



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

In Attendance: A. Abreo, M.A. Ali, G. Athas, A. Augustus-Wallace, A. Bennett, J. Berthelot, J. 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, T. Reske, J. Schoen, L. Simon Peter, Tanner-Sanders, C. Taylor, V. Vaitaitis, E. Wisner, R. Zambrano

Absent: Bennett, Castellano, Davis, Garner, Harrington, Reinoso (SOM FA President), Patrick, Smith, Wolfe, Zambrano

Proxy: N/A

Welcome and call to order at 4:00pm by President-elect Crabtree (On behalf of President Reinoso-business trip) and allowed Guest Speaker to Present

Guest Speaker: Dr. Richard DiCarlo, Dean, LSUHSC-NO SOM

Dr. DiCarlo provided general updates:

LCME site: Visit went well; draft report received and correction/updates will be resubmitted to the LCME in two weeks. Final report from LCME expected in February 2025, renewal of accreditation (8 years) expected.

Basic Science Reorganization: Reorganization/merger seven departments to five departments; merger expected by the new fiscal year, July 1, 2026; drafting positions' descriptions and recruitment to align with research strengths; this consolidation may provide additional resources to allow for larger packages in the recruitment of two new Basic Sciences Chairpersons

MEB Renovation: Completion February or March 2026; fifth floor priority for repopulation in April 2026, then the seventh floor, followed by the sixth floor. Planning and space assignments will occur over the next approximately 6 months.

CALS Walkway: Estimated completion-Summer 2026, pathway will be CSRB to the 2nd floor of CALS.

Seton Building-Walkway-Under review, still no approval from Baton Rouge

Faculty Affairs: Both Basic Sciences and Clinical are growing; greater focus on Cancer Research; new section chair for Hemo-Onco, a new director of Bone Marrow, and a new Neurooncologist as well final in-person Ob-Gyn Chair interview has been completed.

Dr. DiCarlo requests questions from the FA.

Question(s): #1: Augustus-Wallace: Any updates or updated timeline regarding the NCI designation? **Response #1:** Closest is five years, but really prefer not to give a timeline, progress is happening; **Question #2:** Value of departmental input in hiring dept. chairperson? **Response #2:** Extremely valuable, the department has to collaborate with the chairperson, therefore, department input much be sought and included in the final decision.

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

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

Reports:

a. Executive Committee (meeting w/Dr. DiCarlo): No December 2025 meeting because Dr. DiCarlo served as our SOM FA Guest Speaker

b. Administrative Council (Dr. Bennett): In the absence of Drs. Bennett and Patrick, Drs. Augustus-Wallace & Crabtree attend this meeting.

Dr. Augustus-Wallace provided the report: Dr. Taylor acknowledged both Augustus-Wallace & Crabtree were in attendance for the SOM FA; the Ob/Gyn interview went well; Dr. DiCarlo reported as he did during this session-dept. merger approved by BOS with the BOR to review in their December 10th meeting. No Administrative Council in January 2026, next meeting February 2026.

c. Faculty Senate (Dr. Cameron): Request from the Registrar of Office to approve changes in the Academic Calendar. Proposed changes move of the start of the semester from the Wednesday to the following Monday, with change in add/drop course dates, as well as a change in the course withdrawal date. To satisfy the financial aid requirements courses will be attended 60% plus one day. Senate accepted the changes and voted to approve (yes).

FS Committees: Handbook-Revision to be announced by next meeting; **Faculty Evaluations Committee-Meeting: to be scheduled: Question(s):** Primeaux: Which academic school year? **Response:** The 2026-2027 academic school year.

SOM Committee Meetings:

Copping Teaching Award: (Dr. Ali) Met with Dr. Taylor to codify selection process; call for nominations with early January 2026; nomination submitted by Dept. Chairs and SOM Students.

Multicultural Affairs (Dr. Augustus-Wallace): Meeting to be held December 15th with report to come.

Old Business: None

Call for New Business

Suggestion for Speakers: TBA

Adjourn: Request to Motion conclusion Dr. Crabtree, done so by Dr. Wisner, 4:28 PM