

# FACULTY SENATE RESOLUTION 12–5

# Explaining Responsibility for the Lab School

*Sponsored by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee*

Whereas the University Lab School honorably presents itself as a distinguished contributor to the educational program that Louisiana State University offers to its clientele and communities;

Whereas the honorable standing and distinguished reputation that the Lab School enjoys depends in part on its affiliation with LSU and its faculty;

Whereas the Lab School presents itself advantageously as an LSU “unit” and deploys the LSU trademark, the value of which is derived from the achievements of LSU faculty;

Whereas the organizational charts of the University indicate that the Lab School reports to the Dean of the former College of Education, now the College Human Sciences and Education;

Whereas faculty who have inquired into the administration of and “command line” behind the Lab School have encountered conflicting signals regarding responsibility for this “unit”;

Whereas the Lab School includes in its admission criteria special consideration for LSU faculty members;

Whereas those admissions criteria also contain measures of student preparedness that allow for impressionistic judgments;

Whereas the extreme difficulty in evaluating the Lab School admission process has given rise to damaging suspicions, in the LSU community, that acceptance to the Lab School occurs at a higher rate among the children of politicians, coaches, and new hires than among the children of long-serving faculty members;

Whereas questions have arisen as to whether the charges assessed for services and

goods provided by LSU approximate either their market value or the cost to LSU;

Whereas the designation "Lab" in "Lab School" suggests a level of research activity that has not been demonstrated by reliable review procedures;

Whereas research a record of high accomplishment with regard to national merit and other prominent scholarships and achievement measures has yet to be demonstrated;

Whereas calls to expand the Lab School so as to allow for ready access for the children of faculty members have gone unheeded;

Whereas the faculty have an interest in the proper administration and management of a "unit" that operates under the imprimatur of LSU;

Therefore be it resolved that the LSU Faculty Senate calls on the LSU administration and the Dean of the College of Education (until June 30; beginning July 1, the Dean of the College of Human Sciences and Education) to explain and to clarify to the LSU community the administrative relations between LSU and its Lab School and to promulgate and enforce a clear line of responsibility for the Lab School;

Therefore be it further resolved that the level of control by the LSU A&M campus over the Lab School should be increased;

And therefore be it further resolved that the University line officer responsible for the Lab School should undertake a thorough review and revision of admissions criteria and procedures.