

Leadership Team Meeting

November 11, 2025

8:30 AM

President James Genovese, President

Dr. Drake Owens, Executive Vice President/Chief of Staff

Ms. Reatha Cox – Vice President for the Student Experience, Dean of Students

Mr. Vanner Erikson, Director of Enrollment Management

Mr. Cole Gentry, Chief Marketing Officer

Ms. Madysen Morgan, SGA President

Dr. Greg Handel, Executive Vice President / Provost

Dr. Aimee Badeaux, Dean, College of Nursing & School of Allied Health

Dr. Fran Lemoine, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

Dr. Neeru Deep, Dean, Gallaspy Family College of Education and Human Development

Dr. Mary Edith Stacy, Dean, Graduate School

Ms. Laurie Morrow, Executive Director for Economic Development & Advancement

Ms. Jill Bankston, Director of Alumni & Development

Mr. Kevin Bostian, Intercollegiate Athletics Athletic Director

Mr. Patric Dubois, Executive Director, Wellness & Recreation/Deputy Athletic Director

Ms. Brittany Blackwell Broussard, Director of Culture and Climate

Mr. Rodney Wilson – Chief Financial Officer

Ms. Jennifer Kelly, Executive Director for University Affairs

Dr. Frank Serio, Faculty Senate President

Mr. Veronica Biscoe, Executive Director of Institutional Effectiveness & Human Resources

Mr. Frank Hall, Director of Institutional Effectiveness

Mr. Ron Williams, Chief Information Officer



Office of the Vice President for

The Student Experience and Dean of Students

November 11, 2025

Student Engagement & Campus Life Highlights

First-Year Experience

- **Family Day Weekend:** The First-Year Experience team successfully hosted Family Day Weekend in late October, welcoming more than 300 Demon family members, friends, and guests to campus despite challenging weather conditions.
- **Parent Communication Platform:** CampusESP continues to show strong growth and engagement. Our email communications consistently reach over 1,500 users per message, and since this time last year, a total of 41,055 emails have been sent (cumulative across all users). The CampusESP platform now includes 6,829 registered families.

Greek Life

- The Greek community continues to experience strong growth and engagement across all councils, with successful recruitment and initiation efforts and chapter/council programming throughout Fall 2025.

Student Engagement & Organizations

- **Suitable Platform:** The Suitable platform is fully launched and operational. The co-curricular component now integrates with Handshake, allowing employer events to automatically sync into Suitable. Since Move-In Day, the platform has logged 333 events and recorded 10,338 attendance check-ins.
- **Miss Lady of the Bracelet:** Nilah Pollard, from Shreveport, was crowned Miss Northwestern Lady of the Bracelet 2026 and will represent NSU on the Miss Louisiana stage in June.
- **Recognized Student Organizations (RSOs):** A total of 102 RSOs have actively engaged by attending the RSO Workshop, transitioning to Suitable, and/or completing the Hazing Prevention Certification Form. Thirteen (13) RSOs remain inactive due to incomplete certification requirements.

Friedman Student Union

 | NORTHWESTERN STATE

Northwestern State University of Louisiana | Office of the Vice President for The Student Experience and Dean of Students

Jimmy D. Long Student Services Center, Room 134 | Natchitoches, LA 71497

Phone: (318) 357-5285 | Email: deanofstudents@nsula.edu | Web: nsula.edu/studentexperience

Student Well-Being & Support Services

NSU Wellness Fest: More than 360 students, faculty, and staff attended Wellness Fest on Tuesday, November 4, 2025, an increase of 69 participants from 2024, representing a 24% growth in attendance. A collaborative effort among Student Experience, academic departments, the WRAC, and community partners, Wellness Fest promotes health and wellness across campus. The event featured 45 vendors offering free health screenings, wellness resources, and opportunities to engage with local health experts.

The Office of Accessibility and Disability Support (OADS) is currently supporting 336 students, reflecting a significant increase from 300 in Fall 2024. The office continues to receive new intake requests and service applications. Nearly 300 tests have been proctored so far this semester, with preparations underway for final exams. OADS also hosted Invisible Disabilities Week (October 20–24) in collaboration with TRIO, the Counseling Center, the Jones Center, and Cultural Bridge Builders.

Counseling Services successfully relaunched the annual Suicide Prevention Awareness 5K Run after no event the previous year. Utilization of services is up 8% from this point in Fall '25; waitlist has not exceeded five (5) for the semester despite being understaffed.

Health Services has provided care to 662 unique students this fall, completing 1,025 clinic appointments and issuing 147 referrals to NRMC WIC. The clinic also served as a preceptorship site for six Level V nursing students completing their community health rotations and successfully trained a new nurse for the Health Services Clinic at NSU Shreveport.

TRIO Student Support Services:

The NSU Pantry now serves over 100 students each week. The Hunger-Free Task Force is exploring adjustments to better meet growing student needs. This year marks The Pantry's 10th anniversary on campus.

Behavior Intervention Team (BIT): Ongoing review of processes for off-campus instructional sites.



Student Conduct & Safety

Accountability & Student Conduct

- Through the end of September, conduct cases decreased by 66%, marking notable progress in student accountability and adherence to campus expectations. In October, however, the number of cases increased by 27.3%. This uptick may reflect seasonal or academic pressures typically observed mid-semester. Ongoing analysis and targeted outreach will be important to sustain the earlier improvements.

Title IX Compliance

- Staff and team members attended the ULS Title IX Summit, November 6-7, 2025.
- Community Breakfast and MOU Signing – Wednesday, November 7, 2025

Strategic Initiatives & Partnerships

- **NSU Foundation:** Dave Ramsey Personal Finance Course for faculty, staff, and students

Challenges & Opportunities

- Need for Parenting Rooms at satellite campuses
- Development of student space (former E-Sports Center) in the Student Union
- Key Personnel Updates
 - Lisa Jackson - Counselor
 - Natalie Mangandi – Job Location and Development
 - TRIO Student Support Services Instructor (2)

Leadership Team Meeting Report

Enrollment Management

Numbers at a Glance

- Spring Enrollment Count Total as of Friday, Nov. 10th– 3,684 (including new)
 - Up +246 over last year
 - Started working with 6,327 Undergrad and Grad current students
 - 571 applied for graduation
 - 1 Discipline Hold
 - 3,044 Enrolled
 - 2,711 Students Not Enrolled
 - 742 have a balance over \$1,000
 - \$3,268 is the average balance of those students
- Spring Numbers
 - First Time Freshman Applications – 218 (+30 from last year)
 - Transfer – 303 (+19 from last year)
 - Graduate – 248 (+54 from last year)
- Summer Numbers
 - First Time Freshman Applications – 40 (+5 from last year)
 - Transfer – 25 (+13 from last year)
 - Graduate – 10 (+9 from last year)
- Fall Numbers
 - First Time Freshman Applications – 1814 (+211 from last year)
 - 1057 have been admitted (+307 from last year)
 - Transfer – 58 (+49 from last year)
 - Graduate – 52 (+37 from last year)
- 14 of 137 Items on 3 year SEM Plan have been completed

