LSUA Chancellor Cabinet

10/21/2020 9:00 AM | Meeting called to order by Chancellor Coreil

In Attendance

Dr. Paul Coreil, Dr. John Rowan, Dr. Abbey Bain, Deron Thaxton, Dr. Eamon Halpin, Shelly Gill, Melinda Anderson, Dr. Haywood Joiner, Adam Jonson, Elizabeth Jonson, Chancey Slider  
Guests: Chief Donald Collins, Melissa LaBorde, Daniel Manuel, Kevin Vercher, Jerri Weston

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

Chancellor’s Updates:

- The LSU System President search committee is meeting this Thursday and beginning to work on selecting a candidate. The LSU Board of Supervisors has a meeting this Friday and I hope to learn more about the timeline regarding the President search process. Takeyra Wagner from our IET department and Tara Smith from the Ag Center are both on the search committee.
- Our next Cabinet Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 28th at 1:00pm.

Reports

Deron Thaxton

- Our request for the Allied Health Desoto Street building demolition is moving forward and on track.
- Working through the list of scheduled drops for Fall 2 and it has been distributed to financial aid. The list began with 327 students and is now under 200. We expect for it to continue to be reduced as we reach out to students who need to make payments.
- We have two open positions in accounting. We are working on getting applicants for the front desk cashier and staff accountant position. Mrs. Pat’s will also be transitioning out of her position soon.
- There are no budget or revenue updates, but we will have some by end of October.
- Fall 2 enrollment online has increased since census day from 3500 to 3626. Online enrollment is 1167. We currently have over 1000 students for first time for a 7-week term for online fall 2 courses and we expect online enrollment to continue to grow.
- Working on changing fee account structures to convert regular operating accounts to restricted accounts so that revenue can carry over year to year. Dr. Dupont is working with the Small Business Development Center and the City of Alexandria, as well as several local businesses to find ways to create new revenue. We are being creative at coming up with new ideas for revenue generation.
**Kevin Vercher**

- Mulder Hall is the largest ongoing project and we are within two weeks of completion on the roof. The asphalt has a strong smell, but is should pass with completion. We are working on claims for The Oaks and several buildings on campus. We are also working at the Student Center on roof drainage and should be completed this week.
- Had a campus lighting survey recently and an onsite walkthrough was completed. We should get information back on that study in a week or so and we could have a campus lighting project in a few months.
- We have a Drainage Project meeting at ten this morning.
- The Epps House power is working and we are currently working on the landscaping outside this week. The inside has been cleaned up as well.
- Met with Jim Weinzeitle yesterday and we are in the pre-design phase of plans for building demolition and the bid process for the new soccer office which will be where the old Wesse house is on campus. We are also working on developments for the baseball field and at the fitness center. Boilers are being added to the library and Abrams Hall. We have a pre-construction meeting tomorrow at ten and we will reach out to faculty and staff in the areas that will be impacted by construction.

**Daniel Manuel**

- Things are looking good in terms of daily COVID-19 reports. On-campus testing took place at the pod yesterday and is still doing testing today.

**John Rowan**

- Continuing our progress toward the academic restructuring of colleges. We are planning to go from having three colleges to five colleges. We will have HIPS moved to be housed under the College of Social Sciences instead of the College of Humanities. Department faculty and chairs are on board with this change and we hope that the Faculty Senate will endorse the model so that we can move forward by the end of the month. The next stage is to address some operational issues that we need to look at.
- Dr. Coreil and I went to Baton Rouge yesterday to meet with Commissioner Kim Hunter Reed. She asked about our overall financial health and what we are doing to try to be creative and innovative to take care of our finances and planning. We feel as though we have good plans in place and we are excited about alternative revenue streams.
- A while ago, we created a block on the organizational chart for Academic Excellence that includes the CTE, Student Research, and the Honors Experience. Susan Bowers, leader of the CTE, Sandra Gilliland, leader of Student Research, and Gerard Dumancas, leader of the Honors Experience all work in their own areas, but also as a group to think outside of the box and develop some programming that only LSUA will offer to advertise to potential students and donors. In this area, an anonymous donor is contributing to help develop a center for research and experiential learning. We also may be able to get some HIP (High Impact Practice) seminars offered for education credits. We are excited about going in many new directions.
- Shout out to our faculty and Faculty Senate for working so hard to keep the best interest of our students in mind.
Abbey Bain

