

Faculty Senate Executive Committee (XC) Report
June 7, 2023

Report submitted by Rob Detmering, FS Vice-Chair/XC Chair.

The XC met twice in May. The first meeting (5/17) primarily served as a listening session with President Kim Schatzel. We shared perspectives on numerous topics, including the need for a more comprehensive research vision; issues with faculty morale and compensation; the need to improve campus-wide communication regarding public safety; and more. President Schatzel discussed her observations about UofL's highly decentralized organizational structure and her long-term aspiration for UofL to achieve membership in the Association of American Universities (AAU).

The second meeting (5/24) focused mostly on various ongoing concerns of the LGBTQ+ campus community. We welcomed Lisa Gunterman (LGBT Center, Health Sciences Campus), Byron Terry (LGBT Center, Belknap Campus), and Ryan Combs (LGBTQ+ Faculty and Staff Association) to discuss their concerns, which include a lack of proactive administrative response and communication on LGBTQ+ issues; chronic underfunding of the LGBT Center; lack of options for LGBTQ+ individuals to document their identities within the HR system; very few gender-inclusive restrooms on HSC and Belknap; and limited ways of addressing faculty and staff microaggressions such as misgendering of students and colleagues. The XC did not take immediate action but will hold a follow-up discussion later in June. Senate leaders will also continue to bring these issues to the attention of the administration.

The XC has also continued to advocate for campus-wide public safety updates. Eugene Mueller and Rob Detmering received confirmation in early June from Dan Durbin and Chief Steve Green that they are working with John Drees on a schedule for routine updates, which will begin in August of this year.

Also related to public safety, the XC has been discussing the installation of Flock security cameras on campus, including associated costs and how the data will be used. More information will be provided on the Flock system at an upcoming senate meeting.