

Dr. Paul Coreil - LSUA Chancellor

CHANCELLOR'S REPORT



LSUA
LSU of ALEXANDRIA

SEPTEMBER
2021

MESSAGE FROM THE CHANCELLOR

Dr. Paul Coreil, LSUA Chancellor



We are well on our way to a very successful fall semester on the LSUA campus. Our fall enrollment was the highest in the history of the university with over 3,700 students. We are still looking to reach 5,000 students by 2025 as part of our five-year enrollment strategic plan.

With COVID-19 restrictions easing during the summer months, we were able to offer face-to-face classes and events on campus. However, we are now in the middle of another COVID surge across the state dominated by the new delta variant of the virus. Therefore, we had to implement additional mitigation efforts including imposing mask requirements indoors, incentive programs that encourage students to become vaccinated, and the continued implementation of classroom and campus building sanitation efforts...all in an effort to keep our students and employees safe. Additionally, we will continue to offer free vaccinations and COVID testing in our campus health center with hopes that more and more students receive the vaccination and help us reduce the chances of an outbreak on campus.

The Generals Athletic Association (GAA) and LSUA hosted an amazingly successful Shrimp Jam on September 9th (my birthday) in the Randolph Riverfront Center in Alexandria. Over 450 supporters attended and listened to a very inspiring presentation by the new LSU Women's Basketball Head Coach, Kim Mulkey. Additionally, Coach Mulkey was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Hall of Fame in May 2021. The shrimp prepared for the event were donated by the Louisiana Seafood Promotion Board and Lieutenant Governor Billy Nungesser's office. It was a fantastic fundraiser supporting LSUA Athletic teams and our student athletes. We are thankful for the tremendous support from the community and to Coach Mulkey for being so generous with her time.

I want to thank the entire Central Louisiana Legislative Delegation, especially Senator Jay Luneau and Representative Lance Harris, for their work in getting LSUA state capital outlay funding for our new Student Success Center. With these state funds and an additional \$5 million in private funds being provided by our LSUA Foundation, we hope to begin construction this fiscal year and significantly upgrade all student services so crucial to our incoming and continuing LSUA students.

An additional legislative success was the passage of HB410 which allows for fees to be imposed for a new LSUA Professional Aviation Degree. This new degree is part of a larger partnership with England Airpark and Central Louisiana Technical Community College (CLTCC). The bill was unanimously approved and signed by Governor John Bel Edwards. We are sincerely thankful to Rep. Harris and Sen. Luneau for taking the lead on this legislation. This innovative new degree is clear evidence of our continued commitment to workforce development across Central Louisiana.

Lastly, we were very fortunate to have the Governor on campus for our Drainage & Infrastructure Project groundbreaking on June 18th. We had a fantastic attendance and outpouring of support from our legislative delegation, city officials, congressional offices and community leaders. The project is now under construction and expected to be completed by late 2022. We are extremely thankful for state and federal support for this project and we know it will greatly improve the face of our campus and the quality of life for our on-campus students.

All students or family members interested in learning more about enrolling at LSUA are more than welcome to give me a call (cell 225-281-6443) or send me an email (pcoreil@lsua.edu). The tuition is affordable, the quality of the education is outstanding, and the bachelor's and associate degrees offered are in high demand and provide tremendous opportunities for job placement in many career options now available in Central Louisiana and across the state. I will be happy to visit with anyone wanting to learn more about our academic programs, meet with me on campus, or simply take a campus tour. We are anxious to hear from you and look forward to seeing you at LSUA very soon! ***Until next time, please stay safe and keep the faith!***

Paul Coreil, PhD
LSUA Chancellor

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

CAMPUS UPDATES

LSUA Drainage Infrastructure Project Groundbreaking

This past June, Governor John Bel Edwards attended an on-campus groundbreaking for the Drainage & Infrastructure Project that has been almost 15 years in the making! This extraordinary ceremony was attended by Foundation members, business leaders, and our Central Louisiana Legislative Delegation. Today, construction is in full swing and quickly advancing from the eastern edge of campus (LSU AgCenter Regional Office & Agricultural Research Fields) towards the west side of campus near U.S. 71. While significant disruption is expected across campus operations, the LSUA community has been grateful and understanding of these required inconveniences.

