



MINUTES

LSUA Chancellor's Cabinet

7/14/2021 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, Dr. Haywood Joiner, Melinda Anderson, Shelly Gill, Bob Austin, Chancey Slider

Guests: Chad Gauthier, Melissa LaBorde, Nathaniel Parish, Kevin Vercher

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

Chancellor's Updates:

- President Tate is coming to visit our campus next Friday, July 23. We will have meetings throughout the day to give him a chance to get to know the LSUA administration, faculty and staff. The Senior Leadership Team and I will be presenting our current initiatives, priorities and our strategic direction to Dr. Tate at lunch. He will also be given a campus tour and speaking at an open forum in Coughlin Auditorium that faculty, staff and students are highly encouraged to attend. Later in the day, he will have a private meeting with community leaders who are supportive of LSUA and then we will end the day by hosting a small reception for him in the ballroom that some members of campus and the community have been invited to. We look forward to giving him a great first impression of our fantastic campus community!
- The shout out that we got at the Chamber Legislative Luncheon was amazing. Many legislators including Senator Jay Luneau and Representative Lance Harris complimented our campus and voiced their support for LSUA. If you see any of our local legislators, please thank them for their continued support. Without them, we would not have gotten the direct funding and match funding for the LSUA Student Success Center.
- The Board of Regents has invited many of us to attend a workshop regarding Title IX. It will take place on the same day as the All Faculty Meeting and we are working to see how we can coordinate a change during such a busy week before school starts.
- We are getting a lot of calls about the new Agribusiness program and many in the area are very excited about it. We think that it is going to take off and receive much interest from prospective students like we have seen with the aviation and computer science programs.
- We have over 20 applicants for the Vice Chancellor of Strategic Communications position. Liz Beard is chairing the search committee and they are working very hard to narrow down the candidate pool and setting up interviews.
- We are excited about the opportunities that the Career Development Center and coordinator position will bring to our students and businesses in the community. A job announcement for a person to lead this effort is now advertised.
- LSUA needs to expand its efforts applying for competitive higher education research, teaching and support grants that we have previously been unable to pursue. We hope to soon internally

appoint someone to coordinate and lead a Sponsored Programs office that will support and lead these much needed grant opportunities. Stay tuned for updates soon.

- We are continuing to work on campus wide recruitment initiatives and upcoming events
- The next Cabinet meeting is scheduled for July 28th at 9:30am.

Reports

John Rowan

- Connie Cooper began in her position as the Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion on July 1st and her office is Mulder 326. Please welcome her to campus and be forthcoming with any inquiries that she might have.
- The search for the Director of Career Development is in process and applications are continuing to come in. The committee chaired by Dr. Randall Dupont will be working through the applicant pool.
- Many staff from LSU Online were on our campus yesterday for the annual visit to plan for the fall semester and year and they met with deans and department chairs. Shout out to Teresa Seymour for organizing the day and for making sure that the online operations are going smoothly.
- The final version of the strategic plan will be unveiled in the of middle of next month and in time for Convocation. We are still adding some context and may reach out to some of you for information.
- SLT has been reviewing administrative committees for the coming year and they are almost finalized. We hope to have committees and members decided by the time fall classes start.
- We are planning for a regular semester with full classroom capacities, but COVID-19 is unpredictable and plans could turn at a moment's notice so we need to be aware and prepared.

Eamon Halpin

- Continuing to receive daily queries about the aviation program and we are having a lot of parent and students visits. I will be out of office for the next few weeks and ask that queries be sent to Shari Drerup while I'm away. She will assist with any needs regarding the aviation program during my absence. I met with her and Raja yesterday to work on a to-do list that includes a contract with Raja and a trip to Baton Rouge for a meeting with Cleo Wallace regarding VA approval. We are also discussing plans for a possible second open house on campus in late September. We plan to set up another meeting with Million Air to discuss the collateral document they created regarding student tuition assistance, paid work experience and internships.
- The SPERO check presentation press conference with Louisiana Blue Cross Blue Shield took place on Monday. It was a very successful event and I appreciate the help of Nathan, Chase, and everyone who took part and assisted. We have a lot of work to do regarding the curriculum, hiring a program coordinator, and composing the student mentor piece, and several other important parts. We plan to add some extra member to the committee. Our hope is to launch the program in 2022.

