



LSU A&M FACULTY SENATE RESOLUTION 21-08

An Expression of No Confidence in Selected Members of the Faculty Senate Leadership

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Whereas the current President, Vice President, and Past President have implemented a series of formal and informal changes to the policies and practices of the Faculty Senate that have centralized decision-making and diminished faculty representation in and oversight of the Faculty Senate, the Faculty Council's delegated representative body; and

Whereas these changes have diminished the ability of the Faculty Senate to execute its core functions and put it at odds with the principles, practices, and procedures laid out in its Constitution and Bylaws; and

Whereas these changes result in situations where these officers exercise authority without accountability; and

Whereas these changes have led these officers to ignore or oppose efforts by LSU faculty to participate in shared governance at the university and to advocate for the faculty's interests, through both the Senate and outside channels; and

Whereas the dismissal and rejection of a petition signed by nearly 350 faculty members advocating for safer working conditions is one of the more egregious examples of this sort of opposition by these officers; and

Whereas these officers, upon becoming aware of proposed changes to the LSU Board of Supervisors Regulations which would fundamentally alter shared governance at the university, withheld this information from certain members of the FSEC; and

Whereas these officers were obligated to disclose these proposed changes to the Faculty Council and the Senate, its delegated representative, due to a conflict of interest arising from the fact that they would remove the ability of the Faculty Council to provide oversight for their actions; and

Whereas these officers nonetheless did not disclose these proposed changes to the Faculty Council or Senate and also, as demonstrated by correspondence, took no steps to oppose them; and

Whereas these officers also understood and conveyed to others that it was likely that the actions of the Board of Supervisors were undertaken as retaliation against the faculty for its activism during the summer of 2021, but did nothing to defend the faculty they are elected to represent:

Therefore, be it resolved that, as a consequence of these actions by the President, Vice President and Past President, the LSU Faculty Senate has no confidence in these officers' ability to execute the duties of their offices and requests their resignations, effective immediately; and

Therefore, be it further resolved that the Senate shall hold new elections for the vacated posts at its earliest opportunity, with the Faculty Senate Secretary to fulfill the duties and obligations of the President until that time.