



# MINUTES

## LSUA Chancellor Cabinet

2/10/2021 9:00 AM | *Meeting called to order by* Chancellor Coreil

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### In Attendance

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Dr. Paul Coreil, Dr. John Rowan, Dr. Abbey Bain, Deron Thaxton, Dr. Eamon Halpin, Shelly Gill, Melinda Anderson, Adam Jonson, Chancey Slider

Guests: Donald Collins, Melissa LaBorde, Kevin Vercher, Jerri Weston

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

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#### **Chancellor's Updates:**

- It is clear that the LSU System is working very hard to push for salary increases for faculty and staff and is encouraging the legislature to support this need. All System faculty & staff have exhibited tremendous resilience and have gone above and beyond the call of duty dealing with COVID-19 adjustments in addition to natural disasters that has impacted academic programs and campus facilities. We all feel that salary increases are justified.
- The LSU President search is quiet right now and applicants are confidentially applying directly through the search consulting firm. We don't expect to hear much until they start to do interviews and get down to a smaller final list of candidates.
- The LSUA legislative luncheon went very well last week. Compliments to everyone for making it a great success. Thanks to facilities for making the grounds and facilities look so nice. The message about student success center was well received and we will continue to work to gain support to improve the infrastructure of our campus.
- The next Cabinet Meeting is on February 24<sup>th</sup>.

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### Reports

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#### **John Rowan**

- Heard from many faculty members about how grateful they are to have vaccines available on campus. Thanks to Dr. Bain and her team working so hard on this initiative.
- The course schedules for fall and summer should be posted by Monday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>. They are being reviewed now by department chairs. Advising starts on March 1<sup>st</sup> and registration begins on March 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Moving ahead with the dean search process. We have two more open presentations today in Mulder 147 that will have Zoom options. I have been sending reminders to faculty and staff.
- The new advising positions are good news and departments look forward to working with the new advisors.

- All-day endowed professorship presentations will take place next Thursday, Feb. 18, with the selection committee. This event is not open. We are excited about the benefits these professorship opportunities will bring to the university.

### Eamon Halpin

- Working with Randall Dupont on MOUS with community colleges. We recently did one with BRCC and will be working with SOWELA on one soon. Two other department chairs have expressed interest in doing MOUS and so we will also be working with Beth Whittington and Dr. Joiner on similar agreements.
- Working with Raja from Acadian Aviation and Shari on plans for the aviation management program. We hope to hire Shari to teach some of the classroom courses. Our plans have to go to the LA legislature for approval.
- Have a meeting with some BOR members later this morning about the proposal for the Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences. They want to know more about the program since there is not one like it in LA at this time.
- We have collected over \$42,000 in private donations for the SPERO program. We are preparing a letter of intention to submit to Blue Cross Blue Shield for funding. We can submit a more complete proposal for funding if the letter of intention is approved.

### Jerri Weston

- Registration flyers have been ordered.
- Working on summer and fall schedules.
- An email with some errors went out last night and a secondary email will go out soon regarding the switch to one term with four sessions. Sessions will still need to be merged into Moodle. I will send a comprehensive email before advising begins including information regarding corequisites and supplemental class changes.
- Thanks for all of the support!
- I can add in the comments about Ms. Sadie, but I assumed they were just for the Cabinet's knowledge.

### Abbey Bain

- The Health Center has been very busy and receiving a lot of traffic. We are going through tiered system on campus to get people in for vaccination appointments. Please reach out if anyone has any questions or needs support.
- We have made offers to expand our advising office. We had a great applicant pool and made three offers. Two will start in late February and one will start in March. Thanks to HRM for helping us with the process. I will be meeting with Dr. Rowan later to discuss how we can connect advisors with departments that they will work closely with.
- Dan is not on this call because he is conducting Zoom interviews for the director of diversity, equity, and inclusion position. We hope to have some finalist candidates narrowed down by next week.

- Student Life updates: The Mardi Gras second line parade will take place around campus today with free gumbo and cake at the end. Homecoming week will kick off on March 15<sup>th</sup>. We will begin hosting a booty shake break class starting later this week.
- Thanks to Kevin and facilities for the work done on the interior of Children's Center. It has been painted a bright blue vibrant color and the space looks great. Currently, 31 children there and there are waiting lists on multiple rooms. Sarah, Rob, and Rafael have been doing a great job with outreach and getting the children involved opportunities on campus. We hope that they will come out and watch the Mardi Gras line tomorrow. They went to a soccer game last week and Dr. Joiner will read a book to them in the library for Black History Month.

### Shelly Gill

- Today, we are excited to be hosting a group from Grace Christian High School.
- The current application report is showing that the total applications received number is down compared to last year, but the number of admitted students right now is higher for on campus that it was in 2019.
- Group tours are picking up traction and doing well.
- Spend the Day at A posters and postcards were dropped in the mail today. If anyone wants a place to put a poster, just let me know and come by to pick one up. We are sending them to high schools with thank you notes for working with us throughout the year and asking them to encourage students to come to LSUA.
- The Mulder Scholarship deadline has passed and we received around 22-23 applications. We will be choosing five finalists for each group of continuing and new students. We plan to host the event on March 13<sup>th</sup>.
- We have a shortage in admissions counselors right now due to Dan leaving and some quarantines. We are hosting interviews for admission counselors next week. Thanks to Kaitlyn for working on this.
- We met yesterday regarding the Engage software and learned that it will show students' at-risk factors regarding many areas such as first generation students and first generation students with EFC of \$0 estimated family contributions along with other factors. This will help us identify students risks for failing. Please send any suggestions over to us as we are setting things up.
- Jeff Powell is applying for the Fast Forward Grant for Rapides Parish which is an initiative for high school students to graduate with associate degrees. This will increase dual enrollment so we are planning to ask some questions to see how we can prepare and how this will impact us.