LSU President William F. Tate IV Visits LSUA

On Friday, July 23rd, LSUA was honored to host LSU President William F. Tate IV. His visit included an initial meeting with Dr. Coreil, a tour of the LSUA campus, and an open forum to answer questions from faculty, staff, and students. After lunch with the Senior Leadership Team of LSUA, Dr. Tate met with community leaders and concluded his visit by attending a reception with distinguished guests from the campus and surrounding communities. LSUA, along with the rest of the LSU family, looks forward to working closely with Dr. Tate and his administration in future endeavors.

Legislature Approves Pay Raises for Faculty & LSUA Establishes Merit-based Raises for Staff

The Louisiana Legislature approved a pay raise for university faculty in their past session. In addition, LSUA self-funded a merit-based pay raise for classified and unclassified staff not included in the legislative funding. The merit-based raise for faculty and staff will average around 3.5% and has been met with significant appreciation across campus.

SPERO Receives \$126,000 Grant from Blue Cross / Blue Shield of Louisiana Foundation

LSUA has received a \$126,000 grant from Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Louisiana Foundation to support the Special Program for the Enhancement of Resources and Opportunities (SPERO). With this grant and the private donations received to date, LSUA now has the funding to enroll students and implement the program by Fall 2022. SPERO will offer post-secondary opportunities for young adults between 18-28 who have an identified developmental disability, completed high school with a diploma, career diploma (or equivalent), and are ineligible for college admission. Grants and donations will continue to be accepted. Additionally, we have submitted a proposal to Congresswoman Julia Letlow's office for Community Project initiative funding and anticipate their full support.

Generals Athletic Association Hosted Shrimp Jam Featuring LSU Women's Basketball Head Coach Kim Mulkey

On September 9th, the LSUA Generals Athletic Association hosted the inaugural LSUA Shrimp Jam in partnership with the Office of the Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser and the Louisiana Seafood Promotion Board. This spectacular event saw 450 attendees and featured Louisiana Gulf Shrimp, live music with local Matt Laborde and DEAF JAM, a cash bar, and a silent auction. In addition, the evening included special guest speaker LSU Women's Basketball Head Coach Kim Mulkey and raised over \$58,000 for the Generals Athletic Association. The GAA is committed to the LSUA Generals Athletic programs and these funds will have a major positive impact on our student athletes and the seven LSUA teams!





LSUA & ACE Host Aviation Open House

An Aviation Open House was held on Tuesday, June 22nd, at the Million Air facility at England Airpark. Numerous prospective students, family members, and community guests had the opportunity to learn about the upcoming curriculum, funding opportunities, and internships. Additionally, attendees received a behind-the-scenes look at AEX, including a visit to the control tower. This fall, LSUA is offering Introduction to Aerospace, a new course open to students who wish to begin their aviation career. The official launch of this new program will be Spring 2022.

Fierce for LSUA

Our LSUA Foundation-led capital campaign "FIERCE for LSUA" Student Success Center project is back in action. After a pause during 2020/2021 due to the pandemic, the LSUA Foundation is moving this effort forward. To date, almost \$3 million has been secured from private donors for this project; however, the full \$5 million in the Foundation matching funds has been committed to this project. The Foundation's goal is to raise an additional \$2 million that will combine with the \$5 million match received from the state. This \$10 million state-of-the-art facility will serve our most important asset - our students. Increased donations are anticipated as the campaign is made fully public across the region and the LSUA Campus. We are at 80% our goal and are looking to cross the finish line strong! We are FIERCE for LSUA.

Campus Edge Market Study

LSUA is currently working with a private firm on a market study for the property located on the LSUA Golf Course and LSU AgCenter corners (where Y-Not Stop is located, including both sides of the U.S. 71 and the Marksville Highway intersection). The final report is expected to be presented soon. LSUA is hopeful that the study results will reveal the positive market potential for retail establishments along the campus edge to provide new amenities and services that will increase attraction to LSUA and benefit the surrounding community.

