of the Office of Research Services.

Dr. Porche is in the process of making a job offer for the Executive Director of the Office of Research Services.

Additionally, the AAHRPP Five Phase Re-accreditation Plan submitted; Financial Aid-In the process of hiring a financial aid advisor; Student Health Services: fully staffed, Students able to receive student health services/walk ins welcomed.

- Registrar developing policy on Post-humous degree awarding
- Academic Affairs Policies revised the Academic Calendar to reflect enrollment, resignation, and retroactive appeals; care for admission honors and honorary degrees Latin honors and incomplete grades
- VCAA Academic Affairs Council Appointed a Digital Badge/Microcredentials taskforce
- CM-56 in revision (Student Rights and Responsibilities)
- IPE to consider integration of nutrition content
- International Travel Policy & LAHEFSA has some minor workflow revisions proposed
- VCAA provided critique of University of Louisiana at Lafayette proposed MS in Biomedical Sciences degree. Review and critique conducted by Dr. Amedee.

Ken Boe – Assistant Vice Chancellor for Information Technology (Written Report):

- GraphPad license requests started slowing; rollout of the requested licenses is taking longer than requestors desire; happening.

- Learning Management System: Both Blackboard and Canvas continue their function here on campus; Moodle US, wants a signed Master Services Agreement; others did not require the same.

AI Usage: Thursday, October 16th, at 11:00 a.m. lasting 90 minutes, is a Copilot prompt-a-thon with Microsoft; recorded.

New business: Senate approved Resolution: To recommend to the VCAA that an LSUHSC-wide IT committee be formed as a standing committee to address IT issues (eg. LMS system recommendation, AI usage and policies, licensing roll-outs (GraphPad), and that there be Faculty Senate representation on this committee.

FA Guest Speaker: Dr. Patricia Molina, Sr. Associate Dean for Research (arrived at 4:33PM)

Presentation entitled: **2025 LSU Health, School of Medicine, Office of Research**

Departmental Restructuring:

Original Plan-1) Combine basic sciences departments; 2) Create a Biomedical Education Center; 3) Create a Data Computational Medicine Center

Progress: Active communication with the Basic Science Faculty; transition teams are in place

Next steps: Approval for merger received 10/24/2025; BOR consideration, 12/10/2025; Create new leadership position descriptions; post, advertisement, and recruit.

Additional information: Biomedical Education Center (**BEC**) & Data Science Center

BEC: To provide oversight and professional development for SOM Basic Science Faculty; coordinate educational responsibilities for SOM Basic Science Faculty in HC schools; provide professional development; task force formed; **NO GO**-following consultation with the Chancellor's Office because an institutional BEC is being created,

Data/Computational Medicine Center: To develop the infrastructure and expertise necessary to extract actionable insights from complex datasets. Strategic hub for integrating data-driven methodology into translational research; integrate Artificial Intelligence (A.I); task force formed and work in progress.

Update: Office of Research Initiatives-

1) Relocation to MEB (in phases)

Selection of PIs in discussion w/Dean and Chancellor's Office

2) Cross-campus Research-Following Main campus gathering of investigators

3) Research Café: 2nd Tuesday of the month at Noon, CSRB, Rm. 366.

No questions for this presenter. Dr. Reinoso thanked Dr. Molina for her presentation and time.

Old Business: None

Call for New Business

Suggestion for Speakers: TBA

Adjourn: Motion by Dr. Reinoso, at 4:58 PM