



# MINUTES

## LSUA Chancellor's Cabinet

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9/21/2022 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. Eamon Halpin, Deron Thaxton, Melinda Anderson, Adam Lord, Tyler Unsicker, Don Collins, Chad Gauthier, Connie Cooper, Kelly Pepper, Julie Gill, Beth Whittington, Olivia Chatman

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

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#### Dr. Coreil

- First, I would like to congratulate Jared & Dr. Abbey Bain on the birth of their healthy baby girl, Molly. We are all so excited and overjoyed for them as they welcome another blessing into their family. Dr. Bain will now be out on maternity leave for at least 6 weeks or more if needed so Shelly Gill will be acting Vice Chancellor for Enrollment and Student Engagement during Abbeyes' leave.
- We received a football that has been signed by head LSU Football Coach, Brian Kelly for the auction at the Shrimp Jam.
- In regards to Tank Fest, I would like to thank Haylee Malone and everyone else who worked so diligently to make it a success. The weather was great and the attendance was even better. One of our main goals on campus is to offer excitement and fun to students, faculty, and staff. Through these events, we are able to do so and we hope to continue that effort.
- It is important to take a break and celebrate accomplishments with one another. On October 18, we are planning to celebrate the enrollment of 4,100 students this past semester after the All-Campus meeting. This will be our 8<sup>th</sup> semester of record enrollment at LSUA and we are extremely proud.
- The Organizational Chart that was created by Chase Dyess is looking great and very informative. Once it is finalized, it will be uploaded to the site for people to use as a reference and we will continue to update it as needed.
- We want to see as many people as we can showing up for the Drainage/Infrastructure Project ribbon cutting on October 12. This is a major milestone for LSUA in that it is modernizing, updating, and changing the entire look of the campus. Having a good representation of students, faculty, and staff at the ribbon cutting is what we are hoping to see.
- For the on-campus enrollment retreat, we are most likely going to be meeting at the 4-H Camp Grant Walker, which is about 20 minutes from Alexandria in Pollock, LA. The forest setting at camp will provide a perfect venue and lunch will be brought in from a local caterer.

- This is the last reminder for the mandatory training that is due at the end of September. I hope you all get that done since it has the potential to affect your raise next year if not completed.
- The Board of Supervisors has a new chair, Valencia Jones, who was named the first Black alumna chairperson. ([https://www.lsureveille.com/news/university-board-of-supervisors-names-first-black-alumna-chairperson/article\\_da0a570e-305f-11ed-b774-fbc95fe10d15.html](https://www.lsureveille.com/news/university-board-of-supervisors-names-first-black-alumna-chairperson/article_da0a570e-305f-11ed-b774-fbc95fe10d15.html)) They did send out some changes and deadlines for submitting agenda items that I think everyone needs to take a look at. If you don't have a copy of it, let me know and we will get it to you.
- Deron saw Tony Lombardo yesterday and he agreed that everything looks good and on schedule for our LSUA Student Success Center groundbreaking on Feb. 10 in association with the LSU Board of Supervisors meeting that will be held on the LSUA campus the same day.
- I would like to congratulate the College of Business and the university itself for winning 2 prestigious Bizzy Awards at the most recent awards banquet. The LSUA College of Business received the Crest Industries *We Win Together Award* for the economic development/academic program work being done across the community. Our entire LSUA Campus was recognized by Cleco by receiving the *Innovation Award* for the innovative work that is being done in all academic areas. Both of these are prestigious awards that are highly cherished by LSUA. Also, the Alexandria Museum of Art (AMoA) won the Crowell & Owens *Best Non-Profit Organization* award, which is highly prestigious as well. Congratulations to everyone who was responsible for achieving this fantastic recognition!
- Remember to congratulate and encourage Mackenzie Young as he takes on the role of Interim Head Coach of LSUA Men's Soccer.
- Hopefully I will see many of you at the Shrimp Jam tomorrow night, it will be an exciting event. I want to thank everyone who has been working relentlessly to create a successful event. This includes Melinda Anderson, Shere' Thaxton, Kelly Pepper, Tyler Unsicker, Lynne Eddlemon, Laura Fowler, Olivia Chatman, Haylee Malone, Ethan Lipsey and many more that I am sure I am not including. Thank you all!! We know our efforts will pay off and that we raise a good amount of money in support of all of our LSUA student athletes.
- The next meeting will be on October 7, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

