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Recommended Citation

Louisiana State University and Agricultural & Mechanical College. (2014). Faculty Senate Resolution 14-05. Retrieved from <https://repository.lsu.edu/senate-pubs/453>

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Faculty Senate Resolution 14-05

“LSU Discover Faculty Involvement and Compensation”

Sponsored by Judith Sylvester

Whereas the success of the LSU Discover (our Quality Enhancement Plan) is inextricably linked to the participation of LSU faculty mentors;

Whereas faculty mentors form the cornerstone of LSU Discover by integrating undergraduate student learning into their own scholarship activities;

Whereas our QEP enhances LSU as a Research 1 institution and as the flagship university in the state;

And whereas the fundamental goals of LSU Discover are to provide undergraduate students with a better understanding of the purpose and use of research and scholarly activity (innovation/creativity/performance) through direct student involvement and to encourage all programs, including those that offer only graduate level instruction, to become more involved in undergraduate learning;

And whereas the QEP will encourage students to become life-long learners who will have closer ties to the academic endeavors of the university as alumni;

Whereas the LSU Discover leadership pledges to work with the Faculty Senate to optimize the program and provide financial support;

Be it resolved that the QEP team and administration of the university will enhance the QEP participation and success rates by offering specific activities, such as faculty curricular development and mentoring workshops and recognition of QEP contributions in faculty tenure and promotion evaluations;

And be it further resolved that the QEP team and administration strive to develop a compensation system (such as course release time, additional compensation, and/or acknowledgement in tenure and promotion documents) to reward faculty members for these and other services beyond the scope of their contractual obligations that are necessary in a Research 1 institution;

And be it further resolved that an electronic tracking system will be instituted for faculty members to easily register undergraduate projects by providing the title of the project, the name(s) of the students and faculty involved, along with the eventual outcome of the project (such as participation in a poster session, a publication or other appropriate outcomes) that would permit assessment of appropriate learning for QEP progress and successes.