



# CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

Paul Coreil, Ph.D.



**OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2022**



# MESSAGE FROM THE CHANCELLOR

Paul Coreil, Ph.D.

As the year closes, we are excited to share some wonderful news with all of you! LSUA has consistently achieved record enrollment, with over 4,200 students enrolled for the Fall 2022 semester. In addition, we are the fastest-growing institution in the state, with an 11% increase in enrollment. The growth LSUA has experienced is a testament to the dedication and hard work of our faculty, staff, and students and the tremendous community support we continue to receive from across the region.

Additionally, the LSUA Foundation is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year. The work of the Foundation is crucial to the success of LSUA's mission to provide our students with the resources and leadership skills needed to establish a foundation for future success. We are incredibly thankful for our strong Foundation board, who continue to give their valuable time to support our students, faculty, and staff. Thank you!

Since 2019, the Foundation has spearheaded the "Fierce for LSUA" capital campaign to create a private funding match for the new Student Success Center. We are incredibly grateful for the support from our Foundation and donors. The fundraising campaign led by the Foundation netted over \$5 million, including a significant \$2 million gift from RoyOMartin. In recognition of their generous donation, we are thrilled to announce the naming of our new Student Center, the Martin Family Student Success Center at LSUA. Thank you, RoyOMartin!

The official groundbreaking for the Martin Family Student Success Center will be held on April 21, 2023. This new center will be a state-of-the-art facility that will provide our students with the resources they need to succeed. The ceremony is open to the central Louisiana community, so we hope you will join us to celebrate this significant milestone for our campus!

Lastly, we congratulate the graduating class of 2022 on completing their studies at LSUA. The summer and fall commencement ceremony was hosted at the Rapides Parish Coliseum on December 15, and it was a wonderful celebration of our students' hard work and accomplishments. We are proud of our LSUA students and look forward to seeing all they will accomplish in the future. Until next time, please know that you are welcome to visit anytime. Happy New Year!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Coreil". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Paul Coreil, PhD  
LSUA Chancellor

# FEATURED NEWS

## LSUA Celebrated Completion of \$6.5 Million Major Infrastructure and Drainage Project

On October 12, community members and dignitaries from across the state gathered at LSUA to cut the ribbon, welcoming guests onto the new LSUA Plaza. Over the last 18 months, construction has been ongoing across LSUA's campus to overhaul an aging drainage system and redirect campus traffic. The primary focus of the \$6.5 million project was to install an in-ground drainage system connecting to waterways leading off-campus. The new drainage system efficiently whisks water away from the heart of campus, rendering roads and sidewalks accessible even in inclement weather. Additionally, the project included smooth asphalt overlays for campus roads and new street lighting. The pinnacle of the project is the new grand entrance to campus on Hwy 71 South and the adjacent pedestrian plaza.



## CENLA Businesses Committed to Supporting LSUA's Accountants for the Future

Seven central Louisiana businesses have partnered with LSUA to create "LSUA Accountants for the Future," which provides funding, support, and professional opportunities to increase the number of qualified accountants graduating into the workforce. LSUA has focused on redesigning an innovative Accounting degree program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP) in response to a shortage of accountants in the region. The Bachelor of Science in Accounting program provides students with the skills and knowledge necessary to pass the CPA exam and develop expertise in Excel, preparing financial statements, audit standards, taxation, data analytics, and data visualization.

Photo (L-R): Ken Wasmer, Mallory Smith, Rebecca Morris, Isabel Carriere, Kristin Guillory, Paul Coreil, Roy O Martin III, Paul Bordelon, Bill Fontenot, Randall Dupont. Not pictured: Jeff Cantrell



## LSUA's Japanese Exchange Students Talked Tourism with Lt. Governor Nungesser

Five LSUA exchange students from Komazawa University in Tokyo, Japan, met with Louisiana Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser and toured the state capitol. The students shared their impressions of Louisiana, particularly ideas that would appeal to Japanese tourists. Through the exchange partnership, ten LSUA students will have the opportunity to study at Komazawa University in the summer of 2023 and attend cultural classes, such as Japanese language, calligraphy, music, and Karate and participate in events on campus.

Photo (L-R): Aoba Y., Rin T., Moe H., Mayuho S., Nina Cox, Lt. Gov. Billy Nungesser, Randall Dupont, and Lisa M.

