

LSU | Staff Senate

MEETING MINUTES

April 16, 2025

President Olivia Phelps presided over the April 16, 2025; Staff Senate meeting held in the Event Room on the Second Floor of the Barnes & Noble Bookstore at LSU at 10:30 a.m.

Unclassified

Executive/Administrative/Managerial

P - Tammy Millican ('27)

Professional/Non-Faculty

P - Blanchard, Debbie ('27)

P - Bonner, Amber ('26)

A - Bonnette, Michael ('27)

Pr - Breaux, Kevin ('25)

P - Carney, Mo ('27)

P - Cristina, Jennifer ('26)

Pr - Drake, Dalmer ('26)

P - Duplechain, Joshua ('25)

P - Faulkner, Carli ('27)

P - Franks, Stephenie ('25)

Pr - Gresham, Deanna ('27)

P - Guttner, Ginger ('25)

P - Kennison, Jennifer ('25)

P - Louviere, Willie ('27)

A - Martin-Whitaker, Neely ('25)

P - McDonald, Quinnea ('27)

A - Miller, Cassaundra ('25)

A - Mimms, Anissa ('26)

P - Muller, Casey ('26)

P - Nassif, Haley ('26)

P - Oster, Anthony ('24)

P - Owens, Jace ('26)

P - Phelps, Olivia ('26)

A - Popov, Jennifer ('26)

P - Simpson, Katilyn ('25)

P - Smith, Henri ('27)

Pr - Waters, Bradley ('26)

P - White, Dayton ('25)

P - Whittington, Paige ('26)

A - Williams, Amberlon ('25)

A - Wilson, Derek ('27)

Classified

Skilled Crafts

A - Constance, Taylor ('25)

Technical/Paraprofessional

A - Matkovic, Igor ('26)

Clerical/Secretarial

P - Butler, Whitney ('25)

Pr - Jensen, Jerri ('26)

P - Probst, Steven ('27)

P - Smith, Celeste ('26)

Service/Maintenance

A - Robertson, Winkeyssa ('27)

P - Indicates Present

Pr - Indicates Proxy

A - Indicates Absent

A/P - indicates Absence not Counted

GUESTS:

Provost Roy Haggerty, LSU Academic Affairs
Craig Woolley, Information Technology Services
Dustin Brewster, LSU Veterinary Medicine
Brooke Rust, LSU Veterinary Medicine
Roxane Berthelot, Campus Federal Credit Union
Casey Coughlin, Campus Federal Credit Union
Chad Schell, Campus Federal Credit Union
Zacki Soliman, Campus Federal Credit Union

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Olivia Phelps at 10:30 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

There was a quorum with five proxies noted.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Past-President Joshua Duplechain Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – March 19, 2025, Staff Senate Meeting

A motion to accept the minutes was made by Treasurer Henri Smith. The motion, seconded by Senator Willie Louviere, carried.

LSU STAFF SENATE RECOGNITION OF ROY HAGGERTY

President Olivia Phelps would like to recognize LSU Executive Vice President and Provost Roy Haggerty as Honorary Staff Senator, given with sincere appreciation and gratitude for his dedicated support of staff. He was presented with a plaque on behalf of the LSU Staff Senate.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS PRESENTATION

President Olivia Phelps recognized the recipients of the 2024-2025 Staff Senate Fee Support Scholarship Award for staff employees.

The spring 2025 Recipients are:

Dustin Brewster is pursuing his Masters in Leadership and Human Resource Development. He is on track to graduate in May of 2026.

Currently, Dustin plans to continue working with the LSU Vet School on initiatives focused on strengthening relationships and supporting professional development among faculty and staff. In the long term, he hopes to either join an organization like the Leadership Development Institute at LSU or

launch his own consulting business, where he can partner with companies to implement effective leadership and management programs, and help refine systems and processes to boost overall efficiency.

Kaleb Gardner was unable to attend the meeting today. He is pursuing a degree in Natural Science with a concentration in Mathematics.

With this degree, he will qualify to be hired as a full-time Mathematics Instructor at LSU or other universities. Kaleb also plans to continue taking courses toward a certificate in Educational Leadership. This will give him the ability to become a principal of a K-12 school. He wants options. Kaleb works with the Gordon A. Cain Center for STEM Literacy.

GUEST SPEAKER – CRAIG WOOLLEY, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

President Olivia Phelps introduced Craig Woolley, Chief Information Officer for Information Technology Services.

Craig Woolley thanked the Staff Senate for the opportunity to speak today about the IT Centralization Project at LSU.

Woolley discussed the directive sent out to Deans, Directors, and Department Heads by the LSU President's office through an email on March 28, 2025, which reads:

"Today, the President signaled intent to pursue several initiatives that will protect and enhance LSU's student success, research excellence, and financial health. One of them includes centralizing certain job functions to ensure quality control, information security, and consistency of service. Because of the heightened level of concern over data security and cyber-attacks, IT services has been selected as the first group to be centralized, and President Tate has identified LSU CIO Craig Woolley as the key driver in this effort. Craig has outlined a plan that is both thorough and thoughtful, and he will be reaching out to the appropriate parties to work through next steps shortly.

