



# MINUTES

## LSUA Chancellor's Cabinet

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1/8/2025 9:00 AM | *Meeting called to order by* Chancellor Coreil

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### In Attendance

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

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#### **Dr. Paul Coreil**

- A list of accomplishments from the past five years, used for my evaluation assessment, will be sent out soon. It highlights the impressive work we've achieved together over this time.
- Kelly Pepper and I will meet with the new CEO of Acadiana Ambulance, Blaze Zuschlag, on Tuesday to discuss their interest in financially supporting our Downtown Health Education Campus.
- Fall 2024 Commencement was fantastic and Monte Wilson did a great job delivering an excellent commencement speech to the graduates.
- The revitalization of the Distinguished Service Award is progressing well, with more information to be shared soon on the transition to a LSUA Wall of Distinction.
- Reminder to please make sure that Chief Collins is aware of any event or guest(s) on campus for parking and safety reasons.
- Dr. Bain and I will be attending the Washington DC Mardi Gras January 21-24 to meet with the members of the congressional delegation about federally funded project requests.
- Alisha Ferrington is doing a great job with Continuing Education, specifically revitalizing the Leadership Cenla program.
- Campus growth is exciting, but it requires careful planning, including investments in infrastructure, new hires, and equity raises to remain competitive with peers.
- Governor Jeff Landry appointed five new members to the Board of Regents – [New Appointments](#).
- Results from the recently completed special Tax session indicates a reduced likelihood of budget cuts.
- The next meeting will be on January 22, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.

### **Dr. Elizabeth Beard**

- The All-Faculty Meeting will be tomorrow afternoon.
- Classes for the Spring 2025 semester begin on Monday.
- Alisha Ferrington, in her role as Continuing Education Director, is working to revitalize various initiatives within the department, including the Leadership Cenla program.
- Rocaille Roberts, the new Director of Institutional Research and Effectiveness, was introduced at Convocation on Monday. She will officially join the team on February 3.
- An MOU with Fort Johnson is currently being developed. A meeting with their educational liaison and coordinator is scheduled for Friday, with further updates to follow once finalized.
- HERO grants are in the works to support our ASN Nursing Program and to continue expanding our outreach and recruitment to develop that pipeline of future nurses. Also, will be submitting a HERO grant to complement and expand our Applied Behavior Analysis program in psychology.
- Academic Affairs, including deans and directors, met with the Foundation team this morning to discuss strategies for enhancing the endowed professorship program.
- A video message is being recorded with Strat Comm to educate students on the ethical and responsible use of AI. This message to students on ethical AI use will be posted to all course Moodle pages.
- The new Assistant Professor of Biology/Agriculture position has been posted and is open for applications. [Job Application](#)

### **Dr. Abbey Bain**

- Enrollment Updates –
  - Total enrollment is 6,492 as of this morning
  - On campus: up around 3% at 2,660
  - Online: up around 50% at 3,789
  - Retention: up 4 percentage points
- Blood Donations with LifeShare are scheduled to take place on Wednesday and Thursday of next week. Based on feedback, the current plan is for the LifeShare bus to be parked in front of the Science building.
- Housing Updates –
  - A flyer that has updates on room options and costs for the fall semester was sent to all residents and will be sent out to all students starting next week.
  - An interest survey to collect data on students interested in living at England Airpark will be sent out soon.
  - Deron and I had a great meeting with the developer for the campus edge project, and look forward to having that on the February agenda for the Board of Supervisors meeting.

- It is a busy time for all of Student Engagement. Orientation is Friday, move-in is this week, international student orientation is Monday afternoon and weeks of welcome kicks off.
- We are sending communication to students on academic action after fall so they have the information and tools needed to be successful this semester
- New classroom furniture in Chambers is in place ready for the spring semester. Student Government heavily advocated for this change. Thanks to SG and Kristen Miller for getting that taken care of!

