

CABINET MEETING COMMUNIQUE  
MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2007

Present: Crew, Hanson, Carl Jones, Marcus Jones, Pierce, Webb, Darlene Williams  
(Guest)

- Dr. Hanson will inform Dr. Chris Maggio of a request from the Black Legislative Caucus for the University to sponsor at least one bus for students wanting to ride to Jena to participate in an upcoming peaceful march and protest. It is possible the Student Government Association may wish to incur such an expense. Dr. Webb distributed copies of a newspaper article that indicated African-American fraternities and sororities at ULL will charter transportation for this purpose.
- Dr. Webb reminded the Cabinet of today's luncheon at the Natchitoches Room of Russell Hall to introduce Mr. Kevin McCotter, newly appointed director of Alumni and Development, to the Cabinet and academic deans and department heads.
- Dr. Webb announced the official fall enrollment is 9,038, which approximates the estimated enrollment upon which the operating budget was projected. He pointed out that average ACT scores increased for the third consecutive year.
- Dr. Hanson reported on a variety of degree programs, particularly at the graduate level, that are being proposed or are under development.
- Dr. Hanson expressed concern over problems with the NSU Bookstore, specifically their inability to provide needed textbooks for several classes. Carl Jones said this situation would be corrected, or the University will issue a new RFP for bookstore services.
- Dr. Hanson said that initial baseline data will be collected this fall in connection with the QEP, and that plans call for hiring employees this spring.
- Marcus Jones reported on progress with respect to capital outlay projects affecting Caspari and Williamson Halls.
- Mr. Crew reported that the University Police are fully staffed for the first time ever.
- Dr. Hanson reported that the RFP for campus text messaging is currently under review at the state level.

- Dr. Williams reported that the University will receive a second-year contract/grant for the CALL Initiative for \$70,000. She is working to ensure Northwestern plays a leadership role in the development and offering of fast-track classes, all of which must adhere to QM (Quality Matters) standards.
- Mr. Pierce reported on plans for new iron fencing for certain athletic facilities and for plans to re-surface the turf in Turpin Stadium.
- He also reported on plans for the institution's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration in 2009.
- Mr. Crew indicated that he hopes new desks and lab stools for certain academic facilities would be delivered within the next three to four weeks.
- Mr. Jones reported on continuing discussions pertinent to the replacement of our administrative software. It appears this will cost \$5M over a three to four year period, with a cost of \$2.2M in the first year.
- Mr. Jones reported on procedures related to exempting Fort Polk and Step-Up students from the self-assessed athletic fee. Such exemptions must be approved at the System level.