

CABINET MEETING COMMUNIQUE
MEETING OF APRIL 25, 2006

Present: Crew, Dilworth, Hanson, Jones, Moulton, Pierce, Webb

- Mr. Dilworth informed the group of a committee charged with developing a University-wide disaster management/recovery plan due in Baton Rouge by the end of May. Tammie Pezant is the chairperson of the committee.
- The Cabinet perused the latest movable property inventory report. Efforts will be made to locate property unit heads have been unable to find or is listed as stolen. Dr. Webb expressed his concern over this matter and asked that vice presidents assume leadership roles in finding the equipment thus identified. The Cabinet agreed that performance evaluations of vice presidents, mid-level managers, and unit heads would address their stewardship responsibilities.
- Mr. Dilworth addressed the issue of restoring certain custodial services. He said he will report further information at a future meeting. He is working with Sheriff Victor Jones regarding the use of inmate labor, especially in clearing ditches, weed-eating, hedge trimming, and cleaning up after athletic events.
- The move of staff to the new physical plant building should take place in the next couple of weeks.
- Mr. Dilworth distributed a list of projects the Physical Plant staff plans to carry out. He asked vice presidents to let him know if they have other needs.
- The Cabinet considered and approved the advertising of certain vacant positions deemed critical to the University's effective operation.
- Mr. Pierce reported on third-quarter accomplishments for the Division of External Affairs, stating this likely was the division's best quarter ever with the success of the men's basketball team in the Southland Conference and the NCAA Tournament along with exceeding the fund-raising goal early in the University's first capital campaign.
- The Cabinet approved the allocation of \$65,000 to retain the University's Small Business Development Center. This was necessary, because the LSBDC is reorganizing; thus, eliminating several such centers around the State.

- The Cabinet approved a request by the Acting Dean of Graduate Studies and Research to allocate \$635,000 for graduate assistants for the coming fiscal year. This will restore the allocation to last year's original amount and allow for graduate assistants for the M.A. in Heritage Resources, as required by our agreement with the Board of Regents.
- Mr. Jones distributed comparative information on salaries for unclassified personnel.
- Mr. Jones announced that the SGA has passed a resolution recommending the University download funds directly to student accounts for student work-study earnings and federal funds owed to students in excess of tuition and fees billed them by the University. The funds will be transferred electronically to People's State Bank, the University's fiscal agent. But, students can have the funds transferred to their local or home banks within one day. He pointed out that the University is planning to outsource student billings to People's, since that was a provision in the RFP to which area banks were allowed to respond.
- Dr. Moulton shared with the Cabinet compliments by Dr. Rudy Jackson, the University's SACS/COC liaison who visited last Thursday and Friday. He was impressed with Northwestern, where it is currently in the SACS review process, and the dedication and commitment of personnel toward making the effort successful. She said he attributed this to institutional leadership, especially the involvement of members of the Cabinet.