# FOUNDATION HIGHLIGHTS

## Lipsey Family Donated \$1,000,000 to Support the Alexandria Museum of Art

Shira and Joseph Lipsey, III donated \$1,000,000 to the LSUA Foundation to establish a perpetual endowment fund for the benefit of the Alexandria Museum of Art. Lipsey was driven by a desire to honor his parents, Betty Fay Wellan Lipsey and Joseph Lipsey Jr., and their lifetime of dedication and support for the museum and community. The "Betty Fay Wellan Lipsey and Joseph Lipsey Jr. Endowment" will help ensure the museum's success today and into the future. Distributions from the fund are earmarked to support staffing at AMoA, providing much-needed funding to retain and attract well-qualified personnel. In their honor, the Alexandria Museum of Art will name the first-floor main gallery of the museum the "Betty Fay Wellan Lipsey and Joseph Lipsey Jr. Gallery."

Photo (L-R): Betty Fay Wellan Lipsey and Joseph Lipsey Jr.



## LSUA Foundation Celebrates 30 Years of Supporting Higher Education in Central Louisiana

The LSUA Foundation is celebrating its 30th anniversary. Since 1992, the Foundation has worked to advance LSUA as a nationally recognized university for lifelong student success. In its first decade, the Foundation developed the Educational Challenge Fund and established the LSUA Child Care Center. In the early 2000s, the Foundation expanded its footprint in central Louisiana by establishing the LSUA Alumni and Friends Association and acquiring the Alexandria Museum of Art.

In the last decade, the Foundation has focused on fundraising efforts to support LSUA. In 2013, it received its most significant gift ever, \$6.2 million, from the Mulder Charitable Trust, which continues to support student scholarships and faculty endowments. The Foundation also received over \$3 million from the John and Anne McCann Estate in 2014.

Since 2019, the Foundation has led the "Fierce for LSUA" capital campaign, raising over \$5 million, including a \$2 million gift from RoyO Martin. This campaign aims to provide private funding to match public funds in partnership with the State of Louisiana. The work of the LSUA Foundation is invaluable to the success of LSUA's mission to provide students with the education, skills, development, and other resources needed to establish the foundation for their future success.

Photo (L-R): Ben Luke, Blake Chatelain, Michael Crowell, Mark Brown, Kelly Pepper, Lawrence Searcy, Daryl Deshotel, Trish Leleux, Bill Fontenot, Charlie Weems, Paul Coreil, Glenda Stock Smith, Stephen Wright, Aloysia Ducote, Nell Shehee. Board members not pictured: Jason Cobb, Kyle Downs Weems, Chris Karam, Spencer Martin, Deborah Randolph, Dr. Robert Freedman

# ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE



## LSUA Partnered with the Alexandria Zoo to Offer New Zoo Sciences Concentration

LSUA's College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics has partnered with the City of Alexandria and the Alexandria Zoo to offer a Zoo Sciences concentration as part of its Bachelor of Science in Biology degree program. This is the first program of its kind in Louisiana and among less than ten programs nationwide. The program will prepare graduates to enter the field of zoo management by providing classes taught on-campus by LSUA professors and at the zoo by qualified professionals in the field. Students will learn a range of skills including recognizing and interpreting animal behavioral patterns, understanding habitats, maintaining animal health and well-being, and working with preservation societies and governmental agencies.

Photo (L-R): Paul Coreil, Max Lakes.

## LSUA Bachelor's in English Ranks Highly Among Top Online Degree Programs

LSUA's Bachelor's in English program has been ranked highly by [bestdegreeprograms.com](https://www.bestdegreeprograms.com) as the #4 Best Online Bachelor's in English and the #5 Best Online English Degree Program of 2022 by [bestcolleges.com](https://www.bestcolleges.com). These rankings demonstrate the program's high quality and the faculty's dedication to providing students with a comprehensive and engaging education in English.

## LSUA Established Four-Star Promise to Offer In-State Tuition to Bordering States

To enhance LSUA's ability to recruit new, high-achieving students from states that border Louisiana, the university has established a new program called the Four-Star Promise. This program will allow non-residents from bordering states around Louisiana (Arkansas, Mississippi, and Texas) who apply by May 1 to qualify for current in-state tuition. This initiative will help LSUA recruit new out-of-state students seeking a quality degree at an affordable price. This will contribute to reaching the university's goal of 5,000 students by 2025 and meet the workforce needs of central Louisiana.