Recruiting

- 300+ College Fairs around LA and TX have been attended over the last 2 months, as well as school visits
- 20 of the 30 Priority School visits with all juniors and seniors within our 2 hour radius has been visited
- 9 Counselor Luncheons took place in October

- 358 Counselors Registered – 256 Counselors in Attendance
- N-Side View Day – October 25th – 400 participants (still great with weather)
- Scholars' Day – November 15th – 40 participants registered
- Completed Individual Tours from August 1st from October 31st – 176

Financial Aid & Scholarships

- Lauren Jackson received the President's Choice Award from LOSFA for her dedication and work in Financial Aid in our region and on the board
- Around \$41,800,000 disbursed to student accounts
- Started FY2627 Awarding
 - First Letters have been sent out – 464 students
- Started Receiving LOSFA payments for first time last week, for first time this semester after being shutdown
- Researching default management solutions for the future (meeting this week)
 - Student loan repayment is back in full swing after a 4 year stop to payments/garnishments from government and Covid. If a school reaches 30%-39% default rates for 3 consecutive years, the school loses Title IV eligibility. If a school has a 40%+ default rate, they automatically lose title IV, there's no grace period.
 - Currently, we are looking at 24% and 26% default rates for the two years of those that went into repayment (those aren't official numbers and will be awhile before they are released) so we are working on doing what we can in house to try and get students back into repayment.
 - Normally we're at 7% prior to Covid.
 - EdAmerica looks to be a preferred provider, but will cost \$30-\$40k
 - We will continue to work defaults internally until next year's numbers are released.

Admissions

- Worked 2,551 applications for Spring, Summer, and Fall 2026
 - Working 3 terms at once currently – peak time – roughly a 72 hour turnaround on app times
 - Streamlining reports and CRM dashboards to create efficiencies in decision processes

Key Items Needed

- Early Intervention System/Warning System for Student Retention
 - Currently being workshopped with IT



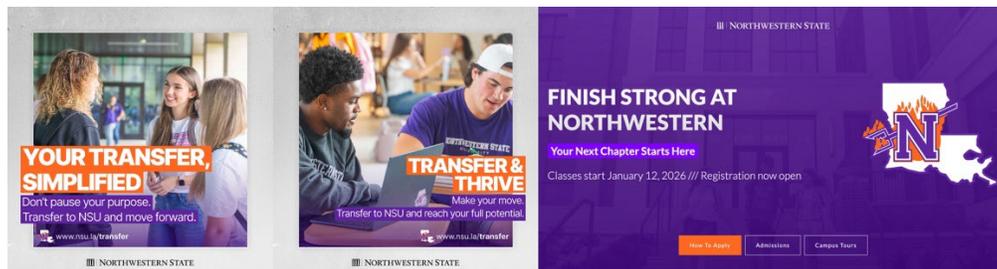
Office of
**Marketing and
Communications**

Website Updates

- New Feature: **A-Z List** (<https://www.nsula.edu/a-z-list/>)
- **Degree Resources** section added to individual **Program Pages**
- *Pending*: Removal of **Location** on Degree Search Page and replaced with **Department/Unit**

Social Media Ad Campaigns

- Town Square Media Advertisements (N Side View Day)
 - Display Clicks: 140
 - Video Clicks: 329
 - Social Clicks: 47
 - Social Engagement: 14K
- Deep Fried Advertisements (eNSU)
 - Paid Social Media: 578,918
 - Google Clicks: 3,340
- Kinetix (Transfer Ads; 1 Week)
 - Clicks: 76



Direct Mail & Email Campaigns

- Campaigns include **Priority Admission Letter from President Genovese** and **Small Classes, Big Scholarships**.



||| NORTHWESTERN STATE

Northwestern State University of Louisiana | Office of Marketing and Communications

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Leadership Team Meeting
November 11, 2025
Madysen Morgan, SGA President

- SGA Men's Luncheon is November 18 at 11am in the Hendrick room.
- Our senators started their new initiative with the Academic Deans and departments on campus. Thank you for everyone's participation!



NORTHWESTERN STATE

College of Nursing and School of Allied Health
Office of the Dean

University Leadership Team Report

Submitted by: Dr. Aimee Badeaux

Date: November 11, 2025

Academic Initiatives

- Academic restructuring continues, with degree pathways being streamlined to improve progression, reduce time to completion, and support workforce demand (ASN, MSN/PMC, DNP and BSRS).
- Development continues on multiple new programs (Allied Health-to-ASN “Transition to RN,” Echocardiography BSRS concentration, Master of Health Administration).

Accreditation

- CCNE Continuous Improvement Progress Report and COA Nurse Anesthesia reaccreditation preparations are underway for 2026.
- All annual accreditation reports (ACEN, AACN, COA, JRCERT) have been submitted.

Faculty and Leadership

- Multiple searches in progress (Senior Director of Nursing, Simulation Coordinator, Nurse Anesthesia Assistant Director, several faculty positions).

Facilities and Technology

- Simulation Suite AV and equipment procurement is moving forward for Alost Hall; simulation labs will be operational by Summer 2026.
- Ongoing challenges with distance education equipment across campuses.

Students and Clinical Education

- Standardized advising and communication processes launched across campuses to reduce variability and improve retention.
- Scholarships, stipends, and workforce grants continue supporting students and accelerating degree completion.

Grants and Funding

- Active grants (HRSA WEP, BCBS Foundation workforce initiatives) continue to support simulation, student stipends, and faculty development.
- New funding opportunities under review, including LDH workforce grants and continued partnership with regional health systems.
- Ongoing efforts to align budgets with accreditation, technology, and program expansion needs.

A Northwestern State University education is

personal, valuable, and impactful.



