



September 16, 2026

Dear Senators,

There have been a number of important developments in the last few weeks, and this month's report includes updates on two significant matters addressed in recent Senate meetings along with three additional items.

1. Preliminary Injunction on Changes to Duration of Status Rules

On September 14 Judge F. Dennis Saylor IV in the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts issued a preliminary injunction postponing the effective date of the new rules changing Duration of Status for individuals on F and J visas, including the length of the visa and a student's ability to change levels of study or transfer between schools. This means that for now these changes have been paused and the prior rules remain in effect. A status hearing on this case has been set for October 2, 2026 and we anticipate that the federal government will appeal the judge's decision. Depending on the status hearing and other future legal developments this situation will likely change again, but for the moment things will continue as they were. Other changes discussed in our prior meeting, including those related to the Optional Practical Training (OPT), Curricular Practical Training (CPT), and H-1B fees are not impacted by this ruling.

2. Policy Statement 104 Dismissal For Cause for Faculty Changes Approved

The proposed edits to [Policy Statement 104 Dismissal for Cause for Faculty](#) which were unanimously endorsed by the Faculty Senate in the spring of this year have been approved by the Chancellor and the revised policy is now in effect. This has been a yearslong effort that required intensive collaboration among many groups on campus including the Office of Academic Affairs, the Office of Legal Affairs and General Counsel, Human Resource Management, and the Faculty Senate Policy Committee, among others. We greatly appreciate the partnership exhibited throughout this process and could not be more pleased with what we believe to be a significantly improved policy which better serves the interests of all parties.

3. Artificial Intelligence Council

The Artificial Intelligence Council created and chaired by Provost's Fellow for Artificial Intelligence Dr. Emily Elliott had its first meeting last week. The Council brings together multiple groups on campus including Libraries, Student Advocacy & Accountability, Student Government, the Faculty Senate, the Staff Senate, the Graduate School, Information Technology Services, LSU Online and the Office of Academic Affairs. The Council has a wide-ranging focus on matters relating to Artificial Intelligence on campus so if there are issues which you believe we should address please share them with me and I will bring them to the Council.

4. Disability Services Testing Agreements and Flex Plan

With the start of a new semester Disability Services reminds faculty to complete testing agreements for students in their courses who have accommodations which enable them to sit for exams under DS's supervision in their testing centers. Testing agreements and additional information about accommodations, including the Flex Plan and consideration for absences, are available at [DS Faculty Guide](#).

5. Faculty Senate Volunteer Opportunities

Our thanks to the individuals who have stepped forward to serve on our Faculty Senate Standing Committees, and I am pleased to report that the core academic committees are full or nearly full. However, there are numerous openings on many of our other committees that we are still seeking to fill. If you are available please consider serving and encouraging your colleagues to do so as well.

We have also been asked to provide the names of faculty who are willing to share their experiences with Workday Student as part of LSU's continuing implementation of the platform. If you have interest in participating in this process please let us know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. C. Tirone', with a stylized, flowing script.

Daniel C. Tirone
President, LSU Faculty Senate