



MINUTES

LSUA Chancellor's Cabinet

11/04/2021 3:00 PM | *Meeting called to order by* Chancellor Coreil

In Attendance

Dr. Paul Coreil, Dr. Eamon Halpin, Deron Thaxton, Connie Cooper, Melinda Anderson, Adam Lord, Tyler Unsicker, Chad Gauthier, Melissa Parks, Shelly Gill, Kevin Vercher, Chancey Slider, Jennifer Parish

Chancellor Coreil called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM

Chancellor Coreil's Update:

- In regards to the Student Success Center project, The Fierce for LSUA capital campaign meeting yesterday was positive. I will send a memo to the Cabinet urging them to consider supporting the Fierce for LSUA capital campaign. In the next legislative session, it will be important for us to encourage our Central La. Delegation to continue to support this important Capital Outlay project for LSUA. The state has a surplus this fiscal year so that is helpful especially for a capital project that is a one-time expenditure. We have worked hard to get the legislature to match our private funds which should be \$5 million dollars. Many of the legislators were at Dr Tate's Rotary presentation and many are working hard to make it happen. Remember that it is a powerful message to be able to tell others that we all buy into this when you ask to consider making a campaign donation. We are hoping to wrap up the public capital campaign by the end of the year. The legislative session starts in March so the educational effort justifying the need for the Student Success Center must take place between now and March. It's not how much you give, but it's the fact that you contribute. Here is a chance to show community donors, foundation members, businesses, faculty/staff that our cabinet is supportive of this project. Student Success Center improvements and campus modernization are much needed and deserve our support.
- Birthday parties and celebrations should only be held at lunch hour and end of day. We must keep in mind that we are a public institution and the public perception is important.
- Dr Tate's visit at Rotary Tuesday was successful. He was positive about the Student Success Center and the importance of LSUA in this community. He brought with him Mark Bieger, VP for Strategy for LSU who is coming Monday to meet with SLT and me. He will share LSU strategic planning priorities with us.
- Next week, members of the state legislature are coming for a meeting on campus for public comments on redistricting in the state. Almost every legislator within a 20-parish area of

Central LA will be in attendance so we want to be ready to accommodate them; LSUA police, ambassadors and golf carts will be available. I will make opening comments.

- We have not committed to the weekly COVID testing component for a couple of reasons: we do not have enough tests and there are logistical issues. If we get a federal grant, it may require that we follow the federal vaccine mandate which goes into effect on January 7, 2022. Both students and employees can opt out of receiving the vaccine.
- Fall 2021 Commencement will be on December 16, at the Rapides Parish Coliseum. Ms. Valencia Sarpy Jones from LSU Board of Supervisors will be conferring degrees, and Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin will be the keynote speaker. Also, Ms. Glenda Stock Smith will be receiving the LSUA Distinguished Service Award and Rep. Daryl Deshotel will be on the platform representing the LSU Foundation Board of Directors. Thanks to Chancey, Laura, and Jennifer for helping on commencement details.
- We will have a 2nd Tank mascot. GAA approved another \$1,000 scholarship for another student. This will expand our capability to be at events and with marketing across the region.
- Condolences to Eamon on the passing of his mother.
- Adam and Strat Comm are doing a good job networking with faculty and staff. I am working with Adam about the misleading article that came out about college town safety in Alexandria. The article states that Alexandria is the most dangerous college town in the U.S. There are some fact-based and data-driven positive messages that we can communicate to the community, region, and state about how safe our campus is. Dr. Coreil will write a letter to the Editor to reinforce that LSUA has not only done a great job keeping people safe from COVID; but we have also maintained an extremely low crime rate as one of the top 5 safest campuses in Louisiana for the past 5 years.