COAS Leadership Team Update November 11, 2025

Center for Agricultural Resources and Technology (CART)

The School of STEM is happy to announce that we have achieved approval on 10-23-2025 from the UL System Board of Supervisors to develop a Center for Agricultural Resources and Technology (CART). The mission of the Center will be to utilize areas of strength within the School of STEM (*i.e.*, biology, veterinary science, chemistry, physics, engineering technology, computer science, and drone technology) to advance agricultural technology in the state of Louisiana to solve problems associated with agricultural and natural resources. CART will serve as a hub for the development of devices, machines, materials, processes, and educational practices that will improve agricultural safety, productivity, efficiency, and economy across the state of Louisiana and beyond while minimizing ecological and environmental impacts. It will focus on improving disaster responsiveness and developing technologies associated with sustainable practices necessary for personal/small, medium, and large-scale agricultural operations.

With a robust education rooted in work-based learning, CART will complete its mission by achieving the following objectives:

- establishing partnerships with local, regional, state, and national businesses and agencies focused on agricultural practices
- sponsoring activities and outreach events that will equip the public with the knowledge necessary to initiate and sustain agricultural practices
- leading the state in the development of innovative ways to utilize drone technology in modern agricultural practices and disaster responsiveness
- conducting research into the design of devices/machines needed to perform the work of modern agriculture in the most efficient, effective, and safest manner possible
- providing computer modeling and data analytic services to improve agricultural efficiencies
- producing undergraduate and graduate students with work-based experiences preparing them to enter the workforce and enhance the agricultural landscape of Louisiana and beyond to specifically reverse the impacts of the food desert in which we reside

Focus on Preparing Students for the Workforce/Professional School

Several academic units have held events focused on preparing students for life after graduation:

- Biology and Microbiology



- Over 90 students showed up for our Pre-Professional School/Wildlife Career Day. There were 30 vendors/professional schools in attendance. The event was paid for with the WBLE+ grant awarded to the Department by the BOR last year. Trenton (Kaine) O’Neal, Assistant Professor of Biology, has already received a \$5000 grant from IP to help facilitate the Career Day next year.
- Two students (Derek Walle and John Acosta) have already been accepted (early acceptance) to medical school, and we expect a third very soon.
- Engineering Technology
 - ET Symposium and ET Career Day were held in October with over 70 students present from 16 different schools)
- SSSAP
 - Fourteen students attended a “So You Want to Go to Law School” event to listen to 5 panelists talk about their experiences in preparing for and attending law school.

Focus on Recruiting

- All academic units had a very successful N-Side View on October 25.
- Engineering Technology
 - On December 2, we will host our annual Robotics Competition. Currently there are 4 schools registered but expect at least another 2 schools registering soon.
- Music
 - Classic on the Cane, sponsored by the Spirit of Northwestern, was held on November 1. This high school marching band competition attracted approximately 30 high school bands.
- School of STEM
 - STEM Day was held on September 26. Approximately 300 high school students from 19 different schools in 9 different parishes (Caddo, Bossier, Webster, Desoto, Red River, Sabine, Natchitoches, Rapides, Allen) attended. Students attended interactive workshops in Biomedical Science/Microbiology/Forensics, Engineer/Manufacturing, Wildlife/Environmental Science, Math/Chemistry/Physics, and Veterinary Science.

Focus on External Engagement and Research

- English, Languages, and Cultural Studies
 - Dr. Sarah McFarland, Professor of English, recently visited Western Kentucky University as the 2025 Robert Penn Warren Visiting Scholar of American Literature. The presentation highlighted her book *Ecocollapse Fiction and*



Cultures of Human Extinction. She visited with undergraduate and graduate students in various degree programs, including English, climate sustainability, sciences, and communications, and joined an honors colloquium class that read one of the novels and parts of her book for discussion. WKU news story:

https://www.wku.edu/news/articles/index.php?view=article&articleid=12755&fbclid=IwY2xjawN5jolleHRuA2FlbQIxMABicmlkETE3Qk1Sc3ZPdno4TmN4bnpC3J0YwZhcHBfaWQQMjIyMDM5MTc4ODIwMDg5MgABHiKbP43LolPs0Rbp21ZGZ67G47lfyhBHdVpBDzyY2KgAA_yU34ILuNsm9vro_aem_1ivzW8iCYm3rvaIbh9bVUg

- Physical Science
 - Dr. Damien Tristant has been appointed as the Physics Chair of the LA Academy of Sciences.
 - Working on establishing a collaboration with Tulane University measuring the link between seismic activity and fracking. This will involve placing a “sensor” on campus.
- Veterinary Technology
 - In October, the VTEC Department co-sponsored the “Paws for Cause” week with FAUNA. We hosted a seminar from Dr. Herman Soong who spoke about the link between animal cruelty and human violence. We also received another scholarship donation from FAUNA and accepted donations of alpacas to the Farm.

Gallaspy College of Education and Human Development

Leadership Team Meeting on November 11, 2025

Submitted on: November 7th, 2025

Submitted by: Dr. Neeru Deep, Dean, GCEHD

Information about the GCEHD Leadership Team

GCEHD Child Day Care and Lab Schools Leaders:

- Ms. Faith Stanfield – Director, Marie Shaw Dunn Child Development Center
- Ms. Caron Coleman- Principal, NSU Elementary Lab School
- Ms. Natalie Ducote- Principal, NSU Middle Lab School

GCEHD Grant Leaders:

- Ms. Nancy Alexandria -Director, Child and Family Network, Shreveport
- Mr. Steve Gruesbeck- Executive Director, NSU Healthcare ACE and Mental Health Workforce, Director of Service Learning, GCEHD Grant Writing Support
- Dr. Andrew Fultz- Executive Director, NSU Title IV-E/Louisiana Title IV-E P

GCEHD School/ Department Leaders:

- Dr. MaryAnne Candley- Department Head, Social Work
 - LTC Joshua Drake- Director, Department of Military Science
 - Dr. April Giddens- Interim Director, School of Education
 - Dr. Charles R. King- Department Chair, Psychology and Addiction Studies
 - Dr. Tara Tietjen-Smith- Department Head, Health and Human Performance
-

GCEHD Child Day Care and Lab Schools:

- Marie Shaw Dunn Child Development Center showcased the remodeled facility to the Natchitoches child day care centers. The directors attended a one-hour presentation and visited the facility on November 3rd, 2025. We are hoping for new collaborations and partnerships.
 - NSU E-Lab celebrated Veterans Day on November 7th, 2025. The first lady, Mrs. Martha Genovese, was the Guest Speaker.
 - Ms. Michelle Shirley, science teacher at NSU Middle Lab School, was recognized at the Presidential Award of Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teacher Recognition Luncheon in Baton Rouge on October 29th, 2025.
-

GCEHD Grants

NSU Child and Family Network and Pathways Early Learning Career Development and Scholarship Program

- As of October 2025, the Louisiana Pathways director, Jenny Cowan, reports 679 scholarships awarded to NSU for individuals planning a career in early childhood. These scholarships began in 2003 and are funded by the Louisiana Department of Education, totaling \$806,988.36.