### Deron Thaxton

- The SIS (student info system) project that LSU is leading is kicking back off and we have a meeting this afternoon. Jason and Shelly are both part of the meeting and we are the only institution that has three representatives taking part in this. Others may be pulled in throughout timeline. Received an update from Craig Roy, who is the LSU CIO, that we are down to three options of either Workday, People Soft, or Banner. We don't know if we will be allowed to choose our own system own, but plan to ask. There are benefits both ways to be a part of LSU's SIS or to do something outside of that. We will have to determine the pros and cons since one

size does not fit all and the SIS should be customized to our campus. A final decision should be made by June and go live in 2024.

- LSU PM 36 essentially states that we have to have policies for various IET network and data security. There are 96 items on the list and some with multiple sub items. This is something that will touch every area on campus in some fashion, but many will be internal to IET. We are expected to be approved in March, but do not have a timeframe for how long we have to have these policies and procedures in place.
- We are expecting to receive the new allocation of Cares 2.0 dollars around \$3.8 million. We don't know yet if it will be given directly to us or used to offset budget cuts from the state.

### **Melinda Anderson**

- Coordinating scheduling, meals, photo opportunities for Mulder Day. We have had two foundation board members, Mr. Eddie Ponce and Dr. Robin Freedman, show interest in being on the selection committee and we appreciate their support.
- Dr. Rowan has been working on endowed professorship interviews. Ms. Glenda Stock and Ms. Nell Shehee agreed to serve on committee and we appreciate their support.
- Working with Catherine Pears and Liz on the Epps House press release to acknowledge the renovation and phase one process of opening it back up in tandem with Black History Month.
- The AFA magazine was mailed out and we sent out close to 200-250. We also sent it out electronically. We are very pleased and send a special shout out to Liz Jonson for doing such a great job.
- Working on the SPERO program outreach with Eamon and receiving calls of interest.
- We have two new full tuition and fees scholarships: one for nursing and one for arts. We are working on documentation and they should be coming this fall. These will be \$8000/year for four years and we hope to renew these scholarships for future students.
- Received phone call yesterday from Mr. Rundale Dobson who was an LSUA student and was involved with the founding of the NAACP chapter on our campus. I plan to reach out to Michelle Riggs to be sure that it was recorded in LSUA history with accurate descriptives and information.

### **Melissa LaBorde**

- Asked Dr. Rowan about Zoom recordings for dean candidate presentations and he said that they should be posted on the academic affairs webpage soon and will include them in messages as they are posted in the future.
- Faculty Senate awarded the first round of chancellor's funds and wanted to confirm that it is okay to do a second call. Deron confirmed that the funds are still available.
- Everyone is engaged in the restructure presentations and things are moving along well.
- Faculty Senate is not meeting next week because of Mardi Gras break, but we will meet the following week.
- Since we have more than one candidate for the College of Liberal Arts dean position, we plan to send out a survey to faculty and staff asking simple questions regarding the candidates in order to get qualitative feedback.

### Adam Jonson

- This week, we have been dealing with COVID-19 issues and schedule changes. Women's basketball won't be played due to precautions since one player tested positive recently. All will test again tomorrow and could play a game on Saturday on the road if we are in the clear. Men's basketball had a big win yesterday against LSUS who has been undefeated so far this season.
- Soccer is scheduled to play at home tomorrow, but weather could be an issue. We are working with LA College in hopes to use them as a backup site since they have turf. A final decision will be announced tomorrow.
- Working on conference basket tournament and the NAIA opening round national tournament. We are continuing to plan for testing protocols and I may reach out to Abbey about testing other teams at our health center prior to games.

### Chancey Slider

- Thanks to everyone who helped with the Legislative Luncheon and President's visit last week.
- The commencement website has been updated for Spring 2021 and more information will be posted as finalize plans.
- The Rapides Parish Relay for Life campaign is kicking off and the virtual relay will take place on April 30<sup>th</sup>. I plan to work with student life, athletics, and some other areas of campus to encourage participation.
- Working with Dr. Corbat and administration to have policy statements reviewed and updated.

### Kevin Vercher

- The Drainage Project went to bid yesterday and the lowest bid was \$1.5 million under our budget which is great. Womack and Sons was the successful bidder. The contract will be reviewed by facility planning control and then awarded. We are still in the middle of the environmental study on campus and hope to wrap it up by the end of March to start the project in early spring.
- Close to competition on soccer house and hope to have it done in the next couple of weeks. The Fire Marshall will conduct a walkthrough when it is completed.
- We are glad to have James Mitchell back on campus and the grounds looks fantastic. We have been receiving a lot of compliments and appreciate all of the hard work.

### Donald Collins

- Campus is safe and secure.

Respectfully submitted by Chancey Slider

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The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>.

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