

Dear Senators,

Since our last meeting the Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSEC) has been quite busy dealing with a number of different issues, including the new zero-based budget proposal discussed by Provost Haggerty at our last meeting and its implications for departments, student stipends, and more. Below is an outline of four major action items that has taken place over the past month.

1. Zero-Based Budget

The new budget model was announced by the Office of Academic Affairs at the end of October. We reached out to all Senators to get feedback from their respective departments on ways in which this new budget model will affect their units. Thank you to all faculty and senators who participated in this request. You can find our Executive Summary of the results of the feedback, which outlines major concerns permeating across our campus, as well as unit-specific questions in a separate attachment to this report. *The summary has been distributed to Senators for your review and we would ask you to please forward it to your colleagues in your respective units, as well.*

The summary was also provided to the Provost when he met with the FSEC last week. I am pleased to say that the discussion was very productive, and we greatly look forward to our meeting with President Tate and Provost Haggerty at the end of this month where we will continue this important dialogue.

2. Committee Appointments

The FSEC has been incredibly busy filling in positions for both standing and special committees. We are happy to report that we are approaching the end of this task, as we filled over 50 (!) vacant positions. On the ad hoc committee front, we have appointed faculty members to serve as liaisons to the Faculty Staff Committee [Fabio del Piero (Vet School) and Zachary C. Isenhower (HSS)] and formed a Policy Committee, as suggested by last year's Resolution 21-12 [Daniel Tirone (HSS), Jeffrey Roland (HSS), Jonathan Snow (Science), Hana Beloglavec (MDA), and Allison Young (Art & Design)]. The charge of that committee will be to review documents outlining policies governing Senate operations and those of our committees and making recommendations for improvements, beginning with the Constitution. These recommendations will then be presented to the Senate and added as agenda items for approval by the appropriate governing bodies.

We have also appointed faculty members to several committees formed by the upper administration. These include Open Educational Resources/Affordable Educational Resources Committee chaired by Provost's Fellow Theda Daniels-Race [Sherri Johnson (HSS), Kerri Tobin (HSE), and Simon Holoweiko (MDA)]. Provost Haggerty also asked the FSEC to appoint three faculty members to the committee providing input on the zero-budget proposal, and we are pleased to say that Mette Gaarde (Science), Roy Heidelberg (Business) and Victor Stater (HSS) have agreed to serve in these important roles. Additionally, we were asked by Senior Vice Provost Jane Cassidy to form Sabbatical

Committee to address some of the existing discrepancies within University policies on this topic. You will hear more about this committee shortly when we present the Sabbatical Committee Resolution later in the meeting.

I'd like to thank all faculty, especially those who are also Senators, for agreeing to serve on these committees. This ensures our strength in shared governance at our university. I also would like to thank the Executive Committee members who worked tirelessly in the appointments' process as much of this task involved following up with the appointees and quickly coming up with alternate faculty members to fill-in any remaining vacant spots. Given the volume of appointments and other pressing business we had to add additional FSEC meetings to the existing schedule. It was a difficult task, but we did it with great group effort. Thank you, all.

3. **Campus Safety and Security**

Following LSU Police Chief Bart Thompson's presentation at the Faculty Senate meeting in September, several Senators approached us with various follow-up questions regarding safety and security on campus. The topics broadly fell under three themes outlined below. Chief Thompson has provided detail to them, and I hope that you will find them helpful. Please share them with your respective units.

(a) *Run, Hide, Fight*

You can make a request through LSUPD for instructors to come present Run, Hide, Fight or through NCBRT: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5VcSwejU2D0>

LSU PD training presentation: <https://ncbrtweb.lsu.edu/courses/dhs/PER-375.php>

(b) *Evacuation Plan*

The campus has an emergency traffic evacuation plan. Each college/building should have a BEAP, Building Emergency Action Plan. If your building does not have one you can contact LSUPD or Office of Emergency Planning who can assist with your stakeholders.

(c) *Electric Scooters*

They are a growing concern. Current state law does not classify them as a motor vehicle. According to Chief Thompson it is his understanding that the university is looking at options.

300.1.1. Electric low-speed scooters; operation; exceptions A.(1) Electric low-speed scooters may operate on sidewalks, bicycle paths, and highways, except that the department or any parish or municipal governing authority, or both, may limit or prohibit the operation of such scooters on any sidewalk, bicycle path, or highway under its jurisdiction if such prohibition or regulation is in the interest of safety.

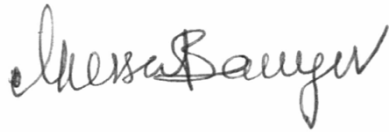
4. **Council of Faculty Advisors (CoFA)**

The Council met in October, with Mandi Lopez representing LSU A&M campus. Some of the topics that were discussed at the meeting included student transfer credits, concerns regarding Moodle management, increasing uncompensated faculty workload, and faculty salary inversion as a major problem, which drives numerous faculty members to leave LSU for better economic opportunities at other institutions.

The past month has been filled with a lot of important issues that required and continue to require significant faculty input. Please continue to share actions that occur on the Faculty Senate with your colleagues. We'd like you to keep faculty informed and aware of such issues so that we can continue to advocate on your behalf to the upper administration.

Some of the items still in the works at the FSEC include expectations and procedures within our Standing Committees, standardization of minutes, and future guest speakers. We will keep you informed with their developments, and we certainly can't be successful without your and your colleagues' input and support. Thank you for everything that you do to strengthen shared governance as we are at our strongest when we work together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Inessa Bazayev". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "I" and a long, sweeping underline.

Inessa Bazayev
President, LSU Faculty Senate