Healthcare Academic & Career Exploration (ACE)

- On 10/17/25, faculty spent the day teaching high school students about in-demand healthcare occupations, such as Nursing, Radiologic Technology, Social Work, Psychology, and Addiction Studies. We served 108 Juniors and Seniors from four High at Avoyelles Parish.

Actionable Item:

- On 12/5/25, we plan to deliver our Healthcare Academic & Career Exploration (ACE) workshops for 100 High School Juniors & Seniors from Vernon Parish's nine High Schools.

Cenla Mental Health Workforce Accelerator Program

- Building capacity to connect Mental Health Professionals ("Candidates") with Central Louisiana Mental Healthcare Agencies ("Placement Sites"). Project development is informed by internal and external content experts. Website launched and legally binding (Candidate and Placement Site) Agreement Forms under review by NSU's Mr. Rodney Wilson and Dr. Drake Owens.

Actionable Items:

- Marketing to "Placement Sites" planned to begin in November.
- Marketing to "Candidates" planned to begin in December.

Department of Social Work

- The faculty and staff are preparing for the Master of Social Work accreditation benchmark II visit on November 13, 2025.

Department of Military Science

- Twenty-one Cadets attended the Fall Field Training Exercise at Alcorn State University from 30 Oct – 2 Nov. The focus areas were Land Navigation and Tactics Training.
- ROTC Cadre have attended many college fairs in the region over the last couple of months. We currently have 55 leads for next year's freshman class.
- CPT Lopez will arrive as new faculty on 14 NOV to begin replacing LTC Drake as the Department Head.

School of Education

- The faculty and staff are preparing for the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) visit from November 10th to 14th, 2025.

Department of Psychology and Addiction Studies:

- Collaboration efforts are underway with Houston City College and San Jacinto College in Houston, Texas, regarding a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for a 2+2 program. The 2+2 program will allow students to complete the first two years of study at the stated institution and transfer credit hours to complete a Bachelor's degree in Psychology and Addiction Studies at Northwestern State University.

- Northwestern State University Department of Psychology and Addiction Studies clubs, and Demons for Recovery commemorate Red Ribbon Week from October 23 to October 31, 2025. The theme was “Life Is A Puzzle, Solve It Drug Free.” The organizations promoted healthy choices and drug-free living with an information-sharing event on Keyser Brick Way, a Paint and Pop event, a Lunch and Learn with Travis Weisbrod (guest speaker), and Family Day Tail-Gating. Red Ribbon Week highlights the importance of living drug-free and promotes drug, tobacco, and violence prevention awareness through a national campaign.
- The Demons for Recovery program through the Department of Psychology and Addiction Studies is officially underway, marking an exciting new chapter in student wellness and support. The renovation of the student lounge, located in the Student Union room 313, is now complete, providing a welcoming space for meetings, quiet study, and peer connection. Interest in the program is growing rapidly, and students are beginning to apply and engage in upcoming recovery support opportunities.

Department of Health & Human Performance Update

- On Monday, October 21, the Department of Health and Human Performance (HHP) hosted a Pre-Professional Graduate Schools Programs Day, giving NSU students interested in kinesiology and health sciences the opportunity to meet directly with representatives from regional graduate programs. Students received one-on-one feedback on their applications, resumes, and interview preparation. Participating institutions included LSU Health Sciences Center (DPT, OTD, and School of Health Professions and Sciences), the University of Louisiana Monroe (DPT), University of Louisiana Lafayette (Master of Athletic Training), Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University (DPT), Bossier Parish Community College (COTA), and NSU’s own Master of Science programs in Public Health, Exercise Physiology, and Sports Administration.

Other Accomplishments

- The GCEHD leaders, along with leaders from Business, Nursing, and Allied Health, visited St. Mary’s Residential Training School to strengthen collaboration and discuss new internship and employment opportunities for our students. We are grateful to Ms. Laurie Morrow and Ms. Gwen Fontenot from the Office of Economic Development and University Advancement for initiating this collaboration.
- The GCEHD faculty and staff delivered many programming sessions for the 2025 Wellness Fest Week from November 3rd to 6th, 2025.
- The Center of Positivity, Well-being, and Hope set up the ‘Build Your Mental Strength’ booth; 120 NSU family members enjoyed the activities.

Actionable Item:

- Strengthen and create new partnerships.
- Improve classroom physical space.
- Continue work with the physical plant for the ROTC Restroom Renovation project.

Name: Dr. Mary Edith Stacy

Title: Dean of the Graduate School & Associate Professor

Department/Area: The Graduate School

Date: November 6, 2025

Graduate Enrollment Planning

- Status Update: All Graduate Enrollment Planning meetings have concluded. Final enrollment projections through Fall 2028 are expected to be finalized this week and reported accordingly.
- **Presidential Insight:** These projections are essential for shaping long-term academic strategy, guiding resource allocation, and informing program prioritization across graduate units.

Graduate School Admissions Processing

- Progress Made:
 - A resolution has been implemented for the defect causing concentration fields to drop during Recruit-to-Banner transfers.
 - The initial Nursing CAS file transfer for Spring 2026 was successful, though primarily manual.
 - Continued work is underway to validate major requirements in Recruit and ensure accurate transferability to Banner.
- Ongoing Challenges:
 - Systemic defects and vendor backlogs persist, requiring manual interventions to maintain admissions continuity.
- **Presidential Insight:** Stabilizing admissions operations remains critical to preserving applicant experience, yield rates, and institutional competitiveness. A cross-functional task force remains recommended to:
 - Conduct a full audit of data flows and defect mapping
 - Prioritize resolution in collaboration with IT and vendor partners
 - Implement interim manual safeguards during peak admissions cycles

Accreditation Updates

- MS in Homeland Security: Self-study is underway and currently under review by the external consultant.
- MSW Program: A virtual site visit with the Council on Social Work Education is scheduled for Thursday, November 13.
- School of Education: November 10-12, Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP)
- Provost's Office has set up a rotation for programs with no national accreditation agency. Current GR programs: MA in SAHE and MS in Clinical Psychology
- **Presidential Insight:** These accreditation milestones reinforce program credibility and support compliance with national standards, enhancing the university's reputation and graduate market positioning.



