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## Faculty Senate Resolution 13-12

Louisiana State University and Agricultural & Mechanical College

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# FACULTY SENATE RESOLUTION 13–12

## “Consideration of Other Procurement and Service Changes”

**Sponsored by Ken McMillin on behalf of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee**

*Whereas* the continuing tight budgetary constraints of the university require constant and vigilant cost comparisons and savings analyses in all areas; and

*Whereas* a Spend Analysis is in the process of being conducted by the Office of Procurement Services; and

*Whereas* in FY 2012 \$13.5 million of the total \$251.9 million spend base was on travel, with approximately \$2.5 million spent on travel agents and \$5.5 million spent on commercial airlines; and

*Whereas* university travelers are required to use the contracted travel agency for the State of Louisiana; and

*Whereas* faculty and staff members report numerous varied difficulties with service provided by the contracted travel agency; and

*Whereas* Office of Accounting and Financial Services FASOP AS-02 states that the purpose of the University Travel Regulations are to establish a procedure to assist travelers in making travel arrangements and in the reimbursement of travel expenses, but does not given the name or contact information for the contracted state travel agency, and

*Whereas* contrary to FASOP AS-02 that states the use of the on-line bookings through the contracted travel agency can drastically reduce the costs paid per transaction; and

*Whereas* it is difficult to obtain permission for exceptions to the contracted travel agency fares to realize cost or schedule advantages to the university traveler; and

*Whereas* the upgrades to the contracted travel agency booking system announced by Accounting and Financial Services in January, 2013, have not resulted in marked improvements in the reservation services; and

*Whereas* the objective of the Office of Procurement Services is to procure goods and services to sustain, foster, and support the administrative, educational and research missions of the University; and

*Whereas* the LaGrad Act II authorized approved changes in the procurement practices of the university and many of those changes are not being effected;

*Therefore be it resolved* that the Faculty Senate urges that the Faculty Senate Executive Committee meet with the Interim Vice Chancellor and CFO of Finance and Administrative Services, Executive Director of Procurement Services and Property Management, Accounting Services Associate Vice Chancellor, and Facility Services Executive Director to determine an action plan for improving travel and other services impacting faculty and staff members in performing their expected activities and responsibilities for the university.