Abbey Bain

- Working on enrollment and focusing in new students coming in. We are adjusting to the new advising approach and think that it is working well. Thanks to Ryan Guidry for working on a new enrollment dashboard to help us monitor online and on campus programs.
- Met with a group yesterday regarding COVID-19 concerns and preparations for the fall semester. We are pushing for and advocating vaccinations for our students as we piece together an incentive program. Vaccines will be offered on campus throughout the Weeks of Welcome.
- Our health center is doing very well this summer and we are continuing to amp up communication and health care connections for members of campus. The cost has risen for faculty and staff, but we have not heard any complaints and the center is being well utilized.
- Orientation dates are August 6th, 13, and 17th. The first date is almost full already. If you are working with incoming students, please encourage them to register for orientation as soon as possible.
- The fall occupancy rate for residents at The Oaks is at about 75% which is higher than where we were at this time last year. We are working hard to stick to policies that are helping to improve the budget and occupancy level. July 15th is the deadline for admitted freshman who have registered for classes to apply for housing or submit an exemption form. Those who do not complete either will be fined for the same price of a meal plan and a four-bedroom apartment room. Charges will post to accounts on Friday. We can expect to have some phone calls and communications regarding this. Late exemptions forms can be submitted to have the charges removed, but they will still be subject to a \$75 penalty. Please direct inquiries to Residential Life.
- Continuing to move forward with the Fitness Center by trying to create a space that all students have access to. Some of the unused, surplus equipment has been taken to Baton Rouge. Thanks to Kody Gautreaux for helping with this initiative and for driving the surplus down to Baton Rouge.
- Continuing to work on Weeks of Welcome.
- The floors on the second floor of the Student Center will be re-polished on Friday so many employees in our area will be working remotely.

Shelly Gill

- The current application report shows that we are down about 85 students compared to this time last year. This may be due to the change in the way we handle the LSU referral student applications since we are not entering their applications into PowerCampus like we did previously. We now send them an intent to enroll form and put them into PowerCampus once we receive the completed form back from them.
- Our office is currently working on helping students to complete admits.
- Dual enrollment is continuing to grow, especially with homeschooled students. I have a meeting with a Lafayette homeschool association tomorrow. We are also getting contacted by schools that have not reached out to us before and we are excited about these potential opportunities to expand.
- A group will be meeting next week with LSU representatives regarding ideas on dual collaborations with us, LSUE and LSUS.
- My staff is doing an average of 3 events per week including conferences and large campus tours. It has been a very busy summer so far and our area is doing very well.

- Received the LACRAO recruitment calendar for next year and we are busy planning our travel season. We bought the Arkansas, Texas, and Mississippi calendars in order to expand our reach.
- My staff and I have recently started a professional development class entitled the “Admission Counselor Guide to Achieving Recruitment Goals” to help them learn about the strategic enrollment management process.
- Thanks to everyone who has taken part in and attended out recruiting retreats. We have heard from every college and most support areas on campus. The retreats have been a great networking and learning experience especially for our new recruiters.
- We are continuing the Reach implementation. We anticipate it to go live August 30th after a test phase.
- The Department of Education has waived verification requirements for a large set (we anticipate about 800 for our program) of students due to COVID-19.

Deron Thaxton

- The last couple of weeks, we have been primarily working on closing out FY21 that ended on June 30th. We will be making our closing entries soon. From a financial standpoint, we have had one of the best years in the last fifteen years. We had some year-end dollars that we were able to put towards items that are sometimes neglected such as office furniture and office resources for our faculty and staff. I have heard many appreciative comments from several members of campus. We had a significant surplus this year and going into next year, we need to put more of that surplus back into departments. Thanks to all areas of campus for doing a great job managing budgets over the last year. There are some accounts that have debts that have built up over the past several years and our goal is to save a portion of this year’s and future surpluses to be applied to those debts. A portion of this year’s surplus will be applied to debt in athletics and I would like to note that they made huge dent in their debt this past year due to increased athletic fees that brought in additional revenue and less travel due to COVID-19 restrictions. We also plan to apply some of the surplus to the debts for our education department, the children’s center, and continuing education. FY22 indicators show that we expect to have another good year. State appropriations have been increased by about \$800,000 and early enrollment projections show that we are enrollment is expected to increase.
- The Campus Edge market study is wrapping up and we will be meeting soon to get the final draft report regarding potential development.
- The Drainage Project is ongoing. We are currently waiting on a rock shipment to be delivered by barge that has been delayed a bit due to high water levels on the Mississippi River. Work will begin with laying some pipes and ditches next week. I sent out a campus wide memo containing an informational sheet regarding the areas of campus that will be impacted and we plan to send out regular updates as we have more information throughout the duration of the project.
- Had a meeting with Kevin yesterday regarding facility services ongoing campus projects that he will share in his report. We are working through some custodial staffing issues and hope to have everything settled prior to the beginning of the fall semester.
- Working with Chad and Abbey to put together an incentive program for student vaccinations.
- Professorship letters for those who received Endowed Professorships for this fiscal year are slated to go out at the end of this week or early next week.

- Student Success Center Update: Governor Edwards signed House Bill 2 earlier this week that will give us \$5 million in priority five funding and \$1 million for this fiscal year. We are moving forward with architect selection this week and we expect the project will move forward this year.