Office of

Economic Development and University Advancement

Achievement and Project Report

October 2025

Economic Development

Off Campus Instructional Sites

NSU Cenla

- The Cenla Campus has established a Food Pantry of non-perishable food items, as well as limited household goods and personal hygiene products.

NSU Leesville/Fort Polk

- As part of the University's commitment to expand the footprint of the ARGO lab, JD Cox and his team participated in a two-day Fort Polk Drone Event for soldiers.

Corporate and Community Engagement

Academic Support

- Organized a luncheon at the President's Home bringing together Advanced Manufacturing Program (AMP) students and regional industry leaders. The event facilitated early dialogue between students and potential employer partners ahead of the upcoming internship matching process. Leading up to the event, Gwen Fontenot, served as a guest speaker, for the student's professional development course speaking on etiquette.
- In partnership with Friends All United for Natchitoches Animals (FAUNA), School of STEM, Department of Veterinary Technology, spearheaded the Paws for a Cause Week, with a series of events promoting animal welfare, education, and community connection. The week featured pet therapy during *Paws & Relax*, a community forum on animal welfare and safety, the *12th Annual Farm to Table Dinner* supporting FAUNA, *Paw-traits* pet photos with Vic the Demon, and the *Vet Tech Club's Bathe-A-Dog Day*.
- Arranged a faculty/staff tour of St. Mary's Residential Community & Services in Alexandria to gain firsthand insight into the impactful work being done to support children and adults with disabilities. The visit provided an excellent opportunity to explore future partnerships in service learning, research, and workforce development.

Innovation Park

- Schematic design review meetings are currently taking place, allowing both institutions to collaborate in refining the functional layout of Innovation Park spaces.
- A Food Truck workshop was held in collaboration with the Entrepreneurial Accelerator Program drawing an impressive 36 attendees from Natchitoches and surrounding parishes. Participants heard from a diverse lineup of speakers on

topics including forming LLCs, planning and zoning, food preparation and permitting with the Department of Health, marketing strategies, and successful start-up experiences.

- Jill Leo presented as part of the Louisiana Central “We Make Good Stuff Roadshow” promoting Innovation Park and opportunities at the University.

Grants & Funding

- The current federal government shutdown has resulted in delays to grant processing, agency communication, and future funding cycles. While movement is temporarily paused, our office remains proactive. We are actively collaborating with Merchant & McIntyre to track federal priorities, identify emerging opportunities, and develop proposals so that we are ready to move quickly when agencies reopen and program activity resumes.

Grants*

- **Awarded:** \$6,643,340
- **Pending:** \$2,140,811.00
- **Not Awarded:** \$1,999,467
- **Suspended:** \$2,210,920
- This month the University was awarded a \$90,000 Rural Business Development Grant from the USDA to launch the Building and Supporting Entrepreneurship (BASE) Program. This exciting achievement will expand support for small businesses and entrepreneurs across Natchitoches, Red River, Sabine, and Winn Parishes by providing business planning, training, technical assistance, and one-on-one consulting.

Earmarks/Congressionally Directed Spending

- Awarded: FY 2023 Congressionally Directed Spending (\$2,100,000): To establish the NSU/LSMSA Innovation Park
- Senator Cassidy, Senator Kennedy, and Representative Fields: Equipment and Supplies for Innovation Park (\$1.8 million)
- US Economic Development: Proposal in progress (up to \$2.5 million)

Office of Alumni & Development Leadership Report for 11-11-2025

I. Columns Fund Overview

- Social Media vs. Mailout
- Total Members: 283 (↓ from 287 in June)
- Top Growth: Founder's Circle (17 members)
- Quarterly Contributions:
 - 2025: \$53,344.36 ↑
 - 2024: \$48,040.33
 - 2023: \$52,450.89
 - 2022: \$50,465.87

II. Endowments

- New Endowments (2025 YTD): 12
- Added Donations (2025 YTD): 82
- Annual Endowments (2025 YTD): 21
- Total Activity (2025 YTD): 115

Scholarships Awarded (from July 1 – now)

- Total Aid Distributed to students: \$1,651,834
- Professorship Amounts Available: \$787,530 for the FY year

III. Contributions & Revenue

Contributions (Q1 FY 2025):

- NSU Foundation: \$1,049,656.74 ↑
- Gallaspy: \$60,000
- Total: \$1,109,656.74 ↑

Revenue (Q1 FY 2025):

- Foundation: \$1,591,056.58 ↑
- Gallaspy: \$60,000
- Total: \$1,651,056.58 ↑

IV. Fall Tailgates at Columns Pavilion

- Total Attendance: 360
 - Game 1: 171
 - Game 2: 171
 - Game 3: 18 (weather folks were wrong)

V. Upcoming Events

- Dec. 5: President's Reception for Christmas Gala
 - Faculty/Staff Tickets: \$50 (1) / \$75 (2)
- Jan. 2025: Demons on the Road / We Are All N
- Mar. 20, 2025: Flavor of Louisiana

Leadership Team (November 11, 2025 Update)

Athletics

Kevin Bostian

- Facility Updates:
 - David and Sherry Morgan Health Performance Center is slowly moving ahead. At the monthly update meeting it was said that the facility's opening would be the first week of February. The delays in this project have caused several areas to increase in price drastically, which has cut into our FF&E budget, so we are having to make major cuts in Phase II. The problem with cutting areas in Phase II is that our \$500,000 gift from the NRMF Foundation is contingent on us spending \$500,000 on equipment for our Athletic Training Room.
 - The new mondo Track and lighting project has been completed.
 - As a result of our new partnership with BOM becoming the Official Bank of Northwestern State Athletics, we will be getting new LED video boards for Softball and Track. These boards will be installed in the first week of December.
- Athletic Updates:
 - Football is now 1-7. It is important for the University to be united and behind Coach McCorkle and the team. This program is making progress and getting better. We are in year 2 of a 4 year rebuild. We are rebuilding this the right way. It is going to take time for these kids to grow and get older. We are starting 8 freshmen on offense and are playing walk-on freshman on defense because of the number of injuries we have sustained.
 - Soccer won the regular season Southland Conference Championship. Unfortunately, we lost in the semifinals of the conference tournament. Nonetheless, it was a great year as we dominated the Southland Conference awards. Coach Brophy was named SLC Coach of the Year. Emily Senatore was named SLC Player and Midfielder of the Year, Jessica Spitzer was named SLC Defensive Player of the Year and Hosane Soukou was named SLC Freshman of the Year. In all, there were 5 players named 1st team All-Conference, and 2 players named 2nd team All-Conference.
 - Volleyball is struggling this year. This season is a rebuilding year for the program. New coach, Ben Kaszeta, has a very good recruiting class coming in next year.
 - Northwestern State hosted the Southland Conference Men's and Women's Cross Country Championship. The championship went off without a hitch, and we had a lot of compliments on the state of the course. Coach

Heimerman and his staff have worked very hard over the last 4 months to get the course in the best shape possible.

