



# MINUTES

## LSUA Chancellor's Cabinet

08/25/2021 1:00 PM | *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, Bob Austin, Donald Collins, Chad Gauthier, Shelly Gill, Missy LaBorde, Nathaniel Parish, Kevin Vercher, Chancey Slider

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### Chancellor Coreil called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM

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

- We did a great job of making a positive first impression with the Bishop of the Alexandria Diocese this morning. We are very appreciative of the Bishop coming to LSUA to visit the campus and say Mass. We had a great turn out from members of the campus and community. The cookout that we hosted that followed the Mass on the Quad also had a tremendous turn out. The excitement and energy on this campus is beyond anything that I have ever seen. Thanks to everyone who helped with these events including Laura, Chancey, Amelia Bordelon and Jamey Gilliland.
- We are currently monitoring the storm in the gulf. The AgCenter reached out today and let us know that the Mega Shelter may be activated if it continues to head towards south Louisiana.
- We sent out a clear email reminder that the State of Louisiana does allow students with an opt out provision regarding the mandatory COVID-19 vaccines for personal, religious or medical reasons.
- The next Cabinet meeting will take place on September 8<sup>th</sup>.

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### Reports

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#### **John Rowan**

- The semester is off to a good start and I have been getting positive feedback. If any instances of inflexibility or similar issues that arise, I ask that they please be reported to me and/or Dr. Halpin so that we can provide support.
- We have an upcoming SACSCOC reaffirmation in 2024, and work will be starting this semester. Dr. Halpin will be the point person on this and we will be reaching out to many areas of campus to gather information. I ask that you please provide timely responses if information is requested so that we can keep to the timeline for this important task.

### **Eamon Halpin**

- The letter of intent for a Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences was approved by the Board of Regents this morning. This is essentially a completer degree that will allow students who have earned an applied degree in a workforce area to have their course work transferred towards a bachelor's degree here. I will be working with Hal Langford on a full proposal and hope to have it ready by next week to be submitted to the Board of Supervisors. If approved there, it will move on to be approved by the Board of Regents. If approved by both boards, we hope to be able to launch the program in the spring.
- The introduction to aerospace course began yesterday. Shari Drerup is the teacher for the course and there are 19 students currently enrolled. I received some great feedback from a student in the class.
- The SACSCOC prospective for the aviation program is being reviewed and I hope to receive an update fairly soon.
- I have been working on a referral report that was left over from the interim report that was submitted last year. We have been working on four minor items that needed to be addressed. I have completed the report and need to submit it before September 8<sup>th</sup>. One of the four items regarded the need for a policy concerning privacy rights for students enrolled in online distance education program and courses. I cited existing policies that we currently have in place that address the privacy rights of online students to create a new policy (PS 284). Nothing in the policy is new, but it is rather just gathered information from several other policies that has been put into one place. Dr. Halpin asked the Cabinet for approval to publish the new policy on the website and no one objected. The policy will be posted to the website as soon as possible.

### **Abbey Bain**

- The Weeks of Welcome are going very well and I would like to shout out Haylee Malone for doing a great job organizing everything! Student participation has been great at all of the events so far this week.
- Our advisors are reaching out to all of our students this week that have a schedule to check in and let them know that we are here to support their needs.
- Occupancy at The Oaks is at 100%. Big shout out to Michael Courson for doing an excellent job!
- We have been sending out information for the VaxThatA campaign and we are giving out a lot of vaccinations at the Health Center.
- Enrollment is down about 35 first-time freshmen students for the fall compared to last year and overall on-campus enrollment is slightly down. Please go above and beyond to help our currently enrolled students so that we can retain them. Every student counts!

### **Deron Thaxton**

- Enrollment as of today is 3751. We were at 3500 at this time last fall so we are slightly up. Online enrollment is at 1356 and it up around 40% compared to this time last year. Dual

enrollment has increased by about 100 students and on-campus enrollment is pretty flat. We will see some drops for non-payment and non-attendance soon, but we will also begin to pick up a few as we continue to register for Fall 2. We need to support and work with all of our current students to keep them enrolled, especially regarding their financial options. We have a little more flexibility with student payment options and extensions.

- We discharged almost \$1 million of outstanding debt for students who were enrolled in Spring 2020, Summer 2020, Fall 2020, and Spring 2021.
- My team has been busily assisting students and things are going well without any major issues.
- Sent an email out to campus last week regarding the Draining Project and I do not have any new updates.
- Meeting this afternoon about our Grants and Sponsorships program to do an official hand off from some members in my area and Lynne to Chancey.
- About 70.5% of our 240 full-time faculty and staff members have indicated that they are vaccinated and there are still 50 or so individuals that have not reported so that number is likely to increase.

