

LSU | Staff Senate

MEETING MINUTES September 17, 2025

President Quinneke McDonald presided over the September 17, 2025; Staff Senate meeting held in the Capital Chamber Room in the LSU Student Union at 10:30 a.m.

Unclassified

Executive/Administrative/Managerial

P – Millican, Tammy ('27)
P – Sanders, Meridia ('28)

Professional/Non-Faculty

P - Blanchard, Debbie ('27)
P - Bonner, Amber ('26)
P - Breaux, Kevin ('28)
P - Boes, Xavi ('27)
P - Carney, Mo ('27)
P - Champney, Roberto ('28)
P - Cristina, Jennifer ('26)
A - Drake, Dalmer ('26)
P - Faulkner, Carli ('27)
P - Franks, Stephenie ('28)
P - Garcia, Alexandra
P - Gresham, Deanna ('27)
P - Guttner, Ginger ('28)
P - Hope, Olivia ('26)
P - Kennison, Jennifer ('28)
P - Madison, Vickie ('28)
P - McDonald, Quinneke ('27)
P - Miller, Cassaundra ('26)
A - Mimms, Anissa ('26)
P - Muller, Casey ('26)
P - Nassif, Haley ('26)
P - Oster, Anthony ('27)
Pr - Owens, Jace ('26)
P - Popov, Jennifer ('26)
P - Rust, Brooke ('28)
P - Smith, Henri ('27)
P - Thompson, Keith ('27)
P - Waters, Bradley ('26)
A - Whittington, Paige ('26)
P – Williams, Allison ('28)

Unclassified

P - White, Laquita ('28)
P - Williams, Amberlon ('26)
P - Wilson, Derek ('27)

Classified

Technical/Paraprofessional

P - Matkovic, Igor ('26)

Clerical/Secretarial

Pr - Butler, Whitney ('28)
A - Jensen, Jerri ('26)
P - Probst, Steven ('27)
P - Smith, Celeste ('26)

Service/Maintenance

P - Armstrong, Alisia ('26)
P - Brown, Shawn ('26)
P - Jackson, Shanatae ('28)
Pr - Robertson, Winkeyssa ('27)
P - Royal, Kendra ('28)

P - Indicates Present

Pr - Indicates Proxy

A - Indicates Absent

A/P - indicates Absence not Counted

GUESTS:

Kaylee Aulds, LSU Parking & Transportation
Broty Stelly, LSU Parking & Transportation
Troy Blanchard, LSU Office of Academic Affairs
Margot Carroll, LSU Auxiliary Services
Catherine Zachariah, LSU Auxiliary Services
Roxane Berthelot, Campus Federal Credit Union
Zacki Soliman, Campus Federal Credit Union

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Quinneke McDonald at 10:30 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

There was a quorum with three proxies noted.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Senator Jennifer Popov led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – August 20, 2025, Staff Senate Meeting

A motion to accept the minutes was made by Past-President Olivia Hope. The motion, seconded by Treasurer Henri Smith, carried.

GUEST SPEAKER – MARGOT CARROLL, LSU AUXILIARY SERVICES

President Quinneke McDonald introduced Margot Carroll, Assistant Vice President for LSU Auxiliary Services. Catherine Zachariah, Coordinator of Events and Special Projects for LSU Auxiliary Services, attended as well.

Margot Carroll thanked the Staff Senate for the opportunity to speak today about some of the new food options at the LSU Student Union.

A handout was circulated with a QR Code to a mobile application for Transact where orders at the Union can be placed ahead of time.

LSU Dining has been contracted with Chartwells for some time now to provide food service for our campus community. There are a lot of food options in the interior of campus for convenience.

City Sub is now open in Foster Hall. You can grab a classic club sandwich or an Italian, and don't forget to pair it with fresh coffee or a smooth latte. You can also build your own salad or sandwich to make it just the way you like it.

City Pork is officially back in the Art & Design Building. The menu has something for everyone such as sandwiches, fresh salads, and donuts and muffins baked daily, along with plenty of coffee and tea to keep you going.

Tre's Street Kitchen, a local favorite, is now in the Student Union. The menu offers a variety of options from tacos and a classic Philly cheesesteak to juicy burgers and hearty breakfast plates.

Tiger Traditions has some new menu items you will want to try, along with a new Daily Special, so there's always something new to crave. There are grilled chicken wraps and fresh salads, while still serving up favorites like chicken wings and po-boys. There's plenty of reasons to enjoy a relaxing visit at Traditions!

Bibigo to-go is now on campus, open for lunch and located in the On-the-Geaux convenience store in the Union. The menu is as bright as the new space, serving up crispy potstickers and customizable build-your-own bowls with kimchi, noodles, gochujang pork, bean sprouts, rice, fried rice, and more.