### **Deron Thaxton**

- Revenue –
  - Stick to budgets as requested. There will be some level of unallocated revenue but have also had several unbudgeted expenses.
    - Parking Lot 7 was over budget, as was the entrance tower.
    - Approved/advertised 10 new positions already in the fall. Unsure about additional in spring.
    - Health Education Center – depending on the City of Alexandria
    - Will be some level of one-time use funds from salary savings but funds are allocated for next FY.
- Drops for fall balances – 38 students on the list that will most likely be dropped.
- Parking –
  - Tank's Taxis will be starting soon to help address campus parking challenges.
  - Adding handicap spaces in Lot 5 and the new Student Success building lot.
- LaCarte/Travel reminders will be going out this week, please read in its entirety.
- Campus Edge Project Update –
  - Board meeting on Friday, February 21
  - The golf course closure will be announced publicly once the decision is finalized, as stated at the start of the Campus Edge Project.
- Reminder – Employees, including student workers, cannot start work until fully onboarded through HRM – or contract employees have a signed contract by LSU. This includes professional service contractors.
- Enrollment –
  - End of fall enrollment was 6,965.
  - Spring on track for over 7,000 by census day.
  - Continuing to plan and recommend positions, shift duties, add additional student workers, and whatever else is needed to ensure that we have a solid infrastructure to support this number of students.

### **Dr. Eamon Halpin**

- Aviation –
  - Nine new Aviation students are enrolled for the Spring 2025 semester, and their orientation is scheduled for tomorrow afternoon.
  - Brett Chelette, one of the program's first students, is set to graduate from the professional program this semester. Additionally, two other students, Turner Horn and Nathan Blackwell, are nearing graduation.
- Finalizing two new degree proposals for submission to the LSU Board of Supervisors – BS in Disaster Sciences & Emergency Management and a BS in Cybersecurity.
- Preparing program completion reports required by the Board of Regents, with submissions due this month.

### **Melinda Anderson**

- Assisting with the planning of the January 21-24 Washington Mardi Gras. Dr. Coreil and Dr. Bain will be with the Central LA Chamber Delegation and meeting with our Senators and Congressional delegation. This is an excellent opportunity to showcase LSUA and all the great things we have going on.
- The Chamber of Commerce Annual Board meeting is next week. Honored to report that I will again be serving on the Chamber Board of Directors this next year.
- Terry Mactaggert – the consultant that LSU hired to perform the five-year comprehensive evaluation – will be on campus next Friday to meet Dr. Coreil and have a campus tour. Terry held 22 different Zoom interviews with campus, community, and LSU representatives prior to Christmas. This evaluation is a requirement of our SACSCOC accreditation.

### **Adam Lord**

- The concern regarding printed signs taped to glass doors and windows around campus was mentioned at the last meeting. In response, StratComms is developing a new suite of standardized posters. The initial round of posters will be ordered by StratComms to replace the old posters. Canva templates will be made available for Academic and Business units to print on their office printers as well.
- With classes starting on Monday, keep in mind that it is essential to ensure a positive first impression. There are still folding tables in hallways, signs from last semester, furniture that doesn't belong, etc. Now is the time to clean up spaces and prepare for the start of the semester.
- Please send any website updates to Brianne and CC me.

### **Tyler Unsicker**

- Dr. Beard is meeting with student-athletes next week to discuss the proper use of AI.
- Department-wide 3.2 GPA for Fall 2024
- Sending out a unified letter to all faculty about excused student absences.

### **Don Collins**

- No incidents were reported over the holiday break.

### **Shelly Gill**

- Upcoming dates –
  - Wednesday, January 15 – Fall 2025 Online Application open
  - Friday, January 17 – STEM Day at A
  - Monday, January 27 – Generals on the Geaux in Vernon Parish
  - Saturday, February 1 – Mulder Scholarship Deadline – please help spread the word.
  - Saturday, February 22 – Spend the Day at A
- Personnel Updates –
  - Kennie Belt – Moving from Admin Assistant to Online Admission Counselor
  - Josie Carmouche – Promoted to Senior Admission Officer
  - Madison Lemoine – Joined the team as Recruiter
- Current Open Positions –
  - Recruiter
  - Enrollment Management Administrative Coordinator

### **Bobi Delaney**

- Degrees for Fall 2024 graduates will be ordered this week. Students can expect to receive them by January 30.
- Evaluators are working hard to try and stay updated on transcripts and are evaluating them in the order in which they are received.
- Faculty email reminder went out this week reminding them of important dates. The email also included the latest version of the Spring 2025 Calendar.
- Addressing all section change requests and adjusting class locations according to course capacity as a result of the new seating. Some seating was lost with the updated furniture.

