



MINUTES

LSUA Chancellor's Cabinet

10/06/2021 9:00 AM | *Meeting called to order by* Chancellor Coreil

In Attendance

Dr. Paul Coreil, Dr. John Rowan, Dr. Abbey Bain, Deron Thaxton, Melinda Anderson, Chad Gauthier, Shelly Gill, Eamon Halpin, Jennifer Innerarity, Missy LaBorde, Adam Lord, Melissa Parks, Tyler Unsicker, Kevin Vercher, Chancey Slider

Chancellor Coreil called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM

Chancellor's Updates:

- We all welcome Adam Lord, our new Assistant Vice Chancellor for Strategic Communications. Adam is filling a role that is crucial to every aspect of this campus and we are looking forward to working closely with him. Thanks to Nathan and Chase for doing a great job filling in and picking up the additional workload over the last few months.
- We have advertised the position for the LSUA Foundation President on our website as well as several professional external higher education/foundation websites. Stephen Wright is chairing the search committee. Melinda, Deron, and I are serving on the committee.
- We have made an offer that was accepted to fill the position of the Executive Assistant to the Chancellor for my office. We will introduce this person once everything is finalized and we expect their anticipated start date to be in the next 2-3 weeks.
- Congratulations to Missy LaBorde for being inducted into the Southern Public Relations Hall of Fame! We are so proud of this achievement and all of the great work that Missy does for our campus, our students and our community.
- We are working on the Capital Campaign campus kickoff event that Melinda mentioned. We are planning for it to take place on October 27th and more information will be coming soon. We are excited to be able to start this phase of the campaign and move even closer to our \$5 million goal. Jay Luneau recently indicated to me that we are right on track for our \$5 million match needed from the legislature to support our new LSUA Student Success Center.
- We are working to find out as much as we can about vaccination requirements and developing our plans for testing and vaccination requirement protocol for our campus starting next semester.
- I visited Chief Collins who is recovering from a recent surgery yesterday and he is doing well. He sends his thanks for the well wishes from everyone.
- Our next meeting will take place on Wednesday, October 20th at 9:00 a.m.

Deron Thaxton

- A campus wide announcement went out recently regarding the Drainage Project and the closing of Middleton Drive that includes the Abrams Hall parking lot. They are beginning to work on the circle drive and construction will continue down Middleton and Grady Britt.
- The downtown building has a pre-bid meeting on October 11th regarding the asbestos abatement that has to be completed prior to the demolition.
- FY21 financial statements are almost complete and the draft will be available sometime in November followed by audited statements in the spring.
- We are working on the final disbursement of \$3.6 million Cares dollars. Letters will be going out to students shortly and they will have the opportunity to apply these dollars to any outstanding balances or receive a check/direct deposit.
- Had a Campus Edge meeting this morning and we are moving into the next phase with a market sounding to reach out to local, state and regional developers to find out what their interests are.
- Meeting with the architect regarding the library renovation project tomorrow to go over current plans and potential costs.
- The vaccination verification management system is almost complete and should be made active later this week so that students will be able to upload their proof of vaccination, testing information, and opt out exemptions for the upcoming spring registration. There will also be an employee version of the verification system and more information will be made available soon.

Kevin Vercher

- As the Drainage Project moves west, we can expect more closures, the presence of heavy construction equipment, and some safety concerns such as large holes and ditches. Supervisors, please remind everyone in your department to be aware and safe moving around campus.
- We will start a campus wide plumbing retrofit next week so that all lavatory fixtures and water fountains will be upgraded to touchless systems. This project is a four-phase project and the anticipated completion time is in January.
- Continuing work on several other projects.
- The re-roofing of the library was bid last week and Dixie Roofing received the bid. The project should kick off in the next couple of months and some delays are expected due to a shortage of roofing materials. The parking lot to the east of the library will not be impacted immediately, but may be a couple of months into the project.

Abbey Bain

- We are excited that the advising period opened on Monday and the spring schedule is now available. Registration opens later in October and our advisors are working closely with students to get them ready to register.
- We are losing Casey Prejean who advises our online BSN and allied health students on Friday. We are working with these departments and Georgia Fox will be assisting our BSN and Haley Bryant will assist our allied health students until we can get a new person in that position.

- We have been working closely with Deran Schilling on the advising dashboard that will provide support with advising assignments. We are in the final stages of making the dashboard available to our deans.
- Trick or Treat Street will take place later this month on the Quad instead of on the streets of campus. It will be a little bit different this year, but we are looking forward to a great event. More information will be coming soon.
- Thanks to everyone who came out to Tank's Traditions yesterday. We had a new program that consisted of some campus history facts, learning some cheers and the alma mater, as well as some great giveaways and free pizza.
- I will be spending some time at The Oaks while Michael Courson takes some time off soon. Please keep me informed of any needs or issues with housing when he is out of office.
- We have some intramurals coming up next week including flag football. Last month, we had 3-on-3 basketball and about 70 students came out. We had over 100 students at Tank's Traditions yesterday and we are continuing to see growing numbers with student participants at campus events.