While we understand the sensitivities involved in centralizing key positions, the security of our university depends upon consistent application of state-of-the-art IT practices, and we ask that you participate in full cooperation with Craig's team as they work through this. In the end, everyone will walk away in a better position than where they started, so please understand that is both the intent and the expectation. Craig and ITS have the full support of the President and we look forward to seeing the result of this effort."

Woolley discussed the Goals and Objectives which are:

- Improve efficiency and service quality
- Enhance cybersecurity posture and compliance
- Standardize processes and tools
- Optimize IT spending and resource allocation

As well as some of the Guiding Principles:

- After the process is complete, services to customers should be equal or better than what they had before.
- Centralization needs to happen with as little disruption as possible.
- Care will be taken to consider professional aspirations of employees that are under the scope of this process when possible.

Woolley discussed Phase 1 with regards to assessment and stakeholder engagement. He has presented on this project with the University Council as well as created an advisory group to provide input and review plans. Woolley will also be meeting with the Deans to discuss and distribute the data collections for their respective areas.

The floor was opened for questions.

President Phelps thanked Craig Woolley for attending today's meeting.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Olivia Phelps reviewed relevant meetings in which she attended.

Phelps thanked Campus Federal Credit Union for hosting the Jambalaya Sale on April 2, 2025. Over \$2,000 was raised to help fund Staff Appreciation Week.

Phelps attended the University Council Meeting. The IT Consolidation project was discussed. There is also a new initiative to identify redundancies across campus.

Phelps attended the Campus Safety Meeting. The scooter ban stickers are going up on buildings across campus that prohibit bringing them inside. Also, emergency contingency plans are being disseminated to all building coordinators with regards to Policy Statement 49. New dormitories are coming near the Business Education Complex and Touchdown Village in the fall of 2027 that help house up to 8,000 freshman students. Also, air fryers are now banned in the dormitories.

The resolution in support of amending the Staff Senate Scholarship agreement to include an awarding process is still being drafted and will be presented during the next general meeting.

Phelps attended the Administrative Process Improvement Committee Meeting. The committee discussed ways to be proactive with regards to units that may have changes coming up and ways to address ahead of time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education & Professional Development

Senator Neely Martin-Whitaker submitted a written report for the meeting that was held on April 9, 2025, which was included in the meeting packet for review.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

IT Governance

Senator Mo Carney submitted a written report for the meeting that was held on March 20, 2025, which was included in the meeting packet for review.

NEW BUSINESS

Executive Officer Nominations

The Call for Staff Senate Executive Officer Nominations is now open. Nomination requests will be circulated to all Senators electronically with a description outlining each position. The deadline to submit your nominations is Friday, April 25, 2025.

OLD BUSINESS

Staff Appreciation Week

Member-at-Large Tammy Millican announced that Staff Appreciation Week will be held April 21-25.

Below is an outline of events being planned:

- Monday – Tiger Stadium Tours – 3 are being offered which are full with a waiting list
- Tuesday – LSU vs Northwestern with a baseball tailgate
- Wednesday – Deans, Directors, and Department Heads Departmental Staff Appreciation and delivery of the Staff Stripes Awards to Recipients
- Thursday – Crawfish Boil on the Parade Grounds
- Friday – Ice Cream Social at the Dairy Store

Information about Staff Appreciation Week can also be found on the Staff Senate Website.

Volunteers are needed and sign-ups have been sent out electronically for participation.

Member-at-Large Tammy Millican announced that Spring Greening Day is scheduled on April 23, from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. She encouraged those who would like to participate to sign-up online.

General Election Timeline (Amended)

Staff Senate General Elections – 2025

February 25, 2025 - Staff Employee Lists requested from HRM.

March 12, 2025 - Call for Nomination (Candidacy Form on the website)

March 26, 2025 - Deadline for nomination forms to be returned to the Staff Senate office.

April 2, 2025 - Deadline for nominees to withdraw.

April 8, 2025 - Ballots distributed to Staff (per Category)

April 21, 2025 - Deadline to return ballots to the Staff Senate office.

April 23, 2025 - Tabulate results; notify winners.

Everyone was encouraged to vote.

LSU Staff Senate Strategic Plan

Member-at-Large Tammy Millican announced that the Long Range Review and Planning Committee has scheduled a Focus Group on April 23, to review the Strategic Plan for additional feedback. Once the draft is completed, the committee will send it to the full Senate electronically for review. The LSU Staff Senate Strategic Plan 2025-2030 will be considered for a vote to adopt during the May meeting.

Staff Senate Budget

Treasurer Henri Smith provided a written financial report for April that was included in the meeting packet for Senate review.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

May Meeting

During the May meeting, the Executive Officer election speeches will be given by candidates ahead of a vote.

The end of the year June Meeting will be held at a local restaurant. We usually hold it at Walk On's unless someone suggests a different venue with an open space that can accommodate our group.

Staff Senator Birthday

Staff Senator April Birthdays:

- Senator Dayton White celebrated his birthday on April 4.
- Senator Jennifer Cristina celebrated her birthday on April 8.
- Senator Celeste Smith celebrated her birthday on April 8.
- Senator Jace Owens will celebrate his birthday on April 25.

Happy Birthday!

MOTION TO ADJOURN – With there being no more business, Member-at-Large Tammy Millican made a motion to adjourn. The motion, seconded by Senator Casey Muller, carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Bradley Waters, Secretary

BW/mm