### **Chad Gauthier**

- Weather – Cold and rainy weather is expected for tomorrow and Friday. Freezing rain/sleet should stay north of this area.
- Facility Services –

- Entrance Tower Project –ABW Architects – Contractor - Bayou Rapides Corporation \$465,330. – Drilling shafts now. As of yesterday afternoon, they had completed 3 out of the 8.
- Street Overlay Project (Drainage Part 3) – Monceaux – TL Construction \$896,500. The project will begin 1<sup>st</sup> week in February.
- Parking Lot 7 – MMLH – Contractor - Progressive Construction Company \$604,640. Work is progressing nicely. Bringing in the rest of the red dirt today, and soil cement next week. Completion should be by the end of January. They are more vulnerable to the weather.
- ROM Student Success Center – MD Descant – Work continues - Electrical, plumbing, HVAC rough-in, roofing, metal stud framing, drywall, and exterior work. Really beginning to take shape.
- Health Education Downtown Campus – ABW Architects. In design development. Close to exterior rendering. On track to bid in Spring 2025.
- Roadway Lighting - \$250,000 from the state – Mark Neely from ADG is the designer. Waiting on the CD (construction documents) set so we can go to bid. CLECO will be installing additional lighting on Highway 3170.
- Baseball/Softball Locker Rooms – Jim Weinzettle with ABW has begun preliminary design work.
- DM Project – Campus HVAC Control replacement. AFC is \$850,000. Dustin Duval with M&E on design. FP&C has verbally approved concurrences with the designer. Waiting on contracts to get final approval so design work can begin.
- Back Hall of Abrams – Waiting on Flooring install, then base. Should be done in the evening.
- Military tank for The Fort – LA National Guard has begun the process. The initial team came out to do a walk through and they will begin the planning of the move.
- Many additional smaller in-house projects throughout campus.
- Risk Management – Nothing to report at this time.

### **Charlie Dupont**

- President Biden signed the Social Security Fairness Act on Sunday. Our office will provide updates and answers regarding the implementation of this act as information becomes available.
- Please note that W-2 forms are available in Workday alongside your paystubs and are not mailed.
- If you made changes to your medical insurance, there may be a delay in receiving new Blue Cross Blue Shield cards. You can print your card directly from their website if needed.
- As we continue to hire new employees, please remember to direct them to StratComms for their headshots.

- Reminder that student workers must complete the [Student Appointment Request Form](#) every semester.

### **Kelly Pepper**

- Donation Updates –
  - Received \$5,000 from Millionaire to continue their non-endowed scholarship for the remainder of this academic year for students in aviation.
  - David and Nicole Holcombe gave an additional \$25,000, bringing the total endowed scholarship to \$50,000, which will benefit our students in computer science and cybersecurity.
  - Peggy LaBorde made a donation of \$2,000 for the Lucion and Peggy LaBorde Endowed Scholarship.
  - John Jack Taylor Estate benefiting the John Jack Taylor non-endowed scholarship for LSUA nursing made a gift of \$1,250.
  - Charlie Weems made a gift of \$2,000 benefiting Sonny Downs Endowed Scholarship.
  - Nell Shehee made a \$3,000 donation to the General Institutional Betterment Fund. In addition to that, her husband Graham, made a \$1,000 donation in her honor to that fund.

### **Dr. Cynthia Thomas**

- No update.

### **Dr. Susan Bowers**

- Bonni Stachowiak, the CTE speaker, will arrive in Alexandria this evening and is scheduled to speak at our workshop on Thursday.
- The Career Champions workshop held on Tuesday was highly successful, featuring engaging activities in the makerspace led by DJ Saucier.

### **Dr. Julie Gill**

- No update.

### **Olivia Soileau**

- No update.

*Respectfully submitted by Olivia Soileau*

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**The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, January 22, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.**

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