Auxiliary Services welcomes and appreciates all of the feedback received.

The floor was open for questions.

President McDonald thanked Margot Carroll and Catherine Zachariah for attending today's meeting.

GUEST SPEAKER – TROY BLANCHARD, INTERIM EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT & PROVOST, LSU ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

President Quinnea McDonald introduced Troy Blanchard, Interim Executive Vice President, and Provost for LSU Academic Affairs.

Troy Blanchard thanked the Staff Senate for the opportunity to speak today. He has been here for almost 20 years now and it is great to be here.

Before Troy took on the position of Interim Executive Vice President and Provost, he was the Dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, which he held since 2018 and so.

In the middle of May, he received a phone call asking him to serve which was pretty amazing because if you don't know him, he is a three-time alum from LSU, from Baton Rouge, went to Baton Rouge High. This is home! He is also an LSU parent now. And so, to be able to serve as your Provost is a great honor.

On his first day in this new role, he was called to an all-hands-on deck meeting regarding the president's departure from LSU. Later that day, the Interim President was announced.

He thinks the most amazing part of being Provost is that he gets to see the entire campus in a way that you don't get to as Dean and what you see when you look at the entire campus is the people that you know and faces that you recognize, but you don't see those individuals working in their teams, working in their groups. And you get to see just the level of excellence and just how much amazing stuff goes on every single day in those groups, how well they work together and what we do for our students. Thank you for everything that you do!

One of the things that's been critical for this year is that while we've had a lot of change, we have a big mission and when you have a mission that's the size of what LSU does, there's a lot that has to stay very consistent. You have to move things in a very steady direction. It's always on an upward trajectory, but it has to have that sense of continuity to it and you have to really maintain that momentum. And so that's something that he has worked really hard on since May.

There are basically three big things we do in academic affairs, the research mission of the campus, student success mission of the campus, and leadership mission for the campus and staff do such a critical piece in each and every one of those parts of our mission.

We drive student success in so many different ways because we have folks that are here from counseling and advising units that are directly plugged into that, but something that I don't think I fully wrapped my head around until I became Provost was the amount of education that happens in the student worker experience. We have over 7000 student workers here on campus and the vast majority of those student workers are working in an office. They're working in a team, and those teams are staff driven. And so, the educational mission that you have and what you deliver to those students and those experiences is just so critical.

The thing that's really missing and that as a university we have to be very intentional about teaching our students human connection and how to communicate and connect and work in a team to solve problems. And that student worker experience, the internship experience, that's where they are doing that. When you look at it from the perspective of industry partners for LSU, you are building a workforce. We are teaching our students how to connect and how to work on those teams.

LSU does recognize the benefits of AI to be able to make our jobs much more effective and that's an immense opportunity to be able to get that out to everybody here on campus to be able to leverage those tools.

The most important thing to remember is that our campus is on a great trajectory. You guys drive that. We are moving towards being in the top 50 as a research university. We have a huge freshman class coming in and one of the most amazing metrics is the number of valedictorians in this freshman class which is up to 43% from last year, and it represents this huge share of the total valedictorians in the State of Louisiana.

The floor was open for questions.

President McDonald thanked Troy Blanchard for attending today's meeting.

GUEST SPEAKER – BROTY STELLY, LSU PARKING & TRANSPORTATION

President Quinneke McDonald introduced Broty Stelly, Communications Specialist for LSU Parking and Transportation. Kaylee Aulds, Interim Director for LSU Parking and Transportation, attended as well.

Broty wanted to share some updates about the current state of parking at LSU with some of the changes that we may have been seeing, where we're currently and where we will be going in the future.

In October of 2017, LSU had published the Campus Master Plan which is a very large-scale plan that outlines where the campus was in 2017 and where they see campus moving towards over the next 10 to 15 years.

In 2019, two years later, the mobility appendix was added and that is where we kind of come into play. The master plan allots for the core central areas of campus to be focused on academics, safety, and a pedestrian mindset. And so, a lot of the parking we see is going to kind of slowly start to move to the outskirts of campus over the next few years. This is due to the number of students, which is around 45,000, paired with the 2000 faculty and slightly under 4000 staff at LSU. We have a very large population in this area. So, there are changes due to developing the infrastructure and urban planning.

There is a lot of construction on campus and construction that will continue to happen. The biggest one that we have right now is in Touchdown Village. Residential Life is building another dormitory to help with adequate space for first year experience students. This took 700 parking spaces offline. That project is not due to be completed until fall 2027.

Another project happening is that the Interdisciplinary Science Building construction that has been going on for a few years now and it is expected to be completed towards the end of the spring semester. This could be fully online by the summer or fall of 2026.

