

Weekly Update, January 6 - 12, 2019

Welcome back and Happy New Year! I hope you had a great semester break with time to relax and recharge for an exciting spring semester. We accomplished a lot in the fall, and there is much to look forward to in the coming months! I am so glad to have everyone back!

On Wednesday, I met with the Strategic Planning Team to discuss the impact of the SACSCOC Annual Conference report approval of Northwestern State University's Monitoring Report. We are in good standing with much momentum. Thank you all for your efforts and for adopting this culture of accountability. During our discussions, it was apparent that we cannot become distracted from exercising our assessment processes to standard. We have worked too hard to get where we are, and we cannot afford to become complacent. We have important work ahead of us. In the short term, we will execute the budget enhancement process and compile data for our AY 2018-2019 Strategic Plan Mid-Year Review. This includes updates on each strategic focus area, program, unit, and General Education Core competencies assessment, as well as updates from each college, capital outlay projects, research, community service, etc. In the long term, we will be reassessing our Strategic Plan and preparing for our SACSCOC five-year review. Please know you are making a difference, and I very much appreciate your work in pursuit of excellence.

I would like to give you one last reminder about the University of Louisiana System *For Our Future Conference* that will be held on February 14-15 at the University of Louisiana Lafayette. With just over a month until the second annual conference, it was announced this week that [Katrice Albert](#) will be the keynote speaker. Albert serves as the NCAA's executive vice president of inclusion and human resources and leads efforts to enhance diversity, inclusion, leadership development, and community engagement.

I know several of you have already registered for the conference, but please note that if you plan to attend and have not registered, University of Louisiana System staff indicate that registration is nearing capacity. Click [here](#) to register or find our more information.

Finally, it was announced this week that the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities (LEH), in partnership with Lieutenant Governor Billy Nungesser, selected anthropologist, archeologist, and Northwestern State University professor Dr. Hiram "Pete" Gregory as the 2019 Lifetime Contribution to the Humanities Award winner! Dr. Gregory will be honored on April 4 at the 2019 LEH Bright Lights Awards Dinner in Lafayette. I want to congratulate Dr. Gregory for this well-deserved honor and for more than 55 years of service to Northwestern State University, <http://news.nsula.edu/home/gregory-honored-for-life-of-work-in-the-humanities/>!

My Week:

Monday morning, I joined host Tedd Dumas on the Baldrige-Dumas Radio Network for my monthly call-in show. Afterwards, the Leadership team met for our first meeting of the semester. Those minutes are attached.

At lunch, Jennifer and I hosted the Recruiting Office staff for lunch at the President's residence. Monday afternoon, Roni Biscoe and I met on some personnel matters.

Tuesday morning, Jana Lucky, Dr. Nabin Sapkota and I met at Central Louisiana Technical Community College with manufacturing partners, high school administrators and CLTCC leadership for a Geaux Fame, <https://nca-la.com/workforce-ready/amt/>, meeting to review applicants for our Engineering Technology/AMT program. Afterwards, I met with students working through financial aid and academic issues.

At noon, Jennifer and I hosted the staff from Business Affairs for lunch at the President's residence. Tuesday afternoon, Jennifer Kelly, Dr. Marcus Jones, Drake Owens and I met with a group of investors exploring opportunities for a public/private partnership to enhance student experiences.

Wednesday morning, Faculty Senate President Dr. Thomas Reynolds and I met for coffee at Café DeMon to review the fall semester and touch base prior to the start of the spring semester. Afterwards, Alan Pasch and I met to review summer camp information.

At noon, I attended the NSU Basketball team's Sixth Man luncheon in Prather Coliseum. Coach McConathy and staff reviewed highlights of our big victory over McNeese State University and previewed our upcoming game.

Wednesday afternoon, I met with students to assist in resolving issues in order that they can continue their education at NSU, and I later met with Internal Auditor Dawn Eubanks. Afterwards, I gathered with the Strategic Planning Team in the Henderson Conference Room. Wednesday evening, I attended the NSU men's basketball game against Texas A&M University-Corpus Christie.

Thursday, I traveled to Shreveport to attend the North Louisiana Economic Partnership (NLEP) Board of Directors meeting. Afterwards, I visited with faculty and staff at our College of Nursing and School of Allied Health campus and toured the new bookstore facilities on the Shreveport campus.

Upon returning to campus Thursday afternoon, Alan Pasch and I met with Louisiana American Legion administrators to review Boys State 2018 financial reports and discuss plans for the 2019 program.

Friday morning, I joined Dr. Marcus Jones, Telba Espinoza-Contreras and Vivian Pedroza at the International Student Resource Center for a student orientation session for our new, incoming international students. Afterwards, I stopped by to welcome the Directors of the Natchitoches Area Chamber of Commerce who were on campus for a leadership meeting.

Later, I met with the vice presidents to review our mid-year budget and goals for the remainder of the academic year. I then met with Dr. Vickie Gentry and Dr. Bill Morrison to review data concerning our Doctor of Education program in Adult Learning and Development. Afterwards, I met with a prospective student and his mother and learned later in the day that he has committed to attending NSU in the fall semester.

At noon, Drake Owens and I had an outstanding lunch meeting with executives with Cleco Corporation. We discussed our current engagement and plans for enhanced collaboration in the future.

Saturday, I spent the morning visiting with parents and prospective students who were on campus at our NSU baseball team's prospect camp. I continue to be so impressed with our athletic coaches and academic departments who work so diligently in highlighting their respective programs to prospective students, families and external stakeholders.

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

Fork 'em Demons,

Chris



DR. CHRIS MAGGIO

President

Northwestern State University
Caspari Hall | Suite 223
Northwestern State University of Louisiana
Natchitoches, LA 71497

maggioc@nsula.edu

Office: 318-357-6441