### Dr. John Rowan

- Our psychology program has been ranked #2 for most affordable online psychology degree program in a nationwide survey by Best Universities Organization.
- The LSU Office of Research and Economic Development has released its new edition of "Working for Louisiana." We have an article in there about Dr. Tanya Leuder and the work she is doing for Technovation, specifically for the robotics teams across Central Louisiana. You can read the article here: (<https://www.lsu.edu/mediacenter/news/2022/09/wfl-lsua-robotics.php>).
- I have received the finalized list of names for the Administrative Committees. My plan is to send that list to the campus this afternoon.
- We have been working on the need to update the LSUA Organizational Chart. The Chancellor's Office is going to release the link to the updated chart once that is completed by Chase Dyess later today.
- In regards to undergraduate research, we publish an undergraduate-only research journal called *The Oak Leaf*. This was one of the CORE initiatives and deadlines for student submissions to have their

research published is October 3, 2022. If you work with students, please make sure they are aware of this deadline. It is rather unusual for there to be any undergraduate research journals, but this is where LSUA strives to be innovative and give that opportunity to students. I would like our students to be aware and take advantage of this unique opportunity.

- We are the state's only member of the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges (COPLAC), and on November 12, we are hosting a virtual undergraduate research conference. Dr. Nate Sammons, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Engaged Teaching and Learning, has been very involved with his role in COPLAC and this upcoming virtual conference.
- The LSUA open house, known as Spend the Day at A, will also be taking place on November 12, 2022. There will be more information coming from the recruiting team on this event soon. Also, the Spring date for this event is set for February 18, 2023 – which is homecoming as well. Please mark both of these dates on your calendar.
- The Academic Affairs Department has been working on career development. This is Dr. Beth Palmer's primary responsibility as the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Holistic Education and Career Development. We have a team of five who are a part of the Curriculum-to-Career Institute, including Dr. Palmer. This is a semester-long institute. One goal is to try and incorporate career development into the different majors, classes, individual strategic plans, etc. Additionally, we are looking at how to better utilize our community partners for things like job shadowing and internships. With the help of Kelly Pepper, Dr. Palmer is looking to identify alumni who could be valuable contributors to this effort.
- On September 7, we had Senior breakfast in the Bolton Library for those who will be graduating from LSUA this year. It was sponsored by CORE and Career Development with 60 seniors in attendance. They received lots of information about what their next steps should be in terms of getting ready to graduate, seeking jobs, or applying to graduate school. It was a great turnout with the establishment of important connections.
- Recruiting efforts are well underway for Fall 2023 and the application is up for Spring 2024 as well. Several of us will be contacted to help with those recruiting efforts both on and off of campus in terms of job fairs and school visits. The enrollment number of over 4,100 this past semester sets the bar high for next year and future semesters. We are aiming to try and exceed our accomplishments this year by a wide margin next year.
- We have a team in place for the SACS meeting and are finalizing the last two members of the accreditation team who will be the QEP co-chairs. We are having discussions with a couple of people who may fill those roles.
- In regards to the retreat on October 28, everyone who will be attending should remember to get their spend authorizations done.
- Personally, I want to thank those of you who have helped students in my classes. I have been sending them around campus and trying to make them feel comfortable navigating on campus. One of the classes is a first-year experience class and I know some of you have been involved in contributing information to those students for their scavenger hunt. Also, many of you have been involved in helping respond to my other class of students who are undecided on a major. Your flexibility and willingness to help these students will further improve the overall student success.

### **Dr. Eamon Halpin**

- Previously, Congresswoman Julia Letlow, helped us secure funding of \$120,000 for the SPERO program. I submitted the grant application to secure the funds from the U.S. Department of Education and the grant was approved last week. We now have the money and Zachary McLendon has been working with LSU to set up the grant account. Originally, when we learned about the funds, we thought it would only be for 1 year, but the approval indicated that the money can be spent over a period of 3 years.
- The SPERO program is going well and the goal of social integration is being met. We are aiming to provide opportunities for the SPERO students to participate in campus events and student organizations. Last week, all 4 SPERO students attended Tank Fest and they all really enjoyed it. They were able to interact and meet other students, which was a big deal for them.
- I would like to thank the University Police and their effort to help the SPERO students, specifically Chief Collins. Two of our SPERO students do drive to campus and were getting quite agitated with limited parking due to the construction. With this in mind, Chief Collins came up with a good idea to combat their frustrations. Each of the students now have a cone that reserves their parking spot each day.
- We are busy preparing for the SACSCOC meeting which is in December. Shortly, I will be sending out an email to the Leadership Team including details for the registration along with recommendations on what to attend. There have been weekly meetings with John, Scott, and myself in regards to the standards we have to submit for SACSCOC compliance certification. As John mentioned, we are fairly close to identifying the leaders of the QUEP, which is the major part of our 2025 reaffirmation.