Shelly Gill

- We recently went live with a new CRM system and we have a new application for admissions. Please be patient as we work out bugs and navigate the learning curve. Special thank you to IT for all of their hard work and for the phenomenal job that they have been doing over the last year to get this implemented.
- Excited that our new dual enrollment coordinator, Megan Ducote, will start on October 19th. Megan is a former employee who will be returning to campus and we are excited to have her back on board.
- We are working on filling our online admissions counselor and a regular recruiter/admissions counselor positions.
- We are in the middle of recruitment season. This is our third week in Texas and we have rescheduled opportunities to recruit in southeast LA for later in the year since the events that we had planned were cancelled due to Hurricane Ida.
- We had a very successful Rapides Parish College Fair on our campus. Thanks to all of the colleges that attended. Also, thanks to all of the faculty who came out to meet and talk to the students.
- Our applications are live for summer and fall 2022. Our first admission responses went out on October 1st. We will begin working on the yield campaign to encourage enrollment soon.
- Spend the Day at A/Preview Day will take place on November 13th from 10am-2pm.
- Due to construction on campus, we are going to only have tours on Thursdays, Fridays, and the first Saturday of every month. For now, we are asking tour participants to park in the reserved spots in front of Chambers Hall. Please refer any questions to us.
- Asked if we can order some pardon our progress signs for the drainage project construction. Deron mentioned that we can look into it.
- Discussed a proposal for a new procedure for applicants who have been convicted of a sexual assault, have stalking charges, or have been dismissed for disciplinary issues. After Louisiana passed "ban the box", we were not allowed to ask incoming applicants if they had been convicted of a felony. We did some research with other institutions and we can ask about sexual

assault or stalking charges as well as if the applicant has ever been dismissed from another university for disciplinary issues. We need a procedure in place for students who indicate that they fall into these categories. The Cabinet had some discussion and unanimously agreed to move forward with the proposed procedure.

- Also discussed a new proposal regarding admissions requirements. The Board of Regents allowed all universities to have more flexible admissions requirements regarding test scores during COVID. For fall 2022, the Board of Regents is requiring all universities to go back to pre-pandemic admissions requirements, however LSU System has agreed to continue the flexible admissions requirements. The Cabinet had some discussion and unanimously passed the proposal to keep our admission requirements flexible for fall 2022.
- Shout out to UPD for attending National Night Out at the Zoo with me and Kaitlyn last night. We really appreciate them coming with us.

John Rowan

- I'd like to remind everyone that when we announce and discuss the fall break, we should not say that classes are cancelled because 100% online classes are still ongoing.
- Shout out to Dr. Bain and student engagement for all of the partnerships and team work regarding advising changes. Faculty have fewer advisees thanks to the new process and there is more consistency, especially with the new dashboard that provides autonomy to the colleges. These are all great improvements that have happened very quickly.
- We recently sent out requests for faculty and staff to apply for the position of the Director of the Honors Experience. There were several great applicants. We are excited to announce that Jerri Weston has been named the Director and Haley Bryant will be serving as the Assistant Director both effective in January for the spring semester. They are already working with Dr. Gerard Dumancas who will be departing from his position at LSUA after the fall semester. In about three weeks, we will be taking a group of students to a national conference to learn about what other university and college honors programs are doing so that we can bring some of those best practices back to our campus.
- Sent a revision of PS 202(B) regarding full-time faculty promotion and tenure to the Cabinet yesterday for review. The suggested changes in the policy are minor and only concerning the name changes for deans, departments and colleges so that the policy aligns with our new academic structure. The Cabinet unanimously voted in approval of the revision.

Eamon Halpin

- Been working with a group of faculty members for the last month on the redesign of our graduate exit exams that assess students' mastery of our twelve general education competencies. Until fairly recently, we were administering the exams to graduation candidates every semester. The exams do not determine if students can graduate, but they were required for all graduation candidates. We stopped administering these exams during COVID because we did not want to put any additional stress on our students, but we need to begin administering the exams again. We hope to begin sending out exams to students through a survey monkey link and possibly offering some incentives for completion and motivation to perform well.

- Next week, I am going to Las Vegas to attend an aviation business conference with Jimmy Sawtelle, CLTCC Chancellor, along with Sandra McQuain and David Broussard from England Airpark. The conference will have attendees from all over the country who are involved in the aviation industry and is a great opportunity for us to spread the word about the significant things happening in Alexandria.
- Jerri and I have completed our Curriculog training and we are now testing the system with the help of some of our deans and department chairs. We hope to conduct a training for all deans and department chairs and make the product available to all faculty members soon.
- We are planning to launch SPERO in the fall of 2022. There are still some logistical issues to work out. John and I met with Jerri and Deron on Monday to talk about some of the issues, most of which have to do with the assessment of a fee for program students as well as setting them up in PowerCampus, providing LSUA ID's, etc. We plan to meet again in about a month to see what progress has been made.