### **Shelly Gill**

- It has been a very busy few weeks for us. Today is the last day that we are taking walk in applications for fall. We will move forward with continuing to encourage registration for Fall 2. We are hearing some complaints about the required vaccination because the media did not mention that individuals can opt out. We are sending those inquiries to Chad as they come in.
- We are busy with articulation workshops and recruiting. We will be hosting high school counselors and some other colleges' representatives for a workshop on our campus this Friday.
- We have had some cancellations for some college fairs and we are reviewing some travel plans for New Orleans.
- We have had a few applications for the dual enrollment coordinator position. We will begin reviewing the applications and hosting interviews soon.
- We will be hiring a new recruiter since Caleb is transitioning into his new position.
- Our Reach consultant will be on campus next week and our application will be live on September 1.
- Financial aid is working to find out more information regarding a completion grant that our system received that can help students who are within 30 hours of receiving their degree come back to complete degrees.

### **Bob Austin**

- The new Athletic Director, Tyler Unsicker, will be here on September 1<sup>st</sup> and we are excited to welcome him to campus!

- Soccer is kicking off. Men's soccer is playing a team from Arkansas tonight in Texarkana tonight. The women's team will play next week and they have been doing some scrimmaging. The soccer house is coming along nicely and the teams are excited about it.
- We are getting information and working on getting a plan together for student athlete COVID-19 testing and vaccinations.
- There will be a dive-in movie at the pool this Saturday and we hope to see a big turnout.
- We are excited to have our student athletes back on campus and look forward to a great semester!

### **Missy LaBorde**

- There are a lot of great things going on and campus has been very busy.
- The first Faculty Senate meeting will take place next Tuesday and we have a plan in place to select two faculty members that will serve on the Cabinet.

### **Chad Gauthier**

- All interactions that I have had recently with students, faculty and staff have been very positive.
- Rave Guardian is now on and ready to go. I am going to put out more information in a newsletter by the end of the week.
- Rapides Regional Medical Center reported that they have 71 COVID-19 patients in the hospital and 68 of those are unvaccinated individuals. We urge individuals on campus to look into getting vaccinated if they are not already. The LDH posted another 100 deaths in Louisiana today on their website.
- Yesterday, the clinic did 27-28 vaccinations and they have around 30-35 more scheduled for today. I will be going over there after this meeting to help Michelle. The process that they are using to give out the gift cards is working well.
- Rapides Regional Medical Center has been doing some nursing spotlights on their social media and several days we have seen some LSUA graduates getting spotlights. This may be something Nathan can use in marketing and strategic communications.
- The new campus COVID-19 website is up and running thanks to Chase and Nathan. All protocol is on there and it is functioning well.
- Case counts in the state are stabilizing. The 5-17 years of age group is still increasing.
- We are keeping an eye on the storm in the gulf and will update campus as needed.

### **Nathan Parish**

- We have been working hard on several projects and videos. Shout out to Shelly, Kaitlyn and the admissions team for helping out with some of the videos. Thanks to Dr. Rowan and several departments for helping us to get some administrative faculty interviews and classroom footage.
- We are putting together a roster for the media team for this semester and look forward to having many new members of the team. Please send us inquiries for any needs on campus.

### Kevin Vercher

- Continuing to work on completing work orders for many different things such as furniture moves, carpet replacement and painting needs. We ask that department heads communicate that all requests should be sent through them so that we know the requests are approved. Deron mentioned the need for budget approval and Dr. Rowan asked that he be informed of requests regarding academics.
- We have several projects that we are working with architectural firms along with some self-performed projects. We began working on the honors room today.
- We meet weekly with the Drainage Project contractor and will continue to send updates out to campus. All road and parking lot closures will be coordinated with Chief Collins and communicated to campus.
- The Student Success Center is still on the architectural selection path.
- We received an email today that the Bolton Library will be getting a new roof and will go to bid at the end of September.
- Plumbing projects will bid out tomorrow for touchless lavatory fixtures and water fountains.
- We are very busy and appreciate everyone's patients.

### Donald Collins

- Asking everyone to please be patient with parking. Lot 3 is closed which displaces about 300 spots and campus is very full right now.
- Thanks to Dr. Bain, Shelly and everyone for staying in touch with UPD regarding events on campus so that we can be prepared and schedule officers as needed. Please continue to encourage individuals who are planning events to communicate with UPD.
- Had the privilege of engaging with students this week and all of my interactions with them have been positive and upbeat.

Respectfully submitted by Chancey Slider.

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The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>.

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