- Men's Basketball is off to a tough start to the season at 0-2, however, both of the games are game guarantees for our department. Just like football, men's basketball must play these games to bring in revenue for the department (\$500,000). We are on the road for a third straight game tonight at North Alabama. Our first home game is Friday at 1 pm.
- Women's Basketball is off to a 1-1 (play at Kansas on Sunday-notes due before they play) start after getting a big win at Wichita State. Like football and men's basketball, women's basketball must play guarantee games as well. Their first home game will be on Saturday at 6 pm.
- Revenue Generation:
 - We are currently working on three unique fundraising opportunities for the Demons Unlimited Foundation:
 - As I mentioned back in September, NSU Athletics will host a 2-day music festival, Top of the Boot, on April 17-18, 2026. The goal of the event is to sell 10,000 tickets each day and net around \$500,000 in profit. The event will take place in the field behind our Soccer Complex off Tarleton. We are currently finalizing the musical acts and are starting to work on funding/sponsorships. Our goal is to announce the festival and the lineup in December.
 - James and Justin Rhodes with Rhodes Properties and Development are going to build a house valued at \$250,000 for us to auction off (similar to the St. Jude's Dream Home they due in Shreveport and Monroe). Our goal is to sell 10,000 tickets (\$100/ea) and net \$900,000-\$1M. We will involve our student-athletes in this fundraiser to help sell tickets and they will receive a portion of the net. We will announce this in December and giveaway the home in August 2026. We are looking at partnering with the Rhodes to do this every two years (this will be our big fundraiser in the year we don't have our Scholarship Auction).
 - We are working with Woodford Reserve on an NSU Athletics Blend. We will have donors to help pick the blend and then we will buy the barrel and sell bottles from the barrel to the public. Our goal is to generate \$50,000 from each barrel.

Patric DuBois
Executive Director
Department of Wellness and Recreation – November 11, 2025

The department of Wellness and Recreation has had a consistently busy and active semester in all areas and facilities. Between informal recreation and planned organized activities, we consistently have hundreds of visitors daily at all facilities. These numbers will grow when the weather is not so conducive outdoors.

While the pool is closed until next summer, the Rec Complex staff continue to make improvements to the golf course and expand programming to attract more use from our NSU students, faculty/staff, and the Natchitoches community.

The WRAC is busy with group exercise classes, personal training, intramurals, e-sports, and informal recreation. The facility has a consistent flow of students, faculty/staff, alumni, and community members from 5:15am each day through 8:00pm in the evening. The main aspect for our students is our intramural program. We have sponsored 17 different sports/activities this semester and will be taking the team champions in flag football and volleyball to the University of New Orleans November 19-22 for the Louisiana State Intramural Championships in these sports. We look forward to hosting the Louisiana State Championships on our campus next spring in April 2026. One of our most successful activities this fall was the Homecoming Glow Run on the evening of October 1st that attracted more than 200 students. The WRAC hosted the annual Wellness Fest on November 4th in collaboration with the student experience, NSU Nursing, and many other areas on campus. We had 74 vendors available for consultation/testing and more than 400 visitors, with 353 being NSU students.

We are currently preparing for the spring 2026 semester with all facilities and programming. A couple of our initiatives for the new year will be having a registered dietician have a seminar(s) (dates TBA) about New Year's resolutions and healthy eating, and we will start our Winter Wellness Program. Our Winter Wellness Program will promote "Having a healthy faculty-staff is having a happy and productive faculty staff". We will be offering NSU F/S who are not current WRAC members, complimentary use of all areas and programming at the WRAC, including group exercise classes from January 5 through February 15, 2026. Come check out and participate in all we have to offer to contribute to a healthy lifestyle! You may sign up for this program beginning December 1, 2025, at the front desk of the WRAC. You must have your updated F/S ID from the One Card Office to sign up. After signing up, your new WRAC ID will begin working January 5, 2026, through February 15, 2026, for entry. We look forward to contributing to your healthy lifestyle!

Culture and Climate/Gail Metoyer Jones Center Report 11/11/2025

Faculty Northwestern Inclusive Coaching Seminar Series (NICSS)

The Northwestern Inclusive Coaching Seminar Series (NICSS) is designed to raise awareness and facilitate growth among NSU constituents. We want to enhance understanding, engage community members in positive dialogue and create respectful, safe environments for all.

November

Trauma-Informed Pedagogy and Campus Support-Zachary Veuleman

Thursday, November 20, 2025

12:00pm

Student Union Room 321

Natchitoches Campus

Please encourage faculty and staff in your area to attend. Also please consider these workshops as Professional Development. We provide certificates to attendees and presenters. Spring dates and workshop topics will be shared soon.

We have recruited 5 new Cultural Bridge Builders and they have been off and running hosting events. Also, if you want Cultural Bridge Builders or myself to do a NICSS with your students, we have a request form to fill out found on the website or email me.

We will be hosting our 3rd installment to the workshop series for First Generation Graduate students. We are partnering with BOM to host a financial seminar called "Make 'Cents' out of Dollars". This will take place on November 19 at 5pm in the Student Union Purple Jackets Room. Here is the link for those who would like to join virtually:

[First Generation Graduate Student- Make Sense Out of Dollars | Meeting-Join | Microsoft Teams](#)

Attendance has been small but those that have attended have enjoyed so please encourage students to join us.

MLK Week:

We have begun planning and meeting with our committee of various NSU/Natchitoches members to bring another impactful week of events centered around Martin Luther King Day.

So far, we plan to have the MLK days of service on Friday and Saturday before MLK day (1/16, 1/17) which will take place at various locations around Natchitoches.

The annual MLK day March will take place on Monday, January 19th and the MLK program will take place indoors this year at the MLK center immediately following.

For National Day of Racial Healing on Tuesday, January 20th we plan to show a documentary and have a virtual speaker from the director. More details will be provided soon. If there are any requests/suggestions from the President's office or anyone else on how to make this week meaningful and display the unified spirit of NSU in the community, please share with me.



