

## Week of October 2

As we prepare for one of the most important legislative sessions in our state's history (yes, already and yes, again), higher education is already front and center. The Board of Regents is moving deeply into discussions relative to their Elevate Louisiana plan while planning a response by January to Senator Sharon Hewitt. During the Legislative session, Hewitt passed a bill requiring the Board of Regents to conduct a comprehensive review of higher education services and "recommend the optimal delivery of post-secondary education in the future that will meet the needs of the state's citizens and industries while maximizing the state's resources." The Advocate has reported those recommendations may include merging or closing institutions or transferring an institution from one system to another.

Tuesday of next week, I will meet with Board of Regents Chair Richard Lipsey and Commissioner of Higher Education Joe Rallo. Friday, each system will present to a legislative committee relative to its "fiscal challenges and innovative ideas for the future of higher education." It is my sincere hope we can move the conversation from a focus on measures of inputs and accountability to process toward a focus on outcomes and accountability to our students and our communities. Obviously, the results of the conversations will have significant implications for NSU, and I am confident in our ability to effectively engage in the debate.

Over the next several weeks, we will visit about details of the leadership transition here. Continuing and even accelerating our progress as a university will be our governing priority. Retention and recruitment will always be key areas of emphasis. As you will notice from Carl Jones' remarks in the Leadership Team meeting notes, growth is crucial to financial health. That is certainly important, but more important to me: growth means more are benefitting from your work and, as result, contributing to community health.

### The Week

The monthly Leadership Team meeting was held Monday morning. Below are Pam Cook's notes from the meeting.

**October 3, 2016 @ 8:30 a.m.**

## Leadership Team Meeting

**Absent: Frances Conine, Marcia Hardy, Marcus Jones, John Pearce, Ron Wright**

- **Chris Maggio:**
  - **Recruiting Office Staff are visiting high schools and attending college fairs throughout Louisiana and Texas.**
    - For review, we have 6 full-time regional recruiters who travel and serve as a liaison to high school students and HS personnel.
    - Plus, we have a full-time Scholars' College recruiter, graduate and transfer recruiter and an IET/EET/Project Lead The Way recruiter.
    - NSide View, HS preview day, is Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup>.
    - Sent letter to all faculty/staff asking for recommendations for prospective students. We mark them as priority and start communicating with them.
  - **Admissions Office is processing admissions applications for future semesters.**
    - Admissions letters and certificates are being mailed daily to students.
    - We are reviewing/updating admission criteria as set by the BOR.
    - We are reviewing and meeting with Academic personnel on our co-requisite programs.
  - **Financial Aid**
    - Mrs. Jackson submitted our response to NSU's DOE audit from last Spring.
    - Mrs. Jackson reported that our default rates on student loans continue to drop significantly.
    - DOE has changed FAFSA submitting timelines this year, October 1 students can submit FAFSA for 2017-2018 (prior/prior year).
  - **Student Affairs**
    - **First Year Experience**
      - Finished 42 Days of Welcome with a wonderful motivational speaker, Judson Laippoly, "evolution of dance."
      - Family Day this Saturday.
      - Donated supplies to ULL students last week.
      - Reached out to flood victims at NSU and were able to assist many more.
    - **Housing**
      - Reviewing processes for applications/leasing for Sp '17 and Fall '17
      - Varnado progressing.
      - Reviewing potential increase in future housing.
- **Jerry Pierce:**
  - **University Marketing and Branding**
    - Designed various Family Day initiatives such as website, registrations, etc.
    - Designed 10 banners for Shreveport/Bossier restaurants.
    - Designed two-sided 40' banners for ROTC Repelling Tower.
    - Produced (2) :15 commercials and (3) 2:00 anthem videos for KSLA The Southern Weekend, Nursing, and CAPA.
    - Early discussions/quotations for new 4K video board for Turpin Stadium.
    - Designed several signs for facility-use inside CAPA building.

