

Minutes
HSS Faculty Senate Meeting
November 16, 2022
1:00 pm
155 Hodges
Acting President: Alan Baumeister

Attendance:

Alan Baumeister, Psychology
Claudia Sanford, World Languages
Matt Freeman, World Languages
Christina Armistead, English
Alison Zhou for Colter Ray, Communication Studies

Minutes of the October 19, 2022 meeting of the HSS Faculty Senate were approved.

The Steering Committee sent a memo to Dean Blanchard on November 1 thanking the College for the enhanced raise in instructor compensation but urging that the remaining gap between LSU and peer institutions be closed. The HSS Faculty Senate decided that nothing more was to be done before expected raises in fall 2023.

As it appears that the University is going to address the problem of graduate assistant compensation in the coming year the decision was made to put the Senate's initiative on this topic on hold.

There was considerable discussion regarding dissertation awards. Claudia Sanford, chair of the Teaching and Scholarship Committee, expressed concern that there appears to be no guidelines to use to rank dissertations. Sanford agreed to create a draft of guidelines and distribute them to senators. It was decided that the senate should consult the dean's office about how to proceed. It was also decided to ask all senators to participate in evaluating dissertations.

Campus safety was discussed. Concerns were expressed about not being able to lock classroom doors in the event of an active shooter. Concerns were also raised about safety on campus at night. Senators who teach night classes observed that the lighting at night was poor in many places, that there was no apparent presence of campus police officers. The senate decided to request that representatives from campus security be invited to attend the Senate's first meeting of the spring semester.

There was consensus among senators that expectations of student performance appear to have declined in recent years. The senate agreed to continue discussion about how this problem can be remedied.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:55 pm.

Minutes taken by Alan Baumeister

