

MEMORANDUM:

To: University Community

From: Dr. Robert T. Smith, Chancellor

Date: October 10, 2024

Re: Agenda – October 14, 2024, LPC Meeting

The LSUS Planning Council will meet on Monday, October 14, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. on the third floor of the Noel Memorial Library. The meeting is open to all members of the university community.

1. Chancellor, Chair: Robert T. Smith
2. Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs: Helen Taylor
3. Vice Chancellor for Finance & Administration: Shelby Keith
4. Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs: Demitrius Brown (**absent**) – Shelley Moore
5. Associate Provost: Helen Wise
6. Chief of Staff: Kim Ramsey
7. Associate Vice Chancellor for Community Engagement: Kenna Franklin (**absent**)
8. Faculty Senate President (or Assign): College of Education & Human Development: Cassandra Williams
9. Faculty Representative: College of Business: Amin Saleh
10. Faculty Representative: College of Arts & Science: Marisa Connell
11. Dean of Graduate Studies: Sanjay Menon
12. Dean, College of Business: Mary Lois White
13. Dean, College of Arts & Sciences: Tibor Szarvas (**absent**) – Elisabeth Liebert
14. Dean, College of Education & Human Development: Dennis Wissing
15. Dean, Noel Memorial Library: Brian Sherman
16. Senior Associate Vice Chancellor/Dean of Students: Paula Atkins
17. SGA President (or Assign): Devesh Sarda
18. Staff Senate Representative (or Assign): Business or Student Affairs: Angela Burton
19. Chief Information Officer: Scott Hardwick
20. Director, Human Resources: Robert Lindsey
21. Director of Alumni Development: Jazmin Jernigan (**absent**)
22. Director, University Athletics: Lucas Morgan

Ex-Officio (Non-Voting)

- Executive Director, LSUS Foundation: Laura Perdue (**absent**)
- Director, Media and Public Relations: Erin Smith
- Executive Assistant to the Chancellor: Brandy Hayse

1. Welcome (Smith)

Chancellor Smith welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending the LPC meeting on this beautiful afternoon.

2. Approval of minutes from September 25, 2024 LPC meeting

Minutes from the LPC meeting of September 25, 2024 were approved as distributed.

3. Fall 2024 enrollment updates (Shelley Moore)

Shelley Moore reported that over all enrollment is up by 15%.

LSUS AP2 Census Data	Fall 2021	Fall 2022	Fall 2023	Fall 2024	% Increase/Decrease '23 to '24
Total Enrollment	8889	8737	9751	11231	15%
Total SCH's	67288	66993	74006	85813	16%
Total Full Time Equivalent (FTE)	5141	5128	5709	6656	17%
Undergraduate Enrollment	2487	2488	2569	2770	8%
Dual Enrollment	261	334	405	485	20%
Graduate Enrollment	6402	6249	7182	8461	18%
Continuing Undergraduate & Graduate	5865	5278	5534	6956	26%

Chancellor Smith added that we are up in every category. We have large gains in dual enrollment. The Gardner Institute team commended our 8% jump in retention. Chancellor Smith gave kudos to everyone and said to keep doing what we are doing.

4. Year over year financial comparison (Shelby Keith)

Shelby Keith reported current enrollment is at 11,258 and closes after Wednesday. This fall will be LSUS' largest enrollment to date. About 1,300 students have not paid as yet. LSU Online gets 35% of our tuition for online programs. We are at a 23% increase in revenue. Budgets are looking good.

Chancellor Smith added that Representative Steven Jackson was here today. He was asking specific questions about our budget and enrollment. We have really good things happening to report to him.

5. Proposed new positions for current fiscal year (Shelby Keith)

Chancellor Smith started by stating that we have positions for this fiscal year to be filled that have been reviewed by cabinet.

Shelby Keith reported on all proposed positions and noted how they will be funded. Helen Taylor and Helen Wise reported on the Academic Affairs positions. Shelby Keith stated that the cost of all positions will be covered by the increased tuition revenue due to increasing enrollment.

Chancellor Smith stated we are in growth mode and have a need for more staff. Also noted student health fee positions have not been approved. This will be an ask for LSU President Tate.

Mary Lois White asked about new position sustainability. How many students are needed to not terminate positions? Shelby Keith stated that we understand that the MBA program will start to level off in 3 to 5 years, but the MHA program is taking off and the enrollment increase will help all. There are no concerns about eliminating positions in the foreseeable future. The sales tax increase may end soon but we believe the university will be able to shift money around to compensate.

Chancellor Smith stated that the positions we are adding are not spending all the new revenue, but only a portion,

while some positions are being paid by fees. Before finalizing the proposed positions, we will evaluate carefully. We are more than able to fund what is being proposed.

Shelby Keith stated the sum of all these positions is about \$800,000 and many of the positions are not that expensive. We are putting money aside and leaving some funds unallocated for any potential downturn in enrollment.