Melinda Anderson

- Working on plans for the Shrimp Jam fundraiser GAA is hosting on September 9th. Tickets are available online and we are looking forward to a wonderful event.
- Several of us attended the Legislative Luncheon with the Chamber. LSUA was shouted out so many times and we received many compliments of recognition and support by our legislators. Congratulations to everyone, especially Dr. Coreil for leading our team.
- Attended the SPERO Blue Cross Blue Shield press conference that went very well.
- Working with Chancey and Laura on preparations for President Tate's visit next week.
- Contacted Al Quartemont from KALB and plan to visit with him and Nathan regarding media contacts and coverage since Liz's departure to keep things moving smoothly.
- The Chamber is hosting a US Congressional Luncheon on August 16th and I will be reaching out to some administration regarding plans for attendance.

Haywood Joiner

- Planning continues toward the renovation of the second floor of the A.C. Buchanan, III Allied Health Education Building to house the satellite of the LSUE Surgical Technology Program. Renovation drawings are complete and have been approved by the State Fire Marshall. A planning meeting will be held in early August to go over the details of the renovations in an effort to minimize the impact of renovations on fall classes to be conducted in the building.
- I have received several calls this week regarding plans to offer a dental hygiene program at LSUA. We continue to work toward getting a satellite of the LSUSD Dental Hygiene program here in Alexandria. Dr. Coreil and I will be meeting with Dr. Robert Laughlin, Dean, LSUSD, and Dr. Larry Hollier, Chancellor LSUHSC New Orleans, to further discuss the satellite program.
- I have been asked if LSUA would consider offering a Certificate in Cardiovascular Disease Management. The program would provide certification for nurses, and other interested individuals, who would educate patients and the general public on the treatment and prevention of cardiovascular disease. We will meet with local cardiologists and appropriate pharmaceutical representatives to further discuss the possibility of developing the program.

Nathaniel Parish

- Had a great turnout for the SPERO conference and we are continuing to push communications out to advertise and advocate for the program.
- Preparing for President Tate's visit next week.
- Met with Dr. Rowan and some of the Deans regarding social media initiatives for the colleges and website updates.
- Meeting with Bob Austin later this week to discuss collaborations between marketing and athletics.

- Working on several campus initiatives including Shrimp Jam, the upcoming nursing camp, and Mulder renovations.

Chad Gauthier

- COVID-19 is very unpredictable and some of the trends are showing an increase in cases in our area. We are not seeing many cases on our campus and we have not had any cases reported so far this week. I am very excited about the incentive program that we are putting together to encourage vaccinations. More information will come out about it soon.
- Working on the ORM audit and insurance claims.
- Hosting a hurricane prep meeting next week with several members and areas of campus in order to get some plans in place.
- Still looking at plans for the potential of getting the Rave Guardian app on campus for safety.

Kevin Vercher

- We have a number of projects being overseen by facility services right now.
- Work on the Drainage Project should really take off next week.
- We are working on campus beautification for the President's visit next week.
- The boiler project is well underway.
- A four-phase plumbing project has begun in order to automate all of the restroom features across campus so that they are touchless.
- In the beginning phases of developing plans for the multi-purpose building and for the Student Success Center.
- Funding for the demolition of the downtown Desoto Street building will be received soon so that we can begin the work needed to be done.
- The tennis courts are currently being resurfaced and we hope for it to be completed sometime in the next three weeks.
- We are working on developing a disc golf course on campus.
- A soap and sanitation dispenser project is underway so that we will have automated soap and sanitizer apparatuses around campus.
- We have some projects at the soccer facility that are almost complete.
- Making some repairs and upgrades around campus such as the painting going on upstairs on the third floor in Mulder. The replacement carpet is anticipated to arrive in about two weeks.
- We are having challenges with custodial staffing, but I recently hired two new staff members and requested advertisement for a third position today that was approved. A custodial supervisor position will also be advertised over the next two weeks. Thanks to Deron for his support with this.
- The generator from the Fitness Center has been move to the water yard and upon the move we discovered that the generator has some technical issues. The problem has been identified and repairers are here today.
- We had some power outages yesterday, but CLECO was able to get the power restored within thirty minutes and I was very happy with their prompt response.

- Attended the hurricane prep meeting this week and we want to be sure that we are prepared in case of any major storms or hurricanes.

Bob Austin

- Cleaning out a lot of the common spaces in The Fort to make things more accessible and inviting.
- We hope to name a head women's soccer coach within the next week.
- Soccer teams are reporting on August 5th.
- The pool heater will be in next Wednesday. The next step is to get lifeguards in place and plan for the reopening.
- Looking forward to great Weeks of Welcome after attending a recent planning meeting. If anyone wants to volunteer, get with Haylee. I think it would be great to have more faculty and staff help with move in to get to know and welcome the residents.
- The tennis courts are currently being resurfaced.

Chancey Slider

- Working with SLT, Strategic Communication, Laura and Melinda on preparations and planning for President Tate's visit next Friday.
- Fall 2021 Convocation is scheduled to take place on August 20th. We plan to host it in Coughlin Auditorium followed by lunch in the ballroom. An invitation will be going out to campus soon.
- Looking forward to hosting Bishop Marshall who will give a Mass in the ballroom on August 25th during the Weeks of Welcome followed by a campus BBQ lunch on the Quad.

Respectfully submitted by Chancey Slider

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