### **Deron Thaxton**

- I would like to thank everyone for coming out to the open forum, All Things Finance, that happened earlier this week. We had a great turnout and plan to do these forums twice a semester. It allows for updates and creates an avenue for questions.
- For the Fall semester, 4,115 students were our finalized number of enrolled students. As of this morning, enrollment is already up to 4,152 as we continue to admit students for the upcoming Fall 2 semester. Our true population of on-campus students – taking out dual enrollment students – will be equal to our population of 100% online students when we start Fall 2. However, the online population will most likely exceed the on-campus population. This means that we have almost become a 50-50 split between online and on-campus.
- We will have an enrollment retreat later in October to discuss ways to mitigate that decline in on-campus students. After all, our focus has always been aimed at the on-campus population and bringing a vibrant student life to those here at LSUA.
- This fall we had the lowest number of students dropped for non-payment than we have had in the last 10 years. Our success there goes back to the communication plans coming out of DOSE, recruiting, financial aid, and accounting services. There were about 36 students on the drop list and about 11 of those immediately paid and had their classes added back in, which is great.

- Our new Executive Director of Facilities, Cory Stokesberry, should be starting on Monday. Currently, he is in the process of moving to Louisiana and selling his home. Cory and I have a call tomorrow morning to talk through the final logistics of him being moved and being on campus.
- For the drainage project, the pavers are currently going in the octagons and it should be finished by the end of today. We will have those crosswalks between Lot 7, Lot 5, and student services opened back up as soon as possible. There will still be some sprinklers in that area on the side that was just completed so we will try to position them at an angle where people do not get sprayed while passing.
- With the project as it is being finalized, much of the landscaping around the new roundabouts has been completed. There are still some more touch ups to be done, but the majority of that is completed. Also, we intend to beautify the campus in other areas that are lacking on our grounds. One of those improvements will be putting a privacy fence around most areas in facility services. All of the needed materials and equipment for facility services will be covered much like the facility plant near Avoyelles Hall is covered. This will greatly improve the look of campus and we hope to get this effort started soon.
- Chancey Slider has sent out a few reminders about the Student Technology Fee Grants. This is a great way for faculty, staff, student organizations, and various campus groups to purchase technology related items for use in their department. We have \$20,000 allocated this Fall and another \$20,000 in the Spring. Please encourage your departments to apply for those initiatives that they would like to have funded. The Student Tech Fee Committee has been disbanded for a number of years, but we have pulled it back together and we are excited about this.
- With Dr. Abbey Bain out, Shelly Gill will be taking her place for the time being with the exception of the Oaks. Caleb Funderburk is the interim director after Michael Courson's departure. Any Oaks related issues or items will flow through me being that in the past I have dealt with the Oaks.
- Half of the salary increase letters went out yesterday and the remaining half will go out today. It has been more of a manual process this year and Workday changes have also impacted the delay in getting the letters out sooner.

### **Melinda Anderson**

- I am currently at the Riverfront Center with Sherè and Lynn prepping for the Shrimp Jam. Last I heard, we have sold 423 tickets for tonight. That number may inch up or down as the day progresses, but either way, everything is looking good. I want to thank Dr. Coreil for getting the thumb drive from D-D Breaux to give to Adam. She has prepared a video to go along with her speech that will be given at the Shrimp Jam. I received a call from D-D Breaux the other night and she has been very enthusiastic about the Shrimp Jam. Overall, everything's coming together and we are excited for the event to unfold.
- I wanted to officially congratulate the College of Business and LSUA on the Bizzy Awards that they received from Crest Industries and Cleco. The awards given were very special and we should be extremely proud of their accomplishments.
- Yesterday, CLASH hosted a luncheon for our LPN students and I was able to attend. It was a luncheon to encourage LPN students to consider the RN track as well as scholarship awarding. It was a great first meeting with the people from the surgery center.

- Also, I would like to thank those of you who have volunteered to serve at the Manna House this Friday.
- On October 6, we will be hosting a Legislative luncheon at the Alexandria Museum of Art (AMoA) for our legislators. This lunch will provide them with an update on all things happening at LSUA.
- The grand opening and ribbon cutting of the front entrance is going to be on October 12. We will be opening up Middleton walkway which will make for great photo opportunities as well.

