

MINUTES

LSUA Chancellor Executive Council

3/28/2017 9:00 AM | *Meeting called to order by* Chancellor Huang

In Attendance

Dr. Huang, Barbara Hatfield, Deron Thaxton, Melinda Anderson, Sarah Black, Christof Stumpf, Steve Cox, Abbey Bain, Shelly Kieffer, Leana Wilson

Chancellor Huang

- The Last Board of Supervisors' meeting was in Eunice. They approved two of LSUA's post baccalaureate degrees: the certificate in adapted physical education (grades 1-12) and certificate in significant disabilities (grades 1-12).
- At the Board of Supervisors' meeting, Foundations at each university, salary issues, and legislation were discussed.
- Our Chemistry degree was approved by the Board of Regents which is reflective of faculty doing a lot of work to make it happen. We have had candidates for the chemistry faculty position on campus. I was able to meet with two of the three.
- I was in DC for LSU on Capitol Hill. The meeting and presentations were informative. A lot of discussions on the Higher Ed Reauthorization and about the FASFA application process.
- I will begin hosting an all-campus meeting once a semester, twice a year. I would like to do this at a time when most faculty and staff are available. I have found these meetings useful in the past. I will update faculty and staff on what has happened, what will happen, and respond to questions. The CEC minutes have been published to assist with transparency. Our faculty and staff have the best interest in LSUA and I want that recognized. They are concerned about salaries. I support changing the compensation structure, but it will take time. We must continue to improve enrollment and retention, and then we will be in a better position to increase our finances. I plan for these campus meetings to be a tradition to get information out as much as possible.
- We are looking at impressive projections for enrollment. I have been sharing an idea to build a new building that will house admissions and a few additional offices, possibly financial aid and the registrar. If we want to grow, we must be able to accommodate growth. Deron and Melinda will begin working on a drawing or rendition of the property. If this happens, we will have a nice looking face of the university. Parents and prospective students will feel welcome and feel like they are in a nice, clean, and safe space. That is important. We will see if this is achievable. I would like to see this happen in the next couple of years.

Barbara Hatfield

- Thank you to everyone who met with SACSCOC last week. LSUE did not receive one recommendation for their on-site partnership with us.

- Jennifer O'Sullivan- creating a financial education center. She has funds from Regions and Red River Bank. It will share space with Continuing Education. The first event will be in a few days to go over tax returns. It will be a self-supporting center. She is also working with United Way. I am hoping it will help our students, faculty, staff, and community members with making better financial decisions and to be better informed.
- We have two candidates coming in for interviews for the Continuing Education Director. Both candidates live in the area and are very interested in the position.
- Faculty Development - Dr. Treuting and I talked to Jane Cassidy with LSU. LSU provides 100 copies of a new book in the fall semester and then have the author come in January to speak to faculty. We will partner with them. We will bring a bus of faculty, live stream, or hope to bring the speaker to Alexandria. In the fall, we will also share our guest speaker by inviting LSU faculty or live-streaming to their campus. I think it will be beneficial to partner with their faculty professional development initiatives.

Deron Thaxton

- Budget- LSU sent a budget adjustment to increase our self-generated budget authority. Last year we had to increase it by \$1.3 million which gives us *authority* to spend money if we have it-- it is not a request for \$1.3 million. At the end of the year, LSU took that authority back. Now we are asking for \$3.1 million, which includes the \$1.3 million we budgeted for, but we also added several unbudgeted positions that are included. At end of the year, we are looking to be just short of a million in excess dollars. We are looking, relatively speaking, good this year. We have been able to begin the salary increase process and add needed positions across campus. There is a trend that we are going in the right direction. This year the excess will need to go back in to reserves for the last time to build to a sustainable level. This will be the last year that we MUST put funds back to reserves. Next year, that will open up the million or so that we can plan and give to the departments that are needed after we have been cut back so much. Overall, we are in good shape, if enrollment continues to grow.
 - Bobbie- I also want to note how important putting money back in to reserves is since we were being monitored by SACSCOC for financial instability.
 - Deron- absolutely, this was necessary for accreditation and SACSCOC. It has been a tough to build this up and next year we will be at the point to begin spending again.

Shelly Kieffer

- Admissions- summer applications are up 25% and up 14.5% for fall applications. This does not include dual enrollment numbers, but it is true traditional students.
- I will be meeting with Menard students and parents to roll out our dual enrollment plan with them soon.

