

CABINET MEETING COMMUNIQUE  
MEETING OF APRIL 29, 2008

Present: Crew, Reatha Cox (Guest), Bill Dickens (Guest), Marcus Jones, Tammie Pezant (Guest), Pierce, Hannah Salter (Guest), Webb, Williams

- Dr. Webb disseminated copies of goals and accomplishments submitted by Carl Jones, Jerry Pierce, and Darlene Williams.
- Hannah Salter, a student, reported to the Cabinet on her attendance and participation at Congressional Visitation Day of the North-American Interfraternity Conference in Washington, D.C. She was one of only 80 students chosen nationally for this honor. She made presentations before Congressional Committees in support of HR 643/S 638 (Collegiate Housing and Infrastructure Act of 2007) and HR 642 (College Fire Prevention Act).
- The Cabinet congratulated Dr. Dickens on his success in obtaining grant funds for an emergency preparedness plan through the Ready Campus initiative of the Louisiana College Compact. He will work with key people at Northwestern to develop a plan for review by the Cabinet.
- Ms. Pezant reported that 2,962 students, faculty, and staff have signed up for Purple Alert and the second siren has been installed on-campus. There will be a need to test the effectiveness of both Purple Alert and the siren system in the near future.
- Following a presentation by Ms. Pezant, the Cabinet voted to set aside approximately \$18,000 for the purchase of a sophisticated lightening detection system. It will be installed on top of Turpin Stadium and will include a system of horns and strobe lights to warn people on-campus when lightening might pose a threat.
- Dr. Webb asked Mr. Crew to meet with Dr. Dickens and other appropriate people to determine whether it is feasible for the University to serve as an alternate care site for the Natchitoches Regional Medical Center in cases of dire emergencies.
- Marcus Jones pointed out problems experienced in some buildings as a result of the lack of sufficient attention by Red River Sanitors. As a result, an additional employee will be assigned to the CAPA Complex, and additional measures will be taken.
- Mr. Brent had asked about the feasibility of converting a portion of Boozman Hall into music practice rooms. Following a discussion, the Cabinet reaffirmed its earlier decision that Boozman should be demolished.

- In response to a question raised by Dr. Webb, Marcus Jones said an architect will study and make a report about the feasibility of using portions of Varnado Hall for offices.
- Dr. Williams asked that the next meeting of the Cabinet be primarily for the purpose of reviewing re-design possibilities for the University's website.
- The Cabinet agreed that Mr. Pierce should contact Carl Jones about the need for an RFP for the construction of a marquis in connection with the Coca Cola contract now in effect.