- **Informational Services**
  - Successful collaboration and promotion of White-Out Game, pep-rally, tailgating, etc. This engaged Publications, Photo Services, News Bureau, Print Shop and Sports Information working with Athletics, Marketing, First Year Experience, Student Affairs, and several other units on campus to provide photos, graphics, print materials, publicity and social media coverage.
  - Projects related to Family Day, Homecoming, events surrounding Homecoming and other fall programming are ongoing.
  - Worked with academic units to publicize programs and partnerships with industry and other institutions and academic student and faculty achievements. Worked with Alumni and Development to publicize events and donations from external partners.
  - SID Staff handled early season coverage of football, volleyball, soccer, and cross country, including producing online and printed publications.
- **NSU-TV**
  - Football, soccer and volleyball FTP interviews.
  - Radio setup for NSU football games at Baylor, UIW, UCA, and SLU.
  - Radio setup for NSU football coaches shows on Thursday nights.
  - Streaming and taping of home football game plus setup of cameras and equipment testing with students.
  - NSU News tryouts and practice.
  - NSU RSO FMLA met in studio to watch an online concert.
  - Taped Demon of the Day promos for website.
- **WRAC**
  - We are proud to announce current WRAC GA, Zach Adams, who will graduate in December, has accepted the position of Coordinator of Intramurals at Nicholls State. Zach will begin November 1.
  - The WRAC welcomes their new Administrative Coordinator 3, Rebekah Borders, who will begin October 17<sup>th</sup>.
  - We will be taking all WRAC GA's to Baton Rouge on Tuesday to experience our LCIRSA executive meeting to be held at LSU.
- **Liz Knecht:**
  - **No report.**
- **Margaret Kilcoyne:**
  - **Thursday, October 20, 2016: 50<sup>th</sup> Annual J. Walter Porter Forum:**
    - 9:00 a.m. Coffee, cookies, and water served in Magale Recital Hall Foyer (Hanchey Gallery) for all.
    - 9:45 a.m. Introduction and Welcome by Dr. Kilcoyne/Dr. Henderson.
    - 10:00 a.m. Corrinne Hoisington (to be introduced by Melissa Aldredge).
    - 10:30 a.m. Questions
    - 10:40 a.m. Break
    - 11:10 a.m. David Morgan (to be introduced by Dr. Danny Upshaw)
    - 11:40 a.m. Questions
    - 12:00 noon Lunch
    - 2:00 p.m. Corrinne Hoisington will speak, Room 107, Russell Hall
    - 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. College of Business and Technology Showcase

- Friday, October 21, 2016: CIS Advisory Board Meeting in the Natchitoches Room
  - Saturday, October 22, 2016: School of Business Advisory Board and Student Advisory Board meeting at 9:30 a.m., Room 213
  - Saturday, October 22, 2016: College of Business and Technology Homecoming Reception beginning at 11:00 a.m. with presentation of the 2016 Outstanding Business Awards at 11:15 a.m. – Crest Industries and Alliance Compressors.
- **Vickie Gentry:**
    - The proposal for the Doctor of Adult Learning and Leadership is being submitted to the ULS Board of Supervisors for approval at the October 2016 meeting. If approved, 2 classes will begin in January.
    - LCTCS employees can partner with LA Leadership Academy, and can earn up to 3 hours in credit.
    - Professional Development schedule has been sent out.
    - QEP document will be completed by late January.
- **Roni Biscoe:**
    - A SACSCOC Focus Report in response to the offsite committee's review (should receive in mid-December will be due mid-January..
    - Handed out a visual prepared by Frank Hall on SACSCOC next steps toward accreditation.
- **Dana Clawson:**
    - Dr. Laura Aaron stepping down as SAH director after spring semester. She would like to keep teaching at NSU in program from Baton Rouge. Working on policy for that.
    - Faculty concerns about tuition being much more than our sister ULS schools. I have proposal for Dean's Council today.
    - Rapides Foundation Grant received for over \$600,000, plus they will continue to fund our primary card NP program grant for 2 more years; and they want to meet Thursday to help fund our development of the psych mental health NP program.
    - New Shreveport-Bossier Marketing Development Committee met for first time to coordinate our efforts in the area. Dr. Donna Johnson heading the committee.
- **Drake Owens:**
    - Annual NSU Foundation endowment activity reports have been generated and will be sent to donors in the upcoming weeks.
    - Demonsunite.net online community currently has over 19,000 users.
    - 100+ alumni were in attendance at the NSU v. Southeastern tailgating event.
    - Fall Gradfest event will be held in the Student Union Ballroom this Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9:00 a.m.
    - Alumni tailgating festivities for NSU v. Kentucky Wesleyan will be held this Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup> beginning at 3:00 p.m.
    - Annual meetings of the NSU Foundation, Alumni Association, and Mary Gallaspy Trust#2 will be held on October 21<sup>st</sup>.

- Homecoming events including annual alumni golf scramble, “Rocking on the Riverbank” concert, breakfast and bingo event, college and departmental reunions, and tailgating events to be held October 21-22.
  - Finalizing plans for annual “Thank a Donor Day” event to be held November 3<sup>rd</sup>.
  - Finalizing plans for luncheon honoring professorship recipients and donors to be held November 14<sup>th</sup>.
  - Continuing fundraising efforts focused on unrestricted contributions to the “Columns Fund” including release of annual fund mailer scheduled for last week of October.
  - Continuing work on property development projects and other revenue generating ventures.
- **Greg Handel:**
    - We are forming and starting meetings of advisory council throughout the College.
    - Journalism Day coming up in November; 60 are registered so far. Lane Lucky will be the opening speaker.
    - Northshore math agreement going well.
    - Cole is working on recruiting videos for CAPA and School of Biology and Physical Sciences.
    - Bruce Earnest from International Performing Arts Institute conducted some CAPA master’s classes; he was very impressed with our students; 10 student contracts for the summer.
    - Kirstin Bartels and Holly Stave attended conference on honors education.
    - Work will begin on December 5<sup>th</sup> in Magale Recital Hall; work in A.A. Fredericks Auditorium will begin until the end of January.
- **Greg Burke:**
    - In the thick of fall sports season, preparing for three home games in four weeks starting on October 8, plus home volleyball and soccer.
    - Planning is underway for basketball season. The annual Tip-Off event is set for Thursday, November 3 and season ticket sales are underway.
    - Seeking \$40,000 donation to partner with an architectural firm in developing facility campaign for the following: baseball restroom/concession/locker room building; tennis locker room; track press box/locker room/seating; potential indoor facility.
    - Adjusting to departure of Adam Jonson over next several weeks before a replacement is hired.
    - Final prep for N-Club Hall of Fame induction.
    - On December 17, 2016, Men’s Basketball will play ULM in the CenturyLink Center in Bossier City at 4:30 p.m.; LA Tech and Grambling will play at 7:00 p.m.
    - On December 9, 2017, Men’s Basketball will play Southern in the newly upgraded Rapides Parish Coliseum.
    - Working on updating athletic policy and procedure manual.
    - NCAA-AASP Grant mid-year visit scheduled for Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup>.
- **Carl Jones:**