TO: Northwestern State University Leadership Team

FROM: Rodney Wilson, Chief Financial Officer

DATE: November 7, 2025

SUBJECT: CFO / Business Affairs Leadership Team Meeting Briefing

Northwestern State University continues to face an operating fund budget deficit. While university reserves will sustain operations for another year, proactive measures are being implemented to prevent reserve depletion and avoid the financial instability experienced by other institutions within the state.

To ensure this, the university is developing a comprehensive budget strategy designed to reduce the deficit in a sustainable manner. The objective is to achieve financial stability through enhanced revenue generation and improved operational efficiency, while preserving the historical, functional, and traditional strengths of the institution.

Recent financial challenges within the Louisiana higher education system have prompted the University of Louisiana System (ULS) to increase oversight and reporting requirements. At its October board meeting, the ULS adopted a **Financial Warning Policy** that categorizes institutional financial conditions from “moderate” to “critical” and defines the corrective measures universities must undertake at each stage. (See attached excerpt from the policy.)

A **Budget Stabilization Task Force** has been established, consisting of the following members in addition to myself:

- President
- Provost
- Chief of Staff
- University Controller
- Athletic Director
- Executive Director, NSU Foundation

The task force is charged with developing new and sustainable revenue streams that will allow budget reductions to occur primarily through attrition, thereby minimizing disruption to essential university functions. This group will guide implementation of a comprehensive plan entitled “**NSU Fiscal Integrity through Revenue and Efficiency (FIRE).**”

The FIRE plan will catalogue and evaluate revenue-generating initiatives and will pair with the Strategic Enrollment Management Plan developed by Director of Enrollment Van Ericson. The SEMP ultimately in itself is a revenue initiative. To sustain the university’s current level of services and operations, NSU should target an enrollment of **7,000** non-dual enrollment students, while also pursuing strategic growth in dual enrollment.

Additional operational updates include:

- **Business Affairs:**
 - Personnel actions will continue to receive evaluation for budget neutrality and/or critical need. Processing times for personnel actions will move at a reduced pace while this scrutiny occurs.
 - A portion of the Bursar’s Office will be relocated to St. Denis Hall. All student-facing services will remain in their current locations.
 - The proposed 3% pay plan is scheduled for consideration by the ULS Board on December 11, 2025.
- **Capital and Operational Improvements:**



- The new NCAA track surface and lighting installation will be completed this week.
 - Funding secured for data center to enhance operational continuity.
 - A campus-wide plan is in place to replace all faculty and staff computers over the next two to three years.
- **Collaborative Efforts:**
 - Coordination amongst University Affairs, the Physical Plant, and Business Affairs continues to yield improvements in contract management and value optimization.
 - Legislative and capital outlay collaborations led by Mrs. Kelly and Dr. Owens' offices are progressing positively as the fall semester concludes and preparations for spring advance.

(Excerpt from ULS Financial Warning Policy)

Financial Triggers by Risk Level		
Risk Level	Warning Trigger	Description of Trigger
Critical	Overall Reserve Deficits	An overall deficit in fund balance reserves that presents an immediate concern.
Critical	Operating Fund Deficit	The campus reports an operating fund deficit after removing excess budget authority, and the campus does not have sufficient non-operating reserves to absorb the operating fund deficit.
Critical	Predicted Deficits	Non-operating fund operations project deficits for the current year and there are not sufficient reserves available to fund the current year deficit.
Critical	Reserve Depletion	The campus shows a rapid decline in fund balance reserves, with no plan to eliminate use of reserves over time.
Critical	Restricted Funds used for General Operations	There is evidence that restricted funds are being used to finance general operating expenses.
Critical	Lack of Viable Deficit Reduction Plan	The campus is unable to develop a feasible plan for reducing or eliminating deficits.
High	Delinquent Vendor Payments	Significant and late payments or failure to make timely payments to vendors, contractors, or service providers, particularly those critical to university operations (e.g. utilities, IT services, retirement system payments, group insurance and office of risk management payments). Considered critical risk if coupled with increased warrant requests and declining cash balances.
High	Dwindling Cash Balances	Average quarterly cash balances are significantly lower than those recorded in previous year.
High	Unexplained (Significant) Variances	The campus is unable to provide reasonable explanations for difference in quarterly operating fund report figures.
High	Declining Tuition Revenues	Student enrollment and tuition revenue are declining over time and the campus has not made efforts to reduce expenses.
High	Expenditure Reallocation	The campus anticipates moving significant expenditures out of the operating fund to balance its budget.
High	Continued Decline in Revenues	Continued observation of quarterly revenues being significantly lower than those of the previous year.
High	Increased Draw Requests	The campus is requesting a significant increase in its monthly warranted funds compared to the original draw schedule.
Moderate	Lower Quarterly Revenues	Average quarterly report revenues are considerably less than in corresponding quarter of the previous year.
Moderate	One-Time Funds Reliance	The campus is budgeting one-time funds to balance its operating fund budget.
Moderate	Revenue Reconciliation Issues	The campus cannot reconcile or rationalize differences between current-year budgeted revenues and prior-year actual revenues.
Moderate	Unusual Fluctuations in Accounts Receivables/over 90 days old	Receivables are significantly higher or lower than those recorded in previous years and the campus is unable to provide a reasonable explanation or support for the increase.



University Affairs

Jennifer Kelly, Executive Director

University Affairs Area Updates 11.7.2025

Jennifer Kelly – Executive Director

- NCBRT – Campus Emergencies: Prevention, Response, and Recovery Training

Kevin Martin – Director of Operations

- Alost Hall is still not complete, but we are working through this with the contractor.
- Fournet Hall Roof – Roof/Coping/Counterflashing is complete. Exhaust fans for fume hoods are scheduled to arrive the week of 11/17/2025.
- Shreveport Roof Replacement bids were received; contracts are being prepared now.
- Leesville Roof Replacement Building B bids on 11/20/2025.

Alan Pasch – Director of Facilities

- The new employees for Grounds are adapting well and making a noticeable positive impact across campus. As we move into the cooler months, our focus will shift toward more indoor projects.
- Completed the Warren Easton floor restoration (strip, wax, seal and shampoo) project during Fall Break.
- Partnered with a shredding company to clear out old warehouse files for the first time in several years. Shredded 6,000lbs of paper two weeks ago, with another 6,000lbs schedule for next week.
- Continuing to work with the moving crew to streamline work order management and improve efficiency and timeliness in completing requests. Also working to better track and manage chair and table inventory by ensuring prompt pickups and correct storage.