LSUA Restructures into Five New Colleges

As of July 1st, the LSUA Division of Academic Affairs has implemented a new structure consisting of five colleges led by newly-selected deans and department chairs. The new format is a result of the university's commitment to upholding academic excellence and expanding its engagement with students, scholars, and the larger community.

Melinda Anderson to Become New Chief of Staff for the LSUA Chancellor

Melinda Anderson has accepted the transfer to a new position as Chief of Staff for the LSUA Chancellor. This appointment will expand outreach and development with partners across Central Louisiana led by the Chancellor's office. In addition, this move creates a vacancy for a new, full-time LSUA Foundation Executive Director / CEO. The Foundation Executive Committee is now reviewing the position and aims to announce this job vacancy during September. Additionally, a joint LSUA/Foundation search committee will also be named to lead this effort.

New LSUA Athletic Director Hired

Mr. Tyler Unsicker has been hired as the new LSUA Athletic Director replacing Adam Jonson, who resigned in late April. Tyler hails from Central Washington University (CWU) in Ellensburg, WA, serving as Associate Athletic Director. Before his position at CWU, Tyler served as Assistant Athletic Director at the University of North Alabama. Tyler and his wife, Lynae, have four sons and a daughter and made Alexandria their new home as of September 1st. We are excited to welcome the Unsickers to the LSUA family!

New LSUA Women's Soccer Head Coach Hired

LSUA was successful in hiring Mr. Harrison Houle as the new LSUA Women's Soccer Head Coach. Harrison is a former LSUA Men's Soccer player and has served as an assistant soccer coach on campus. Additionally, he served as interim head coach of the women's soccer team and was later awarded the full position. We are very excited to welcome Harrison as our new head coach for LSUA Women's Soccer!



COVID-19 REPORT

LSUA Announces COVID-19 Vaccination Incentive Program

This fall semester, LSUA has instituted an incentive program for all students, faculty, and staff who receive the COVID-19 vaccine. LSUA recognizes that COVID-19 remains a severe health concern to be taken seriously. One of the best ways to minimize the spread of COVID-19 is for the campus community to receive the vaccine. The #VaxThatA program was developed to drive student vaccinations with a chance for them to win significant prizes. With the help of the LSUA Foundation, the program was able to acquire multiple prizes, including Apple AirPods Pros, Apple iPad Airs, and a Purple 24" iMac computer.

LSUA COVID-19 Mitigation Plan

With the recent spike in COVID-19 cases, increased hospitalizations, and increased deaths, LSUA has reimplemented the mask mandate and following mitigation measures to protect students, faculty & staff:

- 1 Mask mandate for all students, faculty and staff when they are in buildings and cannot social distance
- 2 Sanitize all classrooms every night
- 3 Installed touchless soap, water and paper towel dispensers
- 4 Mandate vaccinations upon FDA approval beginning Spring 2022 Semester
- 5 Continue providing testing and vaccinations to the campus community from our full-time Health Center
- 6 Utilize a daily symptom checker to report symptoms, receive support and/or quarantine if tested positive
- 7 Conduct Contact Tracing for positive tests of COVID-19 and quarantine those who have not been vaccinated
- 8 Retain 1-2 apartments for resident students who need to be quarantined if a roommate tests positive

For more COVID-19 information, visit www.lsu.edu/covid19

ACHIEVEMENTS

Record Enrollment Achieved Again

LSUA reached record enrollment for Spring 2021 and Fall 2021

3,770 students
for Fall 2021
7.7% increase over 2020

38% increase in
online students
from Fall 2020

3,335 students
for Spring 2021
11.8% increase over 2020

First-to-second year
61% retention rate
Highest in 5 years

New LSUA Academic Recognitions

LSUA has received multiple new recognitions from University HQ for offering affordable programs to students.

#35 for Most
Affordable Business
Administration Degree

#26 for Most
Affordable Business
Management Degree

#15 for Best Affordable
Psychology Degree

#13 for Best Affordable
Criminal Justice Degree

#23 for Most Affordable
Business Degree

#15 for Most Affordable
Accounting Degree

#26 for Most Affordable RN
to BSN Degree



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