Stelly mentioned some of the areas that have been rezoned to help with employee parking as well as some of the “B” parking lots that are now “C” parking lots to help with the library construction project.

A lot of parking spaces in the core of campus will eventually go away due to academic buildings being constructed near the core of campus. We will eventually have to rely more on our transit services with regards to parking on the outskirts of campus. This is a safe, sustainable, reliable, and accessible way to park at LSU. With the landscape changing at LSU, some people may have to change their mindset of having to park close to their building.

The Park and Geaux option was created 5 years ago and offers a non-stop ride to certain areas of campus. This service runs from 6am to 6pm with an additional nighttime parking service that operates until 10pm. They have worked with Planning and Design to be aware of these projects ahead of time and prepare for those changes. We want to make sure that we are pedestrian safe. There are plans to enhance the Park and Geaux Hub to help with the transitions in the future.

The floor was open for questions.

President McDonald thanked Broty Stelly and Kaylee Aulds for attending today’s meeting.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

President Quinneke McDonald reviewed relevant meetings in which she attended.

On August 21, attended the Hunger Free Campus Taskforce meeting hosted by Senator Jennifer Cristina

On August 25, attended a meeting regarding Staff Senate's social media content with Staff Senate Administrative Coordinator Melone Milton and Secretary Bradley Waters.

On August 27, attended the Staff Emergency Fund Committee meeting led by Chair Tammy Millican which is now known as the Staff Crisis Fund Committee.

On August 29, the first virtual listening session was held where 80 staff members signed up and 36 attended.

On September 4, attended the Council of Staff Advisors meeting.

On September 5, attended the Board of Supervisors meeting and shared the Council of Staff Advisors Report.

On September 8, met with the Foundation to discuss Staff Senate Resolution 25-01, to establish and clarify the criteria for the LSU Staff Dependent Scholarship. The Staff Fee Support Scholarship was also discussed.

On September 10, the Executive Committee met to prepare for the September General Meeting.

On September 11, met with the Provost and attended the President's Reception.

On September 12, met with the Residential Life custodial staff with President-Elect Tammy Millican.

On September 15 and 16, hosted training for the committee chairs.

Across the U.S. and world, a lot is happening, and our staff are carrying that weight alongside their daily work, personal lives, and many obligations. Regardless of where views may lie, we can all agree that wellness and care are essential for a healthy workforce. If our goal is to be a top-tier place to work, then incorporating wellness initiatives is not optional, it is vital. As committees begin to meet, everyone is encouraged to think about how well-being initiatives can be incorporated into the work they do. Even small steps like highlighting resources, building in moments of care, or considering staff needs can make a big difference. Prioritizing well-being strengthens not only individuals but also our entire campus community.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Staff Crisis Fund

President-Elect Tammy Millican submitted a written report for the meeting that was held on August 27, 2025, which was included in the meeting packet for review.

NEW BUSINESS

Bylaw Revisions Vote

The Staff Senate Executive Committee has approved the revisions to the Bylaws that were included in the meeting packet for review.

A motion to accept the revisions as amended to the Staff Senate Bylaws was made by Senator Brooke Rust. The motion, seconded by Senator Xavi Boes, carried.

The Staff Senate approved the Bylaws with no abstentions.

Future Guest Speakers

If anyone has any suggestions, please send those to the Executive Committee.

OLD BUSINESS

Welcome Reception

The Staff Senate will host a Welcome Reception for employees to attend and talk with Interim President Matt Lee and Interim Provost Troy Blanchard tomorrow, September 18, at 5:00 p.m. in the Atchafalaya Room (339) in the LSU Student Union. President McDonald encouraged everyone to attend.

Staff Senate Budget

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

Annual Benefits Fair

The Annual Employee Benefits Fair will be held on October 30. Senator volunteers will be needed during this event. An electronic volunteer sign-up will be circulated for participation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

October Meeting

The October meeting will be held on October 15, at 10:30 a.m. in the Event Room on the second floor of Barnes & Noble at LSU.

LSU Presidential Search Committee

Past-President Olivia Hope announced that she is working with Faculty Senate President Daniel Tirone to release a survey to the LSU campus community for feedback on what they would like to see in the next LSU President. The survey will be released in News & Notes.

Staff Senator Birthday

Staff Senator September Birthdays:

- Past-President Olivia Hope celebrated her birthday on September 1.
- Senator Roberto Champney celebrated his birthday on September 6.
- Senator Whitney Butler celebrated her birthday today on September 8.
- Senator Laquita White celebrated her birthday on September 13.

Happy Birthday!

MOTION TO ADJOURN – With there being no more business, Past-President Olivia Hope made a motion to adjourn. The motion, seconded by Secretary Bradley Waters, carried.

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

Bradley Waters, Secretary

BW/mm