

Dear Senators,

I hope you had a terrific Thanksgiving weekend. It has only been a couple of weeks since our last meeting and there are only a few items for this month's update.

1. Town Hall Meeting on Zero-Based Budgeting: December 13, 1pm

Due in part to a nearly unanimous vote to request that Academic Affairs hold an open forum on zero-based budgeting at our last meeting, Provost Haggerty will be holding a *Town Hall meeting on Tuesday 13 December at 1pm, at the Holliday Forum, School of Journalism*. Please forward this information to your colleagues at your respective units and be sure that they register [here](#) and attend this important informational session.

2. Association of Louisiana Faculty Senates (ALFS)

On November 19, I travelled to Alexandria to the ALFS meeting. I was accompanied by Vice President Daniel Tirone, member-at-large Parampreet Singh, and other LSU A&M faculty members. We were joined at the meeting by faculty from LSU-Alexandria, LSU-Eunice, and the University of Louisiana system. The discussion was productive, with a portion of the discussion dedicated to tenure protections within the state, especially with regard to the Senate Concurrent Resolution 6. I will keep you apprised of any further developments.

3. Student Concerns

We continue to work with students and the administration to address pertinent student concerns, including faculty grade reporting, anonymous student reporting on the LSU Cares website, the Comprehensive Academic Tracking System (CATS), and a request to establish a Provost's List for LSU Online students.

4. Meeting with President Tate

The FSEC met with President Tate and Provost Haggerty on November 29. The topics of discussion included the cost of the new library, graduate student tuition remission rates for grants, SCR6, and the prospect of faculty merit raises in 2023. The proposed zero-based budgeting approach was also discussed along with alternatives such as Responsibility Centered Management (RCM). The merits of each approach were discussed as were the motivations for the change from historical budgeting. It was stated that a potential benefit of switching to a new approach would be an opportunity to address known issues with salary disparities related to gender, compression and inversion as we were informed that any systematic response is impossible until a new source of funding is identified. Given the significant impact these issues have on faculty morale and retention we will continue to monitor the process closely, advocate for faculty at every opportunity. We will do everything we can to make sure that you are informed about events as they develop and your voices are included in the process.

5. The 2023 Faculty Colloquium: 13 January 2023, 8AM–1PM, Lod Cook Alumni Center

Be sure to attend this year’s event featuring speaker José Bowen, who will discuss his new book “Teaching Change: How to Develop Independent Thinkers Using Relationships, Resilience, and Reflection.” The event is hosted by the LSU Office of Academic Affairs and sponsored by Campus Federal. *The Colloquium includes a keynote address, workshop, and lunch for all attendees.* You can register for this event [here](#).

The semester has been very busy, to say the least, and it is hard to believe that we are already at the end of the Fall semester. Thank you for your continued support and advocacy for faculty. We wouldn’t be able to do our job without your active input and feedback. It is an honor to serve the faculty.

I hope you have a much-deserved relaxing holiday. I wish you and your families a happy and healthy New Year!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Inessa Bazayev". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Inessa Bazayev
President, LSU Faculty Senate