



## School of Medicine

### School of Medicine Faculty Assembly

#### Minutes

Thursday, February 5, 2026

4:00pm-5:00pm

Zoom Meeting

**In Attendance (Assemblypersons):** 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, 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, A. Smith, C. Taylor, V. Vaitaitis, E. Wisner

**Audience Faculty:** N. Gilpin, R. Maiya, D. Kapusta, S. Alahari, P. Winsauer

**Absent:** Castellano, Kamboj, Zambrano

**Proxy:** N/A

**Welcome and call to order at 4:00pm by President, Dr. Maria Reinoso**

**Attention to an Important Email was brought by Dr. Judy Crabtree, President-elect**

**Guest Speaker: Dr. Steve Nelson (Unavailable)**

**Approval of December 2025 Minutes:** (Dr. Augustus-Wallace) President Reinoso called for approval, Moved by Dr. Cook, with seconded by Dr. Taylor\*: **Vote:** None opposed. Approval of Minutes: Passed. Meeting minutes were/are posted on SOM Faculty Assembly Webpage. [https://www.medschool.lsuhsoc.edu/faculty\\_assembly/FA%20Minutes%206-5-25%20final.pdf](https://www.medschool.lsuhsoc.edu/faculty_assembly/FA%20Minutes%206-5-25%20final.pdf)

#### Reports:

**a. Executive Committee** (meeting w/Dr. DiCarlo): Dept. Chair Selections are being completed; Basic Sciences Reorganization was to be submitted in January 2026, however, the BOS meeting was cancelled, therefore it was moved to February 2026, where it did not appear on the BOS agenda and is now planned for BOS Meeting to be held March 2026; MEB Construction-Furniture and Equipment is now be placed on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor (to be completed by April 5<sup>th</sup>), estimated completion for the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> floors require additional fundraising for equipment and furniture, which is ongoing; Core labs to be located on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor; Cancer researcher/investigators in place: Drs. Castro, Mott, Capora; CSRB-CALS Walkway Bridge-near completion; LSU Reorganization ("One LSU")-26 committees have been created to review our entire organization (all LSU campuses); SACSCOC submission regarding the two HSCs-medical schools to be submitted March 15<sup>th</sup> (no expected changes for a year; expected to remain two individual schools).

**b. Administrative Council** (Dr. Jessica Patrick): Added to Dr. Reinoso's report by including information regarding Camp Tiger Reception/Auction to be held Saturday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, 7 PM to 11 PM at Generations Hall.

**c. Faculty Senate** (Dr. Cameron): Animal Care: Dr. Leslie L. Birke is retiring as the

Director of the LSUHSC-NO Animal Care Facility and will provide approximately 20% of time to ongoing work and transition of the facility; Dr. Adam Caro will serve as the Interim Director-Animal Care. Office of Research Services (ORS): Dr. Constance began his term in January 2026 and is assessing the needs of the office. LSU Reorganization (One LSU): VCAA perspective/responsibilities-Initial contact with SACSCOC has been initiated and will submit vision for this work by March 15<sup>th</sup>, September 2026-Official review of plan will occur. Numerous committees have been identified with suggested faculty names provided to the LSU President's Office, who will then appoint faculty to these committees; criteria for selection undisclosed.

**FS Committees:** Handbook Revision Committee-Work has been completed for this cycle. Two proposed changes were presented: **1)** Instructor-track description included, Outcome: No changes to be made because faculty tracks are not discussed/presented in the faculty handbook, therefore only a reference to PM23, where tracks are outlined/described; **2)** Changes to 6.3-Clarification for academic activities that are evaluated for P & T and merit raises: Language added to acknowledge faculty activities that are based on professional expertise such as extramural teaching, etc. and that may require a PM-11 and/or COI, can be included for P & T and merit raises; this clarification ensures that faculty are aware that such activities can be included in their CVs for the purpose of P & T and merit raises.

**LSU Reorganization Question:** (Dr. Athas) Regarding the Ochsner partnership with LSUHSC-Shreveport and other clinical partners, how will reorganization proceed? **Response:** (Dr. Cameron) At this time, unknown. Pennington Biomedical's inclusion is also unknown.

**SOM Committee Meetings:**

**Multicultural Affairs** (Dr. Augustus-Wallace): Meetings held December 15<sup>th</sup> and January 26<sup>th</sup> -Per the committee's purpose, we are ensuring alignment with the SOM Strategic Plan and planning to launch a Speaker Series.

**Old Business:** Inability to email our entire faculty persists.

**Call for New Business:**

**Faculty Awards** (Dr. Simon Peter): Requested reviewers/Volunteers were as follows: Drs. Crabtree, Augustus-Wallace, Bennett, D'Souza, Garner, Cameron

**Suggested speakers:** **1)** Dr English (Final LCME Status Report); **2)** LCMC Representative; **3)** Dr. Robin McGoey; **4)** FS LSUHSC-Shreveport; **5)** Dr. Constance (New ORS Director); **6)** Mr. Kirk Deslatte (Asst. V.C.-Properties and Facilities)

**Adjourn:** Request to Motion meeting conclusion by Dr. Reinoso, Motion by Dr. LeBlanc, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dr. Bennett. Meeting adjourned at 4:35 PM.