

Minutes
HSS Faculty Senate Meeting
October 22, 2021
3:00 – 4:00 p.m.
102 Allen Hall
Acting President: Alan Baumeister

Agenda:

1. Approval of minutes, meeting of 24 September 2021
2. Old Business:
 - a. Instructor and graduate assistant compensation
3. New Business:
 - a. Draft of HSS Faculty Senate letter re: faculty compensation

Present:

John Bardes – HIST
Alan Baumeister – PSYC
Kelly Clark – PSYC
Matt Freeman – WLLC
Steve Namikas – GEOG/ANTH
Matthew Valasik – SOCI

Call-to-Order:

- I. Alan Baumeister called the meeting to order in 102 Allen Hall at 3:06 p.m.

Approval of Minutes, Meeting of 24 September 2021:

- I. Minutes were approved without objection.

Agenda Items:

- I. **Instructor and graduate assistant compensation**
 - a. Alan Baumeister announced that the office of the dean of the College of Humanities & Social Sciences had agreed to furnish the HSS Faculty Senate with data regarding graduate student and instructor compensation.
 - b. The body agreed that the Faculty Welfare and Policy Committee should be tasked with:
 - i. gathering further data regarding the amount that graduate students pay each year in campus fees;

- ii. gathering further data regarding graduate student and instructor pay at peer institutions (with “peer” defined as either SEC schools or other R1 institutions);
 - iii. Writing a summary of their findings, to be drafted by the second HSS Faculty Senate meeting of the Spring Semester.
- c. Alan Baumeister offered to check in with representatives of the LSU Faculty Senate, to see if that body would be interested in coordinating on this issue.

II. Draft of HSS Faculty Senate letter re: faculty compensation

- a. Alan Baumeister asked whether the body should reevaluate this letter, given the body’s narrower effort to study the adequacy of graduate student and instructor compensation.
- b. The body agreed that the author of the letter, Laura Martins, should consider “merging” this letter into the narrower push regarding graduate student and instructor compensation.

Open Issues:

- I. Alan Baumeister raised concerns regarding maintenance of the HSS Faculty Senate webpage on the college’s website. Little material has been posted to this webpage. The dean’s office has agreed to post the body’s meeting minutes to this webpage. Alan Baumeister asked if other material, in addition to meeting minutes, should appear on the webpage. The body was in favor of including a list of the members of the HSS Faculty Senate and a list of the standing committees, so that HSS faculty can contact their senate representatives. Matt Valasik volunteered to manage this webpage, in the event that the dean’s office failed to do so (and presuming that he was extended a website login and site editing permissions).
- II. Kelly Clark raised concerns regarding maternity and paternity leave. LSU has no formal, publicly available, written policy regarding parental leave. Faculty are invited to “request” leave, a murky process that implicitly denies that parental leave is a right. The body agreed that the issue should be added to the agenda for the subsequent HSS Faculty Senate Meeting.

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m. by Alan Baumeister.

Minutes Submitted by: John Bardes