### **Adam Lord**

- Nathan has been working diligently to get our broadcast trailer up and running for this athletic season. We broadcast the first men's soccer game about 2 weeks ago, not only to the General's website, but also to Facebook live. There is still some updating within the trailer that needs to be done in order to broadcast it to YouTube at the same time. Overall, we are excited to be able and broadcast on multiple platforms to showcase our student athletes to a broader audience. With that said, the new fence wrapping around the back of facilities will make way for an opportunity to improve the look of the field and shoot some advertising footage there.
- Nathan wanted me to thank those of you who have been going in to update your headshot. Also, he wanted me to give a reminder that the studio is open on Monday's 3-4:30 for those who have not gotten their updated headshot yet.
- We are compiling and working on the beginning phases of the Q3 Chancellor's Report. Currently, press releases and articles are being compiled and Chase is working on consolidating those stories into a bitesize piece. The graphics to go along with these press releases and articles are also being drafted. The end of this month is the end of Q3 so it will take a short amount of time to wrap things up, but it is in progress.
- Dr. Tate's Scholarship First Agenda has spawned off a series of subcommittees in each area of his research in the Pentagon of Protection at LSU. As part of the larger LSU system, we have been invited into that subcommittee process as well. I serve on the Communications subcommittee and there are a few other points of contact for the other subcommittees like Agriculture, Biotechnology, Defense, etc. Those conversations have started across all campus units in the state. The goal is to essentially figure out the best way to communicate how the work of Scholarship First Agenda impacts Louisiana and what role each smaller unit plays in that.

### **Tyler Unsicker**

- We are very excited about the Shrimp Jam happening tomorrow night. I want to give a special shout out to the Foundation and everyone who has been getting everything lined up and ready. We appreciate all of the work that has been done to make this a successful event. We will be going to help set up today and assist in any last-minute needs. The amount of purchased tickets is about 425 or so, which is really great. Again, we are excited for this event to happen and see the outcome of all the hard work put into it.
- I was at the LSU football game on Saturday and was able to talk to D-D Breaux and she is very excited for the Shrimp Jam. Just speaking with her at the game, I believe she will be very engaging and bring us a great message for the Shrimp Jam.

- I just got back from the Red River Athletic Conference that was in Dallas this year. We are excited to host the Red River Athletic Conference Basketball Tournament again this year. This will be my second year helping host that so I am excited to do it now with more experience. We are going to continue to work with LCU in providing that tournament for our conference.
- From a national standpoint, the NAI National Conference is going to be in New Orleans this year in April. Many of our staff will be able to attend that and there is a lot of programming at this event which will be a good thing. We are thrilled to get an attendance up on that event and also to have it close to us this year.
- We do have Mackenzie Young as the new Interim head coach of soccer who has been helping out in our academic area, but will now be juggling both jobs.
- Our conference schedule starts tomorrow (September 22) and we also play on that Saturday (September 24) as well. Just a reminder, we play every Saturday for the next five Saturdays in a row.
- We are continuing to work alongside Haylee Malone to get activities scheduled and have more students interacting.
- Both men's and women's basketball teams will start practices on Thursday (September 22) to start preparing for the season.

### Chad Gauthier

- For the COVID update, we have been seeing about 3-4 cases on campus each week or so. About two weeks ago, there were more faculty and staff with COVID, but this week it has shifted to more students. Statewide, new cases are on a slow decrease, hospitalizations are on a decrease, and deaths have never really increased since the Omicron variant spiked. Overall, we are in a good place in regards to COVID as of now.
- There is one hurricane north of the Bahamas, Hurricane Fiona, but there is no expected impact on the U.S. In the North-Central Atlantic Ocean. Hurricane Gaston is present, but again, no expected impact on the U.S. There are about 2-3 other disturbances as of now. The biggest one is in the Western Tropic of Atlantic, East of Windward Island which has a 90% chance of formation. Many models are showing that it could enter the Caribbean Sea later this week. If so, this one could potentially have some impact on either the Southern or Eastern coast of the U.S. depending on what it does in the next 4-5 days. Considering this, we will continue to watch it and stay updated on the formation taking place.
- Deron informed us already on the drainage project updates. Additionally, the octagons should be completed today or tomorrow. Potentially our ability to open up the other areas on campus should be the end of next week or the first week of October. Everything is starting to come together and look really well.
- As previously mentioned, the Bolton Library roof project had been put on hold due to constant rain. However, they have since picked up pace and started working on weekends to get this completed. By the end of next week or first week of October, the library parking lot should be back open again.
- The UV lights and UV H-Vac project is wrapping up as we speak. There are a few more items on the punch list with this, but overall, it is completed.
- In regards to the boiler project, we are still waiting on boilers to be delivered.