- First quarter report has been submitted to the ULS Office; this is the best report in 10 years showing that Northwestern's financial position and growth has increased.
- **Darlene Williams:**
  - Additional funding was obtained through Carl Perkins to promote non-traditional career paths. Posters have been mailed out to all state high schools, bill boards have been placed in locations near Fort Polk and Barksdale, and radio spots are airing in the month of October to target potential students.
  - Ongoing meetings with members of the Fort Polk Progress Committee have resulted in an interest in increased internship opportunities at Fort Polk.
  - Online Competency-based Degree Program is scheduled to launch November 1.
  - Received approval to establish a site at DeRidder; the proposal is being presented to the DeRidder City Council on Monday, October 3 and is expected to be approved on Monday, October 10.
- **Dr. Henderson:**
  - Working on submitting for Board approval a request to rename the LA Scholars' College, the Jimmy D. Long, Sr. Louisiana Scholars' College.
  - There will be a Special ULS Board meeting this Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Henderson is the final candidate for consideration as the President of the University of Louisiana System.

**Next meeting scheduled for Monday, November 14, 2016 at 8:30 a.m.**

Tuesday, I attended the NCAA's HBCU and Low Resource Institutions Academic Advisory Group meeting in Indianapolis. We discussed successes and future of the AASP grant program. We also talked about ongoing issues for student athletes at LRIs.

Wednesday, Jana Lucky, Rebekah Burlison, and I met with seniors at Airline High School and at Benton High School. Both of these schools are tremendous feeders to NSU, and their graduates are well-prepared both academically and socially.

Later Wednesday, Jeff Palermo from the Louisiana Radio Network interviewed me over the phone for his radio program. I also enjoyed a visit with Jacob Farnsley from Current Sauce. Finally, strategic communications legend Roy Fletcher dropped by for a cup of coffee and a conversation about our efforts in New Media, Journalism, and Communication Arts.

Thursday, Tonia and I headed to Baton Rouge for the UL System board meeting.

Friday morning, Roni Biscoe and Marcia Hardy met with me to update me on progress with our strategic plan.

I stopped by Jana Lucky's meeting with her recruiting staff. I thanked them for bringing in the largest freshman class since we implemented selective admissions, then challenged them with a significant increase for next fall. They did not even flinch. I have no doubt they are up to the challenge.

Later Friday, Mike Wolff visited with me on Natchitoches Community Alliance efforts.

Saturday, Kim Gallow, Leah Jackson, and I visited with NSU Alumni Barbara Franklin Moham and Melinda Franklin Woodley on the Kyser Bricks. In Ms. Moham's words, it was "a great day at NSU. I'm so glad to sponsor a travel scholarship for Soros in Eta Chi Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. in memory of my sister, Caroline Franklin Hooper. She was a former president of the chapter and wanted everyone in the chapter to go to the 1982 South Central Regional Conference in San Antonio, TX. So what did she do? She used my mom's American Express card to purchase 14 plane tickets (without mom knowing). This had been the family joke for years. So in her honor this scholarship is established, Caroline Franklin Hooper Travel Scholarship.."

Saturday afternoon, Lady Demon Basketball Coach Jordan Dupuy and Assistant Coach Olivia Grayson introduced me to two promising recruits and their parents from Texas. Both of the young women excel in the classroom as well as on the court and both envision studying the sciences in college.

It was a great weekend for Demon Athletics. Friday night, Demon Soccer won an exciting double OT victory over SHSU 3-2. Saturday, Demon Volleyball rallied back from a 2-1 deficit to Lamar to win and go to 5-2 in Southland Conference play. Saturday evening was the way it is supposed to be during fall in Natchitoches. The atmosphere on campus was just perfect with beautiful weather and a great tailgating crowd. The Demons capped a great day off with a great victory. I cannot wait to watch this team close out this season with passion...and numerous victories.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or comments.