



MINUTES

LSUA Chancellor's Cabinet

1/4/2023 1:00 PM | *Meeting called to order by* Chancellor Coreil

In Attendance

Dr. Paul Coreil, Dr. John Rowan, Dr. Abbey Bain, Dr. Eamon Halpin, Deron Thaxton, Melinda Anderson, Tyler Unsicker, Shelly Gill, Chad Gauthier, Kelly Pepper, Dr. Julie Gill, Beth Whittington, Olivia Chatman

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

Dr. Paul Coreil

- Over the next 4-6 months, SLT is going to dedicate time to discuss LSUA policy updates. It is a priority for administration and faculty will be engaged as well.
- This morning at SLT, we discussed the possibility of increasing LSUA online tuition and fees. It's been several years since those have been adjusted and with the current inflation we are dealing with, it may be important that we take advantage if it's reasonable. More on cost analysis that has been done by both us internally (LSUA) and LSU Online will come later. It looks like even with the recommended adjustments, we would still be one of the lowest cost universities in Louisiana for tuition and fees.
- One thing that I have talked to Jerri Weston and Dr. Rowan about is getting the Dean's and Chancellor's List published earlier. There appears to be interest in us getting that out quickly, so we are looking at our options to do so. Many other universities seem to get their lists out right after graduation and before the Christmas Holidays. We hope to look at ways to move that process quicker here at LSUA.
- We have a lot of activity getting ready to happen at the Foundation in preparation for our *Martin Family Student Success Center* ground breaking ceremony set for April 21st at 9 a.m. With the groundbreaking coming quickly, we will have to transfer the private funds raised for the center. The \$5 million-dollar private match will be transferred to the State of Louisiana Facilities Planning Division so that we can begin construction. The legislature requires that we spend the private dollars first and then they will give us the \$5.9 remaining around July. The state has already appropriated \$2 million toward the project. Deron is staying on top of it and everything is on task to have our groundbreaking on Friday, April 21 while the LSU Board of Supervisors are meeting on the LSUA Campus.

- Congresswoman Julia Letlow was successful in getting us almost \$1 million for the LSUA Education Department CARES Initiative, which will be used primarily to address the teacher shortage in Louisiana. On February 3, Congresswoman Julia Letlow will be here on campus to give a presentation and hand out awards at the Educators Rising Regional Conference. This is the second grant that she was able to get for our campus.... the first was for the SPERO program. We are very fortunate that she will be here and I encourage everyone to come and be a part of that conference.
- I want to recognize our Fall 2022 online graduates, both in the virtual graduation and the students that came to the face-to-face ceremony at the Rapides Parish Coliseum. The more students we get to come to our commencement ceremony, the better. After all, our students are our best recruitment ambassadors. I want to compliment Teresa Seymour for bringing the virtual commencement idea to us. We enjoyed participating in the virtual commencement and plan to continue conducting this ceremony for our online graduates who cannot attend the face-to-face ceremony.
- The Cabinet was asked about the possibility of meeting face-to-face periodically and I did not receive any negative feedback. With that in mind, we will have our next meeting January 18 at 9:00 a.m. in the Live Oaks room. We will do this for some time and see how it goes, but we are always open to feedback and ideas.

Dr. John Rowan

- There have been some questions about the academic calendar. I want to say thank you to several of you who have given input and started up incredible discussions. We will have dates through spring of 2026 that will go out for review shortly so that we are well ahead of schedule.

Dr. Abbey Bain

- We are working very hard to make sure that all of our students are registered. I appreciate all of the hard work from admissions and the registrar's office to make sure these students are ready to make a schedule.
- Haylee Malone has sent emails for the Ask Me Stations that we do during Weeks of Welcome. Just wanted to remind you all that a lot of our students will be new and unsure of where everything is located on campus. With that in mind, please consider signing up to welcome all of the students back on campus and help get them to where they need to be.
- We want every department to nominate students for homecoming court – consider your colleges, departments and student organizations. This is a great way to connect students to the university and make them feel special for being a part of this big week on campus.
- This semester we are working on the development of a student handbook. We will be reviewing closely what our peers have in their handbooks to gain insight.

Dr. Eamon Halpin

- Currently, I have been busy preparing for the resumption of our aviation classes this week. Also, I have been working and keeping in touch with Gulf Coast Aviation, who is our new flight school partner that will begin this semester. An orientation meeting for all current and new students as well as the Gulf Coast Aviation instructors has been planned. We have 2 new students in the program. One is a young man from Ohio and the other is a young female dual enrollment student. Today, I received a phone call from another student interested in joining this program.
- I am continuing to work on the writing of the SACS standards. Each week, John and I have been meeting to review the work that I have done and will continue to do so.

Deron Thaxton

- Prior to the holidays, I sent out a draft of PS 285, which is the new Nepotism policy that all LSU institutions are putting in place. There have been several issues across the state at various LSU institutions, including LSUA and this is a resulting policy from that. Much of the items covered are already a part of the state ethics code on LSU policy, but it just goes into more detail regarding close relationships and how they are managed and monitored. I would like to hear any feedback or comments from your review of that policy, but if there are none, I would like to ask that it be approved. Are there any objections to moving this forward? With there being no objections, we will go ahead and make it an official policy.
- The *Martin Family Student Success Center* is still on track to go out to bid in the early spring – February timeframe.
- Considering our enrollment increase, revenue is slightly up and expenses are right where they need to be.
- LSU Online did a brief cost analysis of where we stand in our online tuition. There seems to be some room to increase our online tuition, if we feel that would be beneficial. If this tuition increase is implemented, it would go into effect in the fall 2023 semester. However, there are still many conversations to be had regarding this increase.
- As far as any other updates, I covered those at Convocation yesterday morning.