## LSUA and the US Department of Defense Established the STEAM Program STARBASE at Fort Polk

LSUA Chancellor Paul Coreil and Col. Sam Smith, Garrison Commander of the Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk, have signed an MOU to establish an LSUA branch of STARBASE at Fort Polk. At DoD STARBASE, students participate in challenging "hands-on, minds-on" activities in Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math (STEAM). In addition, the program provides students with hands-on experiences at the National Guard, Marine, Air Force Reserve, Army, and Air Force bases nationwide. STARBASE serves as an extension of the classroom for historically underrepresented students in STEAM. Students will have access to the latest technologies, such as CAD software and state-of-the-art 3D printers, as they collaborate, inquire, create, and build while trying to solve real-world problems.

# CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

## Summer & Fall 2022 Commencement Hosted at the Rapides Parish Coliseum

On December 15, LSUA held an in-person commencement ceremony for graduates and supporters. Over 320 graduates had the opportunity to hear inspiring words from guest speaker Catherine Cormier, Ph.D., the LSUA Student Success Coordinator and Program Director for Nursing Grants. LSUA congratulates its summer and fall 2022 graduates and looks forward to their success in the future!

## LSUA Leveled-Up with New E-Sports Gaming Lounge

LSUA's Division of Student Engagement launched a new E-Sports Lounge enhancing the student experience by offering the opportunity to relax by playing video games or competing in gaming tournaments. Video games are a staple interest in the life of the modern college student. Whether they are serious gamers or enjoy video games as a leisure activity, students now have that dedicated space on campus. The E-Sports lounge is open in the afternoons during the week, with more availability to be offered next semester. As E-Sports continues to grow rapidly across the country, LSUA will make efforts to recruit, train, and compete in E-Sports tournaments at the collegiate level.



## LSUA Hosted International Education Week

LSUA students celebrated International Education in a week-long event that featured various activities and presentations designed to highlight the benefits of international study and cultural exchange. Attendees experienced a taste of culture through a variety of international foods provided by international students and an Indian dance performance. In addition, the event featured musical performances, speaker panels, and guests from various cultural backgrounds, as well as activities such as trying on Samurai armor, learning the Japanese craft of Origami, visiting an international currency display, and tasting Ethiopian coffee. The event also celebrated Native American Heritage Month with a presentation from the first female chief of the Choctaw tribe who discussed her triumphs and obstacles.



## LSUA's Martha Dauzat Honored with the Excellence in Library Support Award by the Statewide LOUIS Consortium

Martha Dauzat, LSUA's Bolton Library Services and Outreach Manager, was awarded the Excellence in Library Support Award, which recognizes a library support staff member who is a helpful leader within their library and the LOUIS Consortium. In her time at LSUA's Bolton Library, Dauzat has helped transform the library space. She has brought an innovative approach to engaging students and guests through creative programming and informative displays. Library patrons can anticipate exciting events, such as mini-games, scavenger hunts, haiku contests, and other unique activities.



## LSUA's Brittany Soden Appointed to Louisiana's Postsecondary Inclusive Education Advisory Council

Brittany Soden, Director of SPERO at LSUA, has been appointed to Louisiana's Postsecondary Inclusive Education Advisory Council, which will advise the Board of Regents on methods to fund and expand inclusive programs across the state. Soden currently directs LSUA's SPERO program, which provides resources and opportunities for students with developmental disabilities. Admitted students experience college-level academics, participate in on-campus activities, and receive vocational training. SPERO graduates earn a Certificate of Achievement and receive assistance while seeking employment in the local area.



## LSUA Hosted First Annual Sisters Like Me: Black Girl Magic

On November 4, the LSUA Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion organized and hosted its first annual Sisters Like Me: Black Girl Magic. The event focused on facilitating community and bonding for students identifying as black women. It featured conversations around critical issues and a presentation of scholarships, student awards, a staff award, and a community award for the Black Woman Entrepreneur. This year's inaugural event theme was "I Am: The Power of Positive Affirmations."





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