- There are tons of other small projects, but the ones listed are the major projects that will impact faculty, staff, and students.
- This next week or two, we should see a major change in the look of campus as far as construction goes and opening things back up.

### **Kelly Pepper**

- Just a reminder, we have the Shrimp Jam tomorrow night (September 22). The LSUA Foundation staff will be loading up and loading out over the next 3 days in preparation for the Shrimp Jam. Our increased volume of emails and phone calls are coming in because we are dealing with the public for this event, but please reach out to us if you need and we will get back with you as soon as possible.
- Also, remember that the Nursing Skills Lab ribbon cutting is Monday (September 26) at 10:00 a.m. on the second floor of Coughlin Hall. We certainly want to thank facilities and the University Police for helping out on campus, especially when there is a big event happening.
- The Alexandria Museum of Art (AMoA) monthly board meeting is Monday (September 26). If you have information or something for the museum to consider during their board meeting, get that information to us at the Foundation as quickly as possible.
- The AMoA will also be having their second annual, Farm to Forest Plein Air Festival, happening on October 13-16, 2022. (<https://farmtoforestpleinair.com/>)

### **Julie Gill**

- Materials for new courses, modifications, and curricula are just now making it through Eamon's office. We are continuing to work with the Registrar's office, Andrew Hirschak, and Eamon to get Curriculog where it needs to be so it can be implemented on campus.

### **Beth Whittington**

- Bernard and I have decided to divide and conquer in order to get frequent updates from the colleges on campus.
- In the Psychology Department, Dr. Mark LaCour has 4 students that were accepted to go to the 63rd Annual Meeting of the Psychonomics Society. The meeting will be held in November in Boston, Massachusetts. Each student will be able to speak one-on-one with graduate program representatives, which is great.
- Melissa Whitley stated that medical lab faculty are working on an Interim report for continued accreditation for their Associate of Science and a self-study for the BS.
- Mary Kay Sunderhaus stated that they have conducted 2 nursing camps directed at junior high and central high students to expose them to different aspects of the nursing profession. From this, they received very positive feedback and they have enrolled some of those students into our nursing program.
- Dr. Prakash Ghimire, in Mathematics and Computer Science, stated that LSUA has more math majors than any other university in Louisiana.

- The Louisiana Tech University College of Engineering and Science (COES) awarded Dr. Nathan Ponder with the Distinguished Alumnus Award in Mathematics and Statistics for 2022.
- Dr. Nate Sammons stated that they are partnering with the Food Bank of Central Louisiana to set up, maintain, and develop more efficient procedures for the new hydroponic food growing systems.
- I was able to attend a 4-day intensive training last week for law enforcement. We were taught to debrief our peers, departments, community, and large groups in the event of a critical incident.

### Don Collins

- Over the past 2 weeks, the Police Department itself has been doing quite a bit of training. We have been going to the range and getting re-qualified and making sure that everything is organized how it should be on our end.
- In regards to patrolling on campus, over the last few weeks, we have been giving out quite a few tickets to students.
- Since being employed here, I have noticed a huge difference in students' attitudes on campus. They are being respectful and owning up to their mistakes, which has been good for us. As I drive through the parking lots, I notice more parking tags than I have ever noticed before.
- As usual, we still do have some people parking without their parking tag, which will be dealt with sooner or later.
- We are working diligently to do our job here on campus and keep everyone safe.

### Connie Cooper

- I am looking forward to the Shrimp Jam that will be happening tomorrow evening.
- I have been engaging in diversity discussions with our education students, which is always time well spent educating future teachers on diversity, equity and inclusion as part of their teacher preparation.
- The Latin and Hispanic Heritage Month is still going on and we are beginning our book reading of *100 Years of Solitude* by Gabriel Garcia Marquez.
- Diversity 101 training is taking place later today at 11:00 a.m. in Mulder 219.
- Our DEI training team has its first paying customer and we are excited to deliver Diversity 101 and our Implicit Bias Training to the group in Leesville.

*Respectfully submitted by Olivia Chatman*

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**The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, October 7, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.**

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