



MINUTES

LSUA Chancellor's Cabinet

11/20/2024 9:30 AM | *Meeting called to order by* Chancellor Coreil

In Attendance

Dr. Paul Coreil, Dr. Elizabeth Beard, Dr. Abbey Bain, Dr. Eamon Halpin, Deron Thaxton, Melinda Anderson, Adam Lord, Tyler Unsicker, Don Collins, Shelly Gill, Bobi Delaney, Chad Gauthier, Charlie Dupont, Connie Cooper, Kelly Pepper, Dr. Julie Gill, Olivia Soileau

Chancellor Coreil called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM

Dr. Paul Coreil

- Working with Charlie Dupont to develop a comprehensive talent recruitment plan for the university. This initiative will leverage social media platforms to promote open positions and streamline the hiring process.
- Connie Cooper and I had a conference call with Todd Manuel, LSU's Vice President of Engagement, Civil Rights & Title IX, to discuss the new board policies on diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Reminder that the Distinguished Service Award will be restructured and transition to a Hall of Distinction ceremony, where recipients will be formally celebrated and permanently recognized somewhere on campus with a Wall of Distinction.
- The donation closing of the A.C. Buchanan building is scheduled for today officially transitioning ownership of the facility to the LSUA Foundation for eventual inclusion in the downtown LSUA Health Education Campus.
- The next meeting will be on December 2, 2024, at 1:30 p.m.

Dr. Elizabeth Beard

- We do have an accepted verbal offer and the hiring paperwork is in process for the Sponsored Programs Coordinator position. The candidate will join us in January for the start of the spring semester.
- After a campus application and search process, Engaged Teaching and Learning is pleased to announce that Crystal Smith will begin as the Director of the Center for Teaching Excellence and will begin that role in January. We thank Dr. Susan Bowers for her

excellent leadership of the CTE as she moves forward in her role as department chair of biology.

- The Online Advisory Committee formed a faculty committee to explore and make recommendations on best practices regarding AI in higher education. This committee conducted a faculty survey to determine faculty use and attitudes toward AI in educational practices. They will host a faculty workshop and a Spring CTE Institute workshop on AI uses, recommended policies, and suggested syllabi statements during return week in January.
- Continuing Education is developing a robust slate of workshops to align with target community and industry partner needs. Rafael Romero is holding an industry-focused workshop on social media marketing. CE is currently offering an evening yoga class open to the community and a series of Tech Savvy workshops for senior citizens. They held a well-attended youth fun day on the Veterans Day school holiday. Also, Alisha has formed a community and industry advisory committee to rebuild and reboot our Leadership Cenla program. The revised Leadership Cenla will launch in Spring 2025.

Dr. Abbey Bain

- Spring enrollment is currently 3,857 students, which is 24% higher than last year at this time. On-campus is also up around 4% and online is up almost 50% year to year.
- The retention of freshmen also looks strong, at 67%. This time last year we were at 63%. The goal is to hit 90% retention again from fall to spring!
- Housing for spring is full, so we will take names for the waitlist. Just a reminder the fall 25 housing application will open in February. We are going to bunk 25 of the two-bedroom apartments to add 50 beds. We are increasing the housing costs for next year by roughly 5.5%. The bunked beds will remain the most affordable option at the current 4-bedroom rate. We did a cost comparison with Louisiana universities along with our peer institutions to make sure we were in line with others. The Oaks has not raised costs in the past four years.
- We had a very successful recruitment program on Saturday. Congrats and thank you to Ashlee Hatwig, Shelly, and all of Enrollment Management for executing so well. We had over 80 students and 168 total guests, which is one of the largest Spend the Day at LSUA in a long time.
- Advising recently offered a new professional advising position for the allied health and BSN programs. With the growing enrollment, another professional advising position is open for STEM/PSYC.
- Michelle Ducote accepted a position with Distance Learning, so her position is also vacant and we are in the planning stages of how to move forward with it.
- Monday, December 2 kicks off the Stress Less week before finals.
- Tuesday, December 3 is Christmas on the Quad – Please bring your families and share with your colleagues and students.

Dr. Eamon Halpin

- Working on degree proposals for a BS in Disaster Sciences & Emergency Management and a BS in Cybersecurity – 100% online and hybrid. I plan to submit these proposals to the LSU Board of Supervisors in the early spring.
- Aviation – Great turnout for Spend the Day at A with lots of interest in the Aviation program.

Deron Thaxton

- More students are utilizing payment plans than ever before.
- LSUA Economic Impact Study – The study remains ongoing but has been delayed until June 2025.
- Scholarships –
 - Hannah Broussard and Kelly Pepper are working together on several changes to our scholarship policies.
 - New software has been implemented that makes all Foundation scholarships available on an application basis. Currently, 71 students have completed and submitted an application, and 160 students have started an application. Applications close on February 28, 2025. More info: [Financial Aid Scholarships](#)
- LSUA will receive \$50,000 for SPERO funding this year from the Board of Regents. This is expected to be the final year for this funding.
- Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) Updates – As of January 1, 2025, a planned threshold increase to \$58,000, which would have required employees earning that amount or less (excluding faculty) to be converted to hourly pay, has been overturned and will not take effect. The July 1, 2024, threshold increase to \$43,888 has also been overturned. This provides the option to either revert affected employees back to salary or maintain their current hourly status. Discussions on how to proceed are ongoing.
- A graduated pay scale for student workers is being evaluated to increase wages, currently at \$7.25/hour. LSU has proposed two revisions to student employment policies, pending approval:
 1. Increasing the maximum weekly work hours for students to 25.
 2. Allowing part-time students to be eligible for employment.
- Two 8-seat golf carts will be delivered this week to launch a campus shuttle service. The shuttle will alleviate parking issues by transporting students from the Oaks and other locations to their destinations on campus. This will be funded by Auxiliary Services and will create additional student worker opportunities.