Melinda Anderson

- I have been busy working on individual travel and different projects. Overall, I am glad to be back at work and feeling well.

Tyler Unsicker

- Our softball coaches resigned over the Christmas break, so I am in the process of finding us a new coach.
- Basketball is in full swing with conference. They are playing a couple of games a week for the next 2 months. Last night, the women's team had a big win against Xavier. The men's team struggled a bit at the end and lost that game. Both teams play again this Saturday at 2 and 4 against Southwest.
- I got all of the grades back and we finished with a 3.067 collective GPA for all student athletes. We are excited about that outcome so thank you to the coaches, Academic Success Center, faculty and everyone else who helped these athletes focus on their academics. We are planning to do an academic achievement night at one of the basketball games and bring all of the students who got a 3.0-4.0 to the court at halftime. It is important that they be recognized for their academic achievements. We will give them a certificate and let everyone in the community see and know that there is good work being done by the athletes in the classrooms as well.
- I want to encourage you to participate in our LSUA Appreciation Nights by reserving a game. It is an opportunity for your college, department, school or unit to be recognized for the great things that you do here at LSUA. By reserving a game, you will be recognized by the public address announcer during the game. Also, we can dedicate a timeout to your college, department, school or unit to recognize a donor, retiree, faculty or staff member as well.

Shelly Gill

- We are gearing up for a busy spring with many projects coming up.
- Currently, we are closely monitoring developments from the Board of Regents. They have a goal that they refer to as 60 by 30, which means 60% of adults in Louisiana will have a post-secondary credential by 2030. Quite a few new developments have been happening, so we are trying to keep up with their decisions. They have not all been passed just yet, but we are looking at a new dual enrollment policy. Also, there are new admission requirements, prior learning assessment policy, and reverse transfer coming into play. Lastly, there is a new degree being discussed and voted on called the nexus degree, which is somewhere in between an associate's and a bachelor's degree. It will have the basic gen-ed courses and a specific number of hours in one concentrated area. This degree began in Georgia, but they are now trying to get it in Louisiana as well. The Board of Regents were planning to discuss this degree at their December meeting, but that meeting was canceled so they will discuss it at their next one.
- We are working through all of the last-minute applicants and making sure that students are in classes for Monday.

Chad Gauthier

- Covid cases are slightly rising again with the colder weather and holiday season. On campus this week, we have 2 positive cases. Other than that, statewide, the cases are at a low-level.
- Currently in Facility Services, we are focusing on getting the offices back to their correct condition and talking with insurance companies. There was some flooding that took place in Coughlin Hall over the weekend and some offices experienced damage. We have gotten about 6 offices back online; the others will be back online shortly. Dr. Joiner's office will most likely be the last office we repair because we will have to replace all of the carpet. There are a ton of other small projects being worked on, but the biggest one right now is office repairs.
- New monitors have been going up on many of the buildings around campus – that is pertaining to COVID communication and will be managed by Strat Comms. The gym, Coughlin Hall, Chambers Hall and Magnolia Cafe are some that are getting these new monitors installed.

Kelly Pepper

- We generously received a gift from the Martin Foundation of \$25,000 to support the current development of the *Martin Family Student Success Center*. Additionally, we received end of the year gifts from the Rapides Foundation Trustees, Charlie, Kyle Weems, and a few others. We did receive a bequest at the end of the year from estate of Christopher O'Shee. Dr. and Mrs. David Holcombe donated \$10,000 to support the International Program on campus.
- The Avoyelles Parish Purple & Gold Party will be on Thursday, January 12 at 5:30 p.m. This is our initiative to build our alumni base and reconnect with old friends. It is a friend raising party, and it will be hosted by Robert and Aloysia Ducote at their home in Hamburg, Louisiana. I look forward to our next Cabinet meeting to update you on how this party went. If it does well, we hope to expand to other parishes.
- The Foundation, along with Alumni and Friends, will try and start some new campaigns and other projects related to homecoming.
- On February 9, the Alexandria Museum of Art (AMoA) will host our fundraising party, Love at the Museum. Please make sure that event is on your calendar; you don't want to miss it!

Dr. Julie Gill

- Yesterday, I gave a thorough report at Convocation regarding all that the Faculty Senate has done to work with the administration. I truly appreciate those conversations and we do look forward to continuing those conversations. If you want to attend the Faculty Senate meeting, please send me an email and we will find a time to get you on the agenda.

Beth Whittington

- Reminder that we need a policy on face-to-face students taking online classes. It is affecting numerous departments, so we need that fairly quickly.

Olivia Chatman

- Cooking with Coreil will be on Thursday, January 12 in the Quad. Please encourage students to come out to be greeted by their Chancellor and get a free meal.

Respectfully submitted by Olivia Chatman

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, January 18, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.