- Several students have been coming in for advising and registration opens the first week of November for seniors. We are well equipped to do Zoom advising since there is a short amount of time before the fall break. Please remind students about advising and registration.
- The opening for our office assistant position has been filled and hope to have them here as soon as possible.
- We had our first visitation virtually last night. We plan to debrief and prepare for the upcoming ones in November.
- We are focusing on recruitment for fall 2021.
- We hosted a very successful Fall Fest on the Quad yesterday. Many students, faculty, and staff attended. We are hosting round two today and Chartwells is serving a free meal to everyone on the Quad. The cafeteria will be closed since lunch will be available outside. Thanks to Haylee for working hard with the event planning.
- Total U next week will take place on Wednesday, October 28th.
- Trick or Treat Street will take place on October 29th and we encourage all departments and areas of campus to participate. We will need some extra volunteers to help with social distancing and crowd control.

Shelly Gill

- We hosted our first preview day last night. Shout out to Kaitlyn and Candace for putting it together and thanks to all of the departments and faculty who participated. Thanks to Abbey, John, Haylee, Teresa, and Ritchie for participating and assisting. All areas of campus were well represented. We had a rather low attendance, but we are looking into how we can improve for the sessions in November.
- Our recruiters are on the road to visit high schools and meeting with students. Some faculty will be joining us on our trips soon.
- Had a great visit with the Career Compass group who had a meeting on our campus yesterday. We received several great follow-up emails and we look forward to hosting them again in the future.
- We hope to have the personalized URL info out in the next couple of weeks.

Eamon Halpin

- On Monday, we had a very productive meeting about the proposed aviation management program. Representation from England Airpark and Acadian Aviation were there and they are very supportive of this program. There are still several pieces that we need to put into place to get it going for fall 2021. Since this program cannot be offered online, it could help with on-campus enrollment. I am meeting with Raja Gharazeddine from Acadian Aviation again next Tuesday to work on required courses and course descriptions. We will be meeting regularly over the next few months about this exciting opportunity.

Jerri Weston
• Grades for Fall 1 are due today. Several I-grades are being given out since instructors are trying to be flexible with students who trying to complete courses.
• Graduation attendance survey went out to all fall, summer, and spring graduates. We’ve received several emails about limiting guests due to 250 max capacities and we are responding and answering questions.

Melinda Anderson
• Having good conversations and meetings with our board members. They are glad to hear about the progress with the drainage project, demolition updates on the downtown building, and campus COVID-19 protocol.
• I recently sent out news about the Brookshire’s scholarships and we received the check. This is very exciting.
• Shere’ is sending reminders about Fierce Campaign pledges. We’ve received over $75,000 in deposits from pledges recently and are getting good traction and feedback.
• Shout out to Shelly and Liz on the new recruitment piece. I mailed it to our board members and they were very complimentary.
• Hoping to host a ribbon cutting for the Epps House soon.

Donald Collins
• The Governor is transitioning people who travelled here for the Hurricane Delta away from the Mega Shelter.
• Campus is safe and secure.

Haywood Joiner
• On February 10th of this year a meeting with representatives from the LSU School of Dentistry, local dentists, and University personnel was held on the campus of LSUA to discuss the possibility of establishing a satellite of the LSU School of Dentistry Dental Hygiene program in Alexandria. Due to the untimely death of Dr. Henry Gremination, Dean, LSUHS School of Dentistry, in May of this year, discussions have been on hold. Recently I contacted Jane Walsh, Dental Hygiene Program Director at the LSUHSC School of Dentistry in New Orleans, to determine if the interest is still there to start a satellite program in Alexandria. Jane indicated that she would love to have a satellite in Alexandria, and will forward information to Dr. Dale Ehrlich, Department Director. I am hopeful that we will be able to meet soon with Dr. Ehrlich and others to discuss this matter.
• This week I am participating in the annual Carl Perkins Grant training. Due to COVID-19, training is occurring via Zoom from 11:00 am to 12:00 noon, Monday – Friday. Participants will be tested on Tuesday, October 27, to become or continue to be, the Certified Perkins Coordinator for their respective campuses.
• The Department of Education will explore the program “Call me Mister” (Mentors Instructing Students Toward Effective Role Models) for possible offering at LSUA. “Call me Mister” is a program designed to increase the pool of available licensed teachers from a broader, more diverse background.