Melinda Anderson

- LSUA/LSUE Surg Tech Ribbon Cutting this Friday, November 22 at 10 a.m. downtown at 807 Jackson Street.

- Shout out to Continuing Education for the awesome Yoga class offered on campus yesterday!
- The Administrative Committee document has been updated and is almost complete! Will be sending it out again soon. Thanks to all who sent in information that needed to be updated.
- Congratulations to Ethan Lipsey for being awarded the 4Ward Award – 4 under 40. Awesome for Ethan and LSUA!

Adam Lord

- New commercial on KALB & digital that Nathan and Mira made featuring Kyrn Baker.
- New billboards coming online in Natchitoches.
- LSU Online now has a billboard near Fort Johnson (so may benefit us).
- Video intern has been helping seniors create application videos for LSU's MBA program.
- Working on signage in Avoyelles Hall and a refresh in Abrams.
- Mira & Joshua Day built new Canva and PPT templates for poster presentations and created a system for approvals to submit large-format print jobs on the library site.

Tyler Unsicker

- Team updates –
 - Men's Soccer lost in the semifinals in OT
 - Women's Soccer lost in the final in Penalty Kicks
 - Women's Basketball is currently 6-1 and 3-0 in RRAC
 - Men's Basketball is currently 6-0 and 3-0 in RRAC #6 in the country
 - City of Alexandria youth camp with Baseball and Softball had 50 local kids
- Pleased with the number of departments coming out to basketball games.
- LCU basketball games will be on Monday, December 2 at 5:30 and 7:30

Don Collins

- No update.

Shelly Gill

- We had an amazing Spend the Day at A event on Saturday, November 16. Total of 168 guests.
- Currently have 2 open Recruiter positions open. Hope to hire by mid-December. Chelsea Terrell is leaving Recruiting to work with the School of Nursing.
- There is an Online Admissions Counselor position open to help with the increase in online enrollment.
- Reminder: Provisionally admitted students are eligible for registration.
- Next Spend the Day at A is February 22, 2025

- LSUA has added a new Guild partner: John Hopkins.

Bobi Delaney

- Focusing on Fall 2024 Commencement preparations. Currently, there are 501 students in certified status for fall with 311 students signed up to walk in the ceremony. The registration link for students to sign up to walk is open until Friday, November 22 – a reminder text will be sent to those in certified status.

Chad Gauthier

- Weather – Nothing to report at this time.
- Facility Services –
 - Entrance Tower Project –ABW Architects – Contractor - Bayou Rapides Corporation \$465,330. – Work has begun this week.
 - Street Overlay Project – Monceaux – TL Construction \$896,500. FP&C released funds. Waiting on the project timeline.
 - Parking Lot 7 – MMLH – Contractor - Progressive Construction Company \$604,640. The pre-construction meeting was last week. Construction will begin the week of December 2nd.
 - ROM Student Success Center – MD Descant – Work continues - Electrical, plumbing, sprinkler & HVAC rough-in, roof prep work, started metal stud framing.
 - Health Education Downtown Campus – ABW Architects. In design development. On track to bid in Spring 2025.
 - Roadway Lighting - \$250,000 from the state – Mark Neely from ADG will design. SD complete. CLECO will be installing additional lighting on HWY 3170.
 - Baseball/Softball Locker Rooms – Jim Weinzettle with ABW will begin design.
 - DM Project – Campus HVAC Control replacement. AFC is \$850,000. Dustin Duval with M&E on design. Waiting on designer contract approvals with FP&C. Revised contracts were sent last week.
 - Back Hall of Abrams - work is continuing. Still have some painting and floors.
 - Softball lights – should begin soon.
 - Tank for The Fort – working with the LA National Guard to get the tank moved from the town of Vivian.
 - Many additional smaller in-house projects throughout campus.
- Risk Management – ORM Audit was on Monday of this week. Have not received the final report.

Charlie Dupont

- The HR office wrapped up open enrollment last Friday.
- Reminder that HR is here to help year-round should you need our assistance and we are happy to visit your area if that is more convenient.

- In the process of developing an HR catalog of training sessions that HR can provide to support your team.
- Adam Lord and I have a call with a LinkedIn sales representative to discuss expanding our account.

Connie Cooper

- New Framework for the OCRCA – The "Together Generals" framework aims to foster engagement, collaboration, support, and connectedness at LSUA. This holistic framework incorporates various strategies and initiatives to enhance community among students, faculty, staff, and local stakeholders. The primary objective of the "Together Generals" framework is to create a vibrant campus community where all members can feel valued, connected, and empowered to participate actively in college life. This vision emphasizes cross-departmental support, shared values, and collaboration among various groups.

Kelly Pepper

- Cheryl Daniels has generously established a \$25,000 endowed scholarship for women pursuing pre-engineering in the College of Science, Technology, and Mathematics.
- Tuesday, December 3 at 8:00 a.m. – LSUA Foundation Board Meeting
- Our audit is complete with no findings – special thanks to Lynne Eddlemon for all of her hard work.
- Efforts are focused on finalizing the naming rights for the Martin Family Student Success Center. Once approved by the LSUA Foundation, the proposal will be submitted to the LSU Board of Supervisors for final approval.

Dr. Julie Gill

- Highlighted the need for a centralized location to store classroom supplies, such as dry-erase markers and erasers, to address the challenge of departments not having assigned classrooms.

Olivia Soileau

- No update.

Respectfully submitted by Olivia Soileau

The next meeting will take place on Monday, December 2, 2024, at 1:30 p.m.