Chancellor Smith stated we have a number of high-cost programs. The Board of Supervisors approved a 10% tuition increase on these programs for other LSU institutions. However, we have decided to not increase tuition for these programs at this time. We are working to grow our undergraduate programs, so we don't want to raise tuition rates.

Cassandra Williams asked if we have looked into wages for Admin 2 positions to raise to livable wages. Are we building positions to grow these employees? Shelby Keith stated that these positions are regulated civil service positions and cannot be switched to unclassified positions due to the degree requirement. The goal is for employees to move up in the civil service ranks and earn a degree if desired. A department can also add duties and justification to raise an employee to an Admin 3. Chancellor Smith added that under current law we can't do much to increase civil service pay. Rob Lindsey stated these employees can also move up to a coordinator or analyst position.

Helen Taylor reminded the room that after one year of employment, all full-time employees are eligible to get full tuition reimbursement to obtain any degree offered at LSUS. Angela Burton stated she is an example of an employee who has moved up the ranks. She also added that Staff Senate is working to help support employees earning degrees through scholarship opportunities for books and fees.

6. Proposal for a Student Health Fee (Paula Atkins)

Chancellor Smith stated we are lacking student health services on campus. This is a barrier for enrollment of undergraduates.

Paula Atkins reviewed a proposal for basic health care services and education. Telehealth care is expected to be the first phase. The second phase will be a physical location on campus. The cost for students will be \$5 per credit hour. This proposal will be presented to Cabinet, LSU President Tate, and then the Board of Supervisors in December.

Jennie Bynog asked if international students need an insurance policy to use the service. Paula Atkins stated no insurance would be required for the use of these services, although international students are required to carry health insurance.

Sanjay Menon asked if mental health services will be available online. Paula says yes through telehealth.

Devesh Sarda asked if there will be a cap for the \$5 per credit hour charge for students. Paula Atkins stated not at this time.

Cassandra Williams asked if these services will be connected with counseling. Paula Atkins stated yes.

Chancellor Smith gave kudos to Demi Brown, Paula Atkins, and their team for getting this proposal together. Also adding that we have a task force looking at space on campus for this initiative.



LSU Shreveport Student Health and Wellness Fee

The Louisiana State University in Shreveport (LSUS) Student Health and Wellness Fee is a required student fee administered toward planning, implementation, and assessment of student health and wellness services.

Fee Category:

The LSUS Student Health and Wellness Fee is categorized as a required **university self-assessed fee** as detailed in [LSU Permanent Memorandum 43 - Student Fees](#).

Approval:

PM-43 and the appended [Student Fee Approval Matrix \(Appendix A\)](#) dictates that university self-assessed fees require the following University approvals:

- LSU Board of Supervisors
- LSU President
- LSUS Finance and Administration
- LSUS Academic Affairs
- Dean/Unit Director

Purpose:

The LSUS Student Health and Wellness Fee provides funding for the delivery of health and wellness services to students. The fee provides funding for staff positions that include medical providers; counselors and therapists; service coordinators; health educators; interns and graduate assistants; and undergraduate paraprofessional staff. It also provides funding for health programming efforts that include support for health promotion and outreach. Revenue generated by this fee may fund the following: equipment, supplies, and facility needs; operational expenses; and professional development and continuing education opportunities for staff. The fee may also support faculty-led teaching and research functions that benefit LSUS students. This fee is not intended to replace health insurance coverage.

Application:

The LSUS Student Health and Wellness fee is applied \$5 per credit hour for all LSUS undergraduate and graduate students.

Exceptions:

The LSUS Student Health and Wellness fee is applied to all enrolled students without exception.

Fee Changes:

PM-43 requires that increases of fees be submitted for approval in accordance with the prescribed approval process based on the type of fee. Reaffirmation or decreases of current fee levels do not require administrative approval.

Collection:

The LSUS Student Health and Wellness fee is collected by the LSUS Accounting Services as part of the university's tuition and fees.

7. Update on Strategic Plan

Chancellor Smith thanked everyone who submitted feedback. These comments will be implemented. The updated strategic plan will be sent out to campus soon.

8. Comments from the audience

Helen Wise reminded everyone of the upcoming QEP Kickoff dates of October 15th and October 23rd.

Brandon Wunningham asked if the faculty and staff education benefit could also include a fee waiver like what is available for Graduate Assistants. Shelby Keith stated that we would have to look at the financial impact of this ask. Chancellor Smith said we will also have to see if we have the authority to waive fees for faculty and staff.

Kim Ramsey reported that today's CPR training is full. We will be holding another in the near future. The October 22nd training for First Aid, AED, and Stop the Bleed will be at 9:00 AM and 2:00 PM. Please reach out to Julie Atkinson to sign up.

Angela Burton reminded everyone of the Staff Senate scholarship fundraiser at Copelands on Tuesday, October 22nd from 4:30 PM to 7:30 PM.

Mary Lois White asked if college and division reports could be shared at LPC. Chancellor Smith said yes.

Rob Lindsey commended Lucas Morgan and the Athletic Department for the recent golf fundraiser.

9. Next scheduled LPC meeting: November 15

10. Adjournment