Melinda Anderson

- Welcome to Adam! I am looking forward to working with you.
- Working on a Fierce for LSUA campus campaign kick-off event and more info will go out soon.
- Working closely with our donors on fundraising.
- Working with the city of Alexandria on our IGA. Thanks to Shelly and Tyler for helping with this.
- Over the last two weeks, we have awarded two of the new scholarships. Shout out to Dr. Liz Beard and Dr. Cathy Cormier for facilitating the student interviews.
- Working on the Women in Business Conference that some members of our campus will be attending.
- Our audit is still underway. Thanks to Lynne for everything that she is doing to assist with it.
- We are working to figure out the next steps for the Epps House in hopes of making it available to the public. Thanks to Kevin and his crew for getting it cleaned up.
- Shared a virtual trivia opportunity from Stephen Wright. He is working to get an LSUA team together for this fun event.
- Working on plans for the Graduate Dinner that will take place on Tuesday, December 14th.
- LSU President, Dr. Tate, will be the speaker at Rotary on November 2nd and I welcome all of Cabinet to come as my guests.

Adam Lord

- Thank you to everyone for the warm welcome. I am excited to be here and get started.
- I have been working with Nathan and Chase who have been a fantastic help at getting me up to speed.
- Working on scheduling some meetings and addressing some priority initiatives across campus as we work to update our strategic plan for communications.
- My office is Abrams 119 and my phone extension is 0132.

Chad Gauthier

- The Vax That A incentive program has ended and we gave out all of the student prizes. The iPad for faculty and staff has not come in yet, but we have drawn for the winner and will be contacting them soon.
- We are working to finalize a system to manage vaccination records and hope to send some more information out this or next week.
- State COVID hospitalizations were reported at 1239 two weeks ago. Today, 671 were reported so we are definitely seeing some regression. This is great news, but we still need to be aware of the virus and careful.
- The tropics are looking pretty good right now.
- The governor's office opened up the \$100 gift card for vaccinations opportunity to everyone – not just students. We are planning some upcoming vaccine days on campus where we will offer the gift cards. Those who are already vaccinated cannot come to retrieve a gift card.

Missy LaBorde

- Faculty Senate is working on awarding Chancellor's funds for travel, research, and field trips. We had multiple applications in each of those divisions. Dr. Coreil would like to have final approval for all categories. Thanks to Dr. Coreil for making the Chancellor's funds available.
- All of the committees and subcommittees are meeting. Particularly the Bylaws rewrite ad hoc committee.
- Many faculty members are wrapping up the E-learn session right now.
- Asked if the new Honor's Experience Director would be receiving a stipend since there's no opportunity for a course release as faculty members receive. Dr. Rowan responded that the director and assistant director of the Honors would both receive overload stipends.

Jennifer Innerarity

- Looking forward to the advising and registration periods. The help of advising assistants is going to offer our students a more thorough review and we appreciate this support. Thanks to our administration.

Melissa Parks

- In Kinesiology, we have been reviewing applicants for the open sports management position. We are narrowing the applicant pool down and hope to have someone in the teaching position by the spring semester.

Tyler Unsicker

- We have had a couple of personnel changes in athletics recently. Kody Gautreaux is serving as the interim baseball coach and Mauricio Rancel is serving as the women's soccer coach until we can open up positions for hiring.
- This is the first year that LC is a part of our athletic conference and we have been working closely with their athletic director on plans for some rivalry competitions. Our women's soccer team will play a game at LC on October 15th at 5:00 p.m. and the men play at 7:00 p.m.

- Both soccer teams play at home this Thursday against Shreveport and then will be on the road at the end of the week.
- Basketball starts up at the end of the month and they are in full swing with practices. We are looking forward to hosting some games in the Fort with plenty of fans.

Chancey Slider

- Working on plans for the All-Campus meeting scheduled for next Wednesday in Coughlin Auditorium at 3:00pm. The invitation has been sent to faculty and staff. Attendance is encouraged and live stream link has been made available for those who cannot attend in person.
- Working on plans for fall commencement scheduled to take place at the Rapides Parish Coliseum on Thursday, December 16th. The information posted on the website is up to date, but we are working on some structural changes to make it more accessible and vibrant. The graduate attendance survey will be posted by early November.
- Working closely with administration on policy statement updates.
- Attending meetings and trainings regarding grants and sponsored programs for my transition into the new position.

Respectfully submitted by Chancey Slider.

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, October 20th.