Deron Thaxton:

- The drainage project is ongoing. The front doors of Abrams are closed in order to deter students and others from walking through the construction zone. We sent an email with some detour routes and Chase will make signage with directional arrows to point students and others around the barriers that are up. The Grady Britt area is still being worked on. We will continue to update detours and closings.
- We split from Academic Partnerships and moved to LSU Online for our online academic programs. We have been having negotiations with AP for a couple of years to close out that contract. As of this week, we are officially released from that contract; it is a fair deal for all involved and we are happy to be moving forward.
- The final CARES payments went out this morning. 100% of the CARES dollars have been distributed to students.
- The Student Success Center architect selection is up in a few days. Once the formal process is completed, we can officially move forward with planning and development.
- As of today, we have 1,282 students enrolled for the Spring semester. Last year at this time we had 1272 students enrolled for Spring; we have 10 more students at this time compared

to last year which is expected. Our decline in enrollment is typically between spring and fall. Our population remains pretty constant between fall and spring. As of today, we have 875 on campus, last year we had 872 enrolled on campus for spring.

Melinda Anderson:

- Campus Fierce Kickoff yesterday was positive. Thank you to all who were able to attend. Adam and the Strat Comm team are working on follow up videos, etc. This is the link to the video: Fierce recap video... <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pdi1KZdWMLk> . I am still following up with donors and the Foundation to wrap up the Fierce campaign and other additional programs. Hoping to wrap up campus phase of Capital Campaign on November 18, so it will be ready for deduction by February. We also have it online at our www.lsuafoundation.org site. We will let folks know about that today.
- Also, Strat Comm did a good job following up with a video of Dr. Tate at Rotary on Tuesday.
- We will be attending the Chamber Bizzy Awards on Friday evening and hope to bring back a Bizzy.
- We received a call from a donor wanting to fund a \$25,000 scholarship. I will be working to secure that by year's end. Also, we are looking at property downtown that someone wants to donate to the University which is adjacent to 807 Jackson Street. It will complement future plans for Allied Health and our downtown presence.

Connie Cooper:

- In regards to the capital campaign, nothing is more rewarding than investing in students. It is a personal investment and a way to personally connect to campus.
- Internal assessment from the LDI is beginning which will help make LSUA even better.
- The Diversity Workshop will be held on November 18, in Coughlin at 11:00 and at 2:30 (same session). Diversity training is mandatory for employees. We have 66 fulltime faculty and staff currently registered.
- We want to get more training for our students so we are partnering with the CORE team, helping them to prepare trainings for our students so that they will be more culturally competent.
- From time to time, faculty and staff may be unsure about certain terminology. If you are unsure about terminology used to communicate to students, faculty/ staff, and others, I would be happy to review it. Please feel free to reach out to me.

Chad Gauthier:

- We had our Office of Risk Management audit and we did well. Thanks to everyone here for their part in responding to my quarterly newsletter emails which is a critical piece of that audit. The next newsletter will come out later this month.
- National Guard gave another 69 vaccinations Tuesday and Wednesday this week. These have been a great supplement to what Michelle is doing in Health Services.

- Today there are 235 COVID hospitalizations across LA. This is the lowest since the pandemic began. But we will be continuing to watch and change as needed.
- Tropics are clear.
- I will check with Dr. Cormier about the details of hospitals working with our students who opt out.

Shelly Gill:

- Admissions is in the middle of Dual Enrollment registration. Welcome to Megan Ducote who is the new Dual Enrollment Coordinator.
- Spend the Day at A is scheduled for November 13; we have 93 students registered as of today. LCU (LC) is also hosting their Preview Day the same day.
- We would also like to welcome Adaire Stagg, our new Online Admissions Counselor, as well as Josie Carmouche who will be our new Admissions Counselor starting Monday.
- Because of Hurricane Ida, recruiters are still on the road due to programs being rescheduled.
- We have a large tour coming Monday called Educator Rising. Peabody Magnet, Tioga and Pineville High school will be coming to tour campus, learn about Dual Enrollment classes, hear from Education faculty, and get student ID.
- Reroute all Kaitlyn's emails to Shelly because she will be out till the end of the semester.

