Louisiana State University of Alexandria

Staff Senate Meeting Minutes

August 8, 2024

# Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Donald Collins at 1:23 p.m.

# Attendance

Senators Present: Mechelle Williams, Cieltia Adams, Donald Collins, Linda Smith, Donald Collins, Josie Carmouche, Samantha Evans, and Richard Robinson

# Adoption of the Previous Meeting:

Cieltia Adams moved and Samantha Evans seconded to adopt the meeting agenda. Motion passed.

**Dr. Paul Coreil** – Dr. Coreil was in attendance and spoke of the Staff Senate Newsletter and how important it is to help keep people informed and a way to help with recruiting people to participate in activities. Dr. Coreil also spoke of the attendance improving and commitment of time to support staff is on an upswing. Dr. Coreil advised they have gotten a lot of valuable feedback over the last 60 days about the incentive payment from those who received it, thanks to the enrollment success providing the additional funds. Dr. Coreil also mentioned they are working on a recurring salary increase, sometime in September, but that time period has not been finalized. The target is a merit based 3% average but not everyone will get the same increase since it is based on merit. But the pool will be 3% pending the census in September to see what our enrollment is. Dr. Coreil advised 81% of our budget relies on revenue, which is self-generated via enrollment. The university does get some grants and federal support, but it is not reoccurring. Typically, it's a one-time thing but in terms of recurring operational budget, which is 81% based on students and their tuition and fees including some Pell grants. Dr. Coreil mentioned in terms of budget from the state, it could be tightening up. But with our trajectory of enrollment increases the impact will not be nearly as significant as it was 8 to 10 years ago. Dr. Coreil advised the work we all do helps to mitigate that with enrollment. Dr. Coreil advised he visited Baton Rouge on August 7, 2024 and met with the Governor’s second in command about the downtown Health Education Campus and they will continue to fund that and he is hoping by this time next year, the start of construction for the state of the art facility for the Nursing Allied Health and the Dental Hygienist surgical technology starts this fall with LSUE. And the second good news is he talked about the raise and LSU is in alignment with LSUA in terms of trying to do a 3% heritage raise. Dr. Coreil advised campus is feeling incredibly positive and he also reiterated his open-door policy, along with all senior leadership having the same attitude.

# Old Business

# August Newsletter was published, Senate website page updated, and our Facebook page is now active

# The Staff Senate Constitution & Bylaws– Article VII, Section 4 was updated, signed by Dr. Coreil, and given to the library

# Fundraising start dates began in August 2024 (Hot Tamales Sale). Josie Carmouche motioned; Richard Robinson seconded (motion passed). The start date for the Automotive Fuel date will start next Monday, each Senator will be given two books (ten per book) will sell $5 each ticket. Richard Robinson motioned; Samantha Evans seconded (motion passed)

# Senator Linda Smith received a donation of art from artist- Gavin Bridges (LSUA Alumni)

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#  New Business

# Quarterly meeting with the LSU Board of Supervisors Council of Staff Advisors Meeting

# Appointment of Committee Charges

# Other Business/Senator Reports

* **Senator Cieltia Adams:**

-TutoringCenter have been conducting interviews for potential tutors

 - New tutors will be participating in several workshops throughout the semester

 - Also working on getting certified as international tutors

 - August 19, the Library will be having cookies and lemonade to give visitors a chance to

 see the new library updates

 - August 30, same event for students, faculty, and staff (flyers will be issued)

* **Senator Linda Smith:**

 -Advised Liberal Arts and other academic areas are wrapping up the week of

 summer with activities and training

 - Auxiliary Services has been busy with registration and IDs

* **Senator Richard Robinson:**

- IET gearing up for the fall semester

 - Reminder for everyone to be weary of phishing emails

 - Looking at possibly upgrading classroom cameras for campus presentations, to have

 more local and remote individuals pending cost factors

 - Distance Ed. Working on schedules for online students approximately 700 plus

 - Elaborated on the CrowdStrike incident which involved the new antivirus shutting down

 computer systems across campus. Through IET team efforts the issue was able to be

 resolved

* **Senator Josie Carmouche:**

- Admissions Department getting ready to start classes on August 26

 - Expecting an enrollment of 6000, exact number is not known currently

 - Recruiting will start in August for Fall 2025, applications will be open September 1

* **Senator Samantha Evans**

 **-** Announced her new position as Dual Enrollment Coordinator

 - They have established an on-campus application deadline

 - Currently not processing Spring applications, Spring 2025 opened in July

 - Plan to continue increasing dual enrollment numbers

* **Senator Donald Collins**

 - The Police Department has been training which included firearms, hostage, ect.

 - The department hired two new additional officers

 - Officers attended a training for sexual assault investigations in Baton Rouge, LA at LSU.

 Officers represented well, along with other university officers from around the state of

 Louisiana, Sheriff Department, and the State Police

 - In the near future, the department will be hosting Self Defense classes, the training will

 be incorporate defending yourself and save your life.