Sarah Black

- We did meet for the Assistant Director for University Relations to do a preliminary review of applicants and plan to bring in a first round of interviews soon

Abbey Bain

- Legislative breakfast- will be held this Wednesday. We are expecting about 10 legislators and will have Foundation Board/community members there to also show support. We are hoping to set the foundation for increased interaction with legislators throughout the year, not just right before session starts.
- I am working with Leana and Sheila to identify the best time of the week that most faculty are available for the All-Campus meeting
- Employee Recognition Dinner is this Thursday evening. We are expecting about 150 guests.

Melinda Anderson

- Working with Ugly Mug Marketing to create a standalone website that will also focus on digital giving. We are deeply imbedded in the university site, and we need to stand out more so giving is at the forefront.
- Working with foundation and nominations committee
- We are looking over the bylaws
- Refinancing the Oaks- it's a \$12 million bond issue. Our foundation is the vehicle to refinance the oaks. There was an opportunity to re-do it and the board and chancellor were supportive to make it happen. It will significantly assist in the debt service that the university is responsible for the Oaks. We hope this will assist in adding to the Oaks with more students.
- Wanted to do something for study week to pass out cookies or smart water for students as they study for finals.

Leana Wilson

- Registration is ongoing. We are doing well since it started earlier.
- Transfer work and equivalency work is improving.
- We are looking at transfer students and how we log in their transcripts. Faculty senate is also looking at it.
- Campus beautification is a major issue
 - Christof- Campus beautification is on April 22. Those are pretty much the only days in fall and spring. We have a big problem with fire ants. They are expensive to treat but it is a huge problem.
 - Christof-I have been on campus clean up committee for almost a decade now and chairing the recycling committee, but I haven't been able to do as much because of workload. The problem with recycling is an issue with plastic. We can't rely on students for this. One suggestion, if we have a student club or organization focus on this.
 - Melinda- we hire help to come but it is not as often as needed to maintain the campus

- Dr. Huang- This is certainly an issue. I think this committee does need to focus on action to address these campus problems. Please bring these to the group and make sure to email me and CC Abbey. We will make sure it is on the agenda to come together to find solutions.

Steve Cox

- Enrollment is looking great after a week of registration. We are above where we were April 6th last year.
- Fall and summer applications are both up.
- We do the NESSE for the third year. The response rate was 19% last year, this year the response rate was 22%. The alcohol and sexual violence survey had 45 people start and 29 finished, but none of the 29 answered every question.

Christof Stumpf

- There is an issue with the travel and research money from internal grants for faculty. I made the senate aware that this was late but the winners were announced. I told Dr. Stacey to contact you. But it is too late now that the money can't be spent. We need to make sure the money can still be spent.
- Resolution from student government about dead days- the senate was ready to vote on it but there was parallel action by academic council and recommendations from academic council on dead days. We tabled the resolution to look at these recommendations.
 - Bobbie- the academic council was discussing the issue. We made a recommendation to help the senate make the best decision.
 - Stumpf- the students did change the resolution from three to two days
- There is no official policy about final examinations, there is only a statement in the catalog. Dr. Rogers is asking to have a policy. Faculty Senate is still debating on if we will take this recommendation from Dr. Rogers.
 - Bobbie- according to SACSCOC the statement in the catalog is a policy for final exams
 - Stumpf- read catalog statement
 - After reading the catalog statement, it does say *required* so that should suffice.

Adam Jonson (notes submitted)

- Men's hoops – NAIA Fab Four, 34-1 overall record. Most wins in a season ever by a Louisiana team.
- GAA – Spring Fundraiser event set for Monday, April 24. The event will be named Celebrate with Champions and will feature interaction and games with student-athletes and coaches. It will also be a crawfish boil. \$50/person. It will be held outside the baseball/softball fields in the grassy area.

- Rugby (15s) plays this weekend in Maryland in the National Championship round of 16. The Generals face Elon on Saturday, then will compete Sunday for a spot in the top 4 the last weekend of April in Colorado.
- Tennis and Softball are ranked nationally in the top 25
- Melissa Parks hosted a very beneficial “rules seminar” with several members of advising staff and others on campus two weeks ago. It focused on eligibility requirements, and I believe it was a very productive and informative hour. I believe we will have more of these to come as we continue to take steps to improve our retention, graduation rate and GPA.