Adam Jonson
- Sent document to cabinet for review regarding basketball season COVID-19 protocol. I met with facilities, concessions, campus police, coaches, and game day staff, and UA staff to discuss factors we needed to put together our game day operations. We can allow 25% occupancy which is a 250 max capacity for The Fort. We have to follow CDC guidelines so this number is limited due to spacing. We will be utilizing the stands behind the team bench areas. The teams will be in the bleachers and spaced appropriately. This will take up about half of the gym before spectators are included. We will have a family pass list for athletes limited to two tickets per player. The student section will be marked off and we will have about 50-60 student tickets available through a reservation process. The scorer’s table will also be modified for social distancing. The NAIA has provided some screening guide lines for all players, coaches, and game day staff. Concessions will be limited to pre-packed snacks and drinks. Visiting teams will be required to bring their own basket balls for warmups and the game balls will be sanitized at half time. The game officials will have to wear masks when they approach the scorer’s table or when talking to coaches. There will be some extra post-game cleaning and sanitizing. We are working on finalizing plans for locker rooms. Once all plans are finalized, I will share them with University Academy since they also use our facilities.
- Tank tryouts will take place on November 4th and we hope to have get at least 2-3 additional mascots to keep up with frequent scheduling.
- GAA is hosting a night golf tournament next Tuesday. 7/18 teams are still available and the response so far has been good. We hope to have most of the teams filled by the end of the week.
- Continuing planning for a potential concept for a Zoom challenge with the Board. The foundation is going to work to try to find a special guest speaker.

**Melissa LaBorde**
- The recent email about graduation from Dr. Coreil brought up faculty role expectation questions and we would like to get information out regarding this as soon as possible so that faculty can be prepared.
- Will follow up with Deron regarding travel research and fieldtrip dollars later since he had to leave this meeting.
- Trying to get the Adhoc and subcommittees or faculty senate to meet and I am planning a meeting with Chancey about policy statements.

**Elizabeth Jonson**
- Continuing to work on the storefront but having some communications issues with the print company. I am currently looking at other routes. LSU has been helpful and accommodating, but this project is on hold since they will be bidding for a new contract in the spring and we can be included if we choose to.
- Working with Nathan on recruitment pieces with some athletes and some first generation clips will be coming up soon.
- Meeting with Cenla Sports today about getting our gear in their store.
- Thanks to SLT for approving repurchasing the LSUA app. A team will be working to update it and we hope to launch it at the beginning of the spring.
- Working on admissions pieces and new post cards.
• Installed an update on the design program that now has a spell checker.

**Chancey Slider**

• Commencement planning is on-going and we can expect some changes due to COVID-19 protocol and requirements.
• Currently working on policy statement procedures to get them reviewed and revised by appropriate areas of campus.
• An All-Campus Meeting will take place live in Coughlin Auditorium on October 28th from 3:00-4:00pm. The meeting will also be live streamed for those who cannot attend in person.
• The Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee will meet again next Tuesday at 8:00am.
• We are planning the Fall Feast in place of the Chancellor’s Finals Breakfast on the Quad on November 24th.
• Planning for the LSUA Leadership Retreat taking place on November 11th.
• Working on the LSUA app renewal process and making plans to get a group together to discuss implementation and procedures.
• Reminder to the Cabinet: Please submit edits or approve your weekly Cabinet minute contributions quickly so that we can get the published to the website timely.

Respectfully submitted by Chancey Slider

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, October 28th.