Dr. Eamon Halpin:

- Back in April 2021, I had to submit a prospectus for the aviation program to SACSCOC. It has now been approved and the program is accredited. We will launch the Professional Aviation Program this spring. We have the first three program courses on schedule for spring. We already have 7 students enrolled in each class.
- I attended an aviation business conference in Las Vegas a few weeks ago. I spoke with the Million Air group about tuition assistance for students who are also employees of Million Air. Today, I spoke with CFO, David Turner. We have a tentative plan that students who are part time with Million Air and are enrolled in the program will receive \$1,000 Scholarship for first year, \$1,500 for second year, \$2,500 for the 3rd year, and \$3,000 for the 4th year. Eligibility requirements are: Must be students in good standing, enrolled in the aviation program, and be part-time employees of Million Air.
- We will host an open house for the Aviation program on Saturday, November 13, after Spend the Day at A. Please share on social media to get the word out about this event.
- I have been invited by the Coughlin Saunders Foundation to submit a request for funding for the SPERO program to send a more complete proposal, which we plan to launch in Fall 2022.

Adam Lord:

- We are working on “Building Your Future” signage to put around campus. Window clings are in and going on doors to direct students, visitors, faculty and staff to our progress website.
- Strat Comm is working with Dr. Coreil and Chief Collins to draft a response about the safety article that was posted this week. It will be out in a couple of days.
- Working with Tyler and Athletics to shore up branding, graphics, uniforms, shirts, etc.
- We are looking for a select group of people to help with messaging on social media. They would need to be willing to share posts on personal pages at times.

Melissa Parks:

- The Education department has an upcoming accreditation self-study with CAEP, Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation. The onsite visit is 2023 and there is much work to do to ensure that evidence and data collected meets the standards in which the department will be evaluated.

Tyler Unsicker:

- In reference to the capital campaign, I believe it is huge to say that 100% of the Chancellor’s Cabinet is supportive of the initiative when asking others to contribute.
- I sent out an email about department recognitions at sporting events. We want to spotlight our academic departments. Bring your staff/ faculty/ family and be recognized at the game.
- Men’s Soccer tournaments are this week. On Saturday we host our first round with Louisiana Christian University (formerly Louisiana College) at 3:00 on our campus.
- Tonight at 6:00, we have a men’s basketball game; as well as tomorrow at 11:30 a.m. on our campus. A local elementary school is bringing around 100 students to the game tomorrow. Faculty and staff are invited to attend the game; tickets are \$5.00.
- Women’s home opener is Saturday at 1:00 before the men’s soccer game.
- Starting tomorrow and the next three Fridays, we will be going to elementary schools to read with students. We will get with Strat Comm to help with this.
- We will market season tickets to the community. We will also send out a weekly game schedules to help get people to the games.

Kevin Vercher:

- We continue with the drainage project on campus. We have at least another year of construction. The roundabouts will be worked on within the next 6 weeks, one at a time. We will have at least one front entrance open at any given time.
- The DeSoto St. demolition project is underway. The asbestos abatement contract was awarded this week.
- Library roof project bid had a minor setback. The bidder defaulted so we went to the second contractor which was approved last night. We should begin roofing in a couple of months.
- The west wing is getting a new roof; it is being designed now.

- The boiler placement in the science building is at the end of design. It should go out for bids in about 3 weeks. Should be completed by the end of heating season.
- Internal library renovations are ongoing. We selected one of the options that were presented to us, and it is being worked on to see where we can go with it and if it is within our budget.
- Girls Softball is getting a new bullpen.
- Tennis clubhouse renovation is ongoing.
- Plumbing project is continuing; we are in Phase 2 of 4.
- We have UV light projects that will be bid out in the next 3 weeks.
- We are going to take advantage of the old rugby field. We will make a driveway back there so there will be student activities taking place on that 30-acre property.

Chief Collins:

- Police Department is winding up the second half of training. We finished up firearms training and we are now doing Domestic Violence training, Officer Survival training, and Arrest training. We are completing online tasks as well as keeping campus safe.
- Two major roads on campus are closed, and we have received very few complaints. We have only had about two accidents on campus per month.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Parish.

The next meeting will take place at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 17, 2021.
