

Weekly Update, April 21 - 27, 2019

A few weeks ago, I mentioned that the Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee provided me with its recommended prioritization (1-N List) of Budget Enhancement Requests for the 2019-2020 budget year. The committee received 40 enhancement requests totaling \$692,048 from various university organizations in Natchitoches, Shreveport, and Leesville. Using the committee's recommended priority list, my advisory team and I carefully considered how to best maximize and leverage funding to support our process. We determined that we could directly fund \$102,848 while simultaneously leveraging some of this year's funding and other sources of funding to either fully or partially support other requests.

It is my pleasure to release the 1-N List of Budget Enhancement Requests (attached) for the budget year 2019-2020. The green shading indicates items that are funded for 2019-2020. The funded amounts are in yellow.

We are working to leverage other potential funding sources to assist our efforts in funding the first two items in orange, totaling \$46,500.

We are working to fund the next three items in orange totaling \$11, 850 through the current 2018-2019 budget.

Unfortunately, we were not able to fund all of this year's requests, so we still have work to do. We will continue funding by prioritization should additional funding become available. If you have questions about funded items, please contact Mr. Gil Gilson and/or Dr. Marcus Jones. Again, thank you to all who participated in the budgeting process. I am encouraged by our progress!

The 32nd Annual Research Day was held on campus Thursday. I want to thank the many faculty and students for your research presentations and acknowledge our research council, chaired by Dr. Margaret Cochran, for their tireless preparation in hosting this important academic endeavor. Also, I want to congratulate our faculty and student award winners:

Dr. Jean D'Amato Thomas Lifetime Achievement Award: Dr. Massimo D. Bezoari

Dr. Mildred Hart Bailey Faculty Research Award: Dr. Sarah McFarland

Dr. Marietta LeBreton Louisiana Studies Award: Dr. Shane Rasmussen

The Phi Kappa Phi Student Research Award: Glendalyn Boothe and Shelby Riedel

The Phi Kappa Phi Student Design Award: Isabella Jones

My Week:

Monday morning, Dawn Eubanks and I met for our monthly internal audit briefing. At noon, Jennifer and I hosted lunch for our Social Work faculty.

Monday afternoon, I met with two prospective student-athletes and their families.

Tuesday morning, I traveled to Ruston for a North Louisiana Economic Partnership Board of Directors meeting on the Louisiana Tech campus. Afterwards, I traveled to Baton Rouge for meetings at the State Capitol.

Tuesday afternoon and evening, Drake Owens and I visited with several legislators and state leaders about NSU projects. Afterwards, we attended events related to the legislative session.

Wednesday morning, we began the day at the State Capitol for a breakfast gathering and then moved to the Claiborne Building for the Board of Regents meeting. During the meeting, Regents approved our proposal to establish a Post Baccalaureate Certificate in Computed Tomography. I want to thank our Radiologic Science faculty for their hard work in developing the request. Drake and I finished the morning with a few more stops at the Capitol.

Wednesday evening, I attended the senior ring ceremony at Russell Hall. Alumni Director Mae Jaworski, NSU Alumni Association President Lane Luckie and so many others did a great job in making this event so meaningful for our graduating seniors. Afterwards, I attended the Lisa Chesser Border's Scholarship presentation at the Academic Success Center in Watson Library. During the event, NSU Art professor James Borders highlighted student artwork, unveiled an art display in the center and announced an endowment to support our art program.

Thursday morning, I attended the funeral of NSU alumnus and long-time supporter Dewitt Booty. Afterwards, I met with a prospective faculty member. Later that morning, Dr. Darlene Williams, Dr. Vickie Gentry, Pat Jones and I had a lengthy conference call reviewing online education and a financial pro forma.

Thursday afternoon, I attended the 32nd Annual Research Day poster session. I was extremely impressed with our faculty and student research presentations.

Thursday evening, I was back in Baton Rouge to attend the Baton Rouge Area Alumni Dinner. During the event, I briefed the alumni on our academic highlights and asked for support of our programs.

Friday morning, Faculty Senate President Dr. Thomas Reynolds and I met for coffee at Café DeMon' to review the spring semester and preview goals for the next academic year. Afterwards, Jennifer and I had an engaging brunch with our New Media, Journalism and Communication faculty. Later, Dr. Vickie Gentry, Dr. Marcus Jones, Pat Jones, Frank Hall and I met to review the (1-N list) Budget Enhancement Requests.

Afterwards, Dr. Marcus Jones, Pat Jones and I met on personnel matters.

Friday afternoon, I attended a high school regional track meet that was held on our campus where I took the opportunity to visit with high school personnel in attendance.

Friday evening, I attended a reception with the Chris Roper Memorial Scholarship benefactors. Afterwards, I attended the American Cancer Society Relay for Life event.

Saturday morning, I attended the Natchitoches Kiwanis Club Pancake Breakfast/5K Road Race.

Saturday afternoon, I attended the awards ceremony and scholarship presentation at the Chris Roper Memorial Golf Tournament. The 37th annual tournament has raised over \$400,000 in scholarships for Health and Human Performance students.

As always, please let me know if you have any questions, comments or concerns.

Fork 'em Demons,

Chris



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