Jon Lentz – Director of Utilities

- Installation of new pad-mounted transformers and underground primary cable to support campus electrical distribution.
- Health Performance Center: Installation of new electrical distribution and service to the primary switch.
- Track & Field Complex: New sports lighting and video display board installation.
- Softball Facilities: Completion of a 300-amp electrical service for the batting facility and installation of a new 200-amp service for a video display board.



University Affairs

Jennifer Kelly, Executive Director

- The Teachers Education Center Fire Alarm System Project is in the final complete phase, with Fire Marshall inspection and substantial completion expected by Nov. 10th.
- Siemens Energy Management System: Preliminary construction document plan review is complete. Construction documents are expected to be received for review in December.

Bruce Dyjack – Post Office

- Continues to see increased incoming package volume (3,618 so far this semester)
- Students are requesting that we get more package lockers to allow for 24/7 pickup. Currently NSU only has 21 lockers.
- Pressing issue is delivery of Amazon items over Thanksgiving and Christmas.
 - o Amazon told us they have every intention of delivering packages to campus during these breaks regardless of if NSU being closed.
 - o NSU PO does have a pack drop off slot, but many packages are oversized, and Amazon simply leaves those unattended in the lobby.

Jon Caliste – Director of University Safety and Compliance

- Recently finished training all satellite campuses Faculty/Staff on Active Shooter Response Training.
- Working with the Parking and Traffic Safety committee on scooter safety issues. Looking to implement a registration system for scooters and a general awareness training program.
- Developing an EOP (Emergency Operation Plan) team for the University.
- Continuing our partnership with LSMSA with Safety Presentation for LSMSA Students.

Chelsea Eddington – Environmental Health & Safety

- Annual ORM Safety Audit: we passed! The EHS Office will work on the responses and make a list of the findings and may need help from the Leadership team in implementing some changes.
- The building walkthrough for the audit also took place, and the auditor walked through Facility Services, Health and Human Performance, Alost Hall, Kyser Hall, and the Athletic Field House. There were multiple findings. Some require work orders and maintenance, and some require a quick fix by the employee in the office. The EHS Office will work on responses for findings and reach out to those departments for their help.



University Affairs

Jennifer Kelly, Executive Director

- I am sending out Quarterly Safety Meetings, and Quarterly Building Inspections. Both are due back to the EHS Office by December 12th.
- CAPA has reached out to me asking if we could get instruments and art appraised, so that we could have the actual value of the item, for insurance purposes. I asked Scott Burrell to get me an inventory of what would need to be appraised, and we would start from there.

Report from Faculty Senate – November 2025

Dr. Frank Serio

- Completed Items
 - Revision of the Faculty Handbook – this should be available on the website soon (if not already by the time you read this).
- Current Projects
 - More Faculty Recognition Awards
 - Review of standards for University Excused Absences
 - Representation for Adjunct Faculty
 - Report on the move to Alost Hall

**Leadership Team Meeting
November 11, 2025**

Executive Director, Institutional Effectiveness & Human Resources

SACSCOC Decennial Report Update:

The SACSCOC Review Committee continues to review standards for the University's decennial submission. The Report will be submitted in June of 2026. This seems like a long way out, but the Committee is respectfully requesting that revisions and other changes cease at the end of March/beginning of April 2026.

Also, the Annual SACSCOC Meeting (December 7th-9th) will be held at the Music City Center in Nashville, Tennessee. Those attending the Meeting have been selected based on their areas of responsibility regarding SACSCOC Standards. The group (D. Owens, G. Handel, R. Cox, F. Hall, C. Gilson, R. Wilson, D. Mitchell, & R. Biscoe) will meet prior to the meeting to discuss and plan session attendance.

ADA Compliance Update:

Joe Parrie has been designated as the *Web Accessibility Coordinator for NSU*. He has been working with his System counterparts for months to ensure Web Accessibility (outward facing material). The University invested in software to assist with this project. The deadline to meet this requirement is April 24, 2026.

A committee (NSU Accessibility Team) of six - Joe Parrie, Emily Perritt, Ruth Chatman, Ron Williams, Crissey Smith, and Roni Biscoe - has been designated to work together to meet the requirements of ADA compliance.

Annual State Training Requirements

Please remind your faculty and/or staff to complete all mandatory training requirements for calendar year 2025. They should **not** wait for the winter/Christmas holiday to start the process. They should be compliant by the end of November.

Revised: November 6, 2025

Director of Institutional Effectiveness Update: Frank R. Hall

Leadership Team Meeting November 11, 2025

The DIE will attend the SACSCOC Annual Meeting from December 6-9, 2025, in the Music City Center in Nashville, TN.

The next Strategic Planning Team Meeting (SPTM) will take place in the Pierce Conference Room on February 12, 2026, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Next University Assessment Committee and Core Competency Committee meeting is scheduled for November 6, 2025, from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. via Teams.

All Mid-Year Brief input is due to the DIE on February 11, 2026. We will conduct a paper brief this year – no formal briefing will be held. I will compile the Mid-Year brief based on your input by March 11, 2026.

All input for the University Student Achievement website is due to the DIE on March 4, 2026.

The University SACSCOC Review Committee continues to draft university responses that reflect our compliance with the 39 standards that comprise the Differentiated Review. We are integrating subject matter expertise across a myriad of topics. Thank you for all your support in meeting our requests for information. The University does not have to respond to R 7.2 Quality Enhancement Plan. We are awaiting clarity on whether another requirement will replace it.



Leadership Team Report

Ron L. Williams – Chief Information Officer

November 11, 2025

Data Center

- While several critical IT services have transitioned to the cloud, maintaining a reliable on-campus data center remains essential, particularly for systems such as Banner.
 - Data Center Core areas: Compute, storage, network, backup, power, and HVAC.
- Funding this year will support upgrades to computing, storage, and backup systems for both Natchitoches and the DR site. Also, we expect to have funding to upgrade Network at Natchitoches
- Equipment purchases for these upgrades are ongoing, installations expected to begin in early 2026

Network

- **Athletics**
 - Ongoing facility cabling upgrades for instant replay cameras and wireless
 - Soccer, Football, Field House, Baseball and Track
 - Working with contractors and Physical Plant to provide technology and connectivity for field house addition.
- **Alost Nursing**
 - The networking team is coordinating to ensure technology and cabling requirements align with needs for the nursing simulation labs. A productive meeting was held last week to review installation details scheduled for early February.
 - A cabling quote and network security information for the simulation server have been provided.
- **Core Network**
 - Transitions of buildings and remote campuses to the network core continue and we hope to complete the transition before the new year. The network core along with moving to the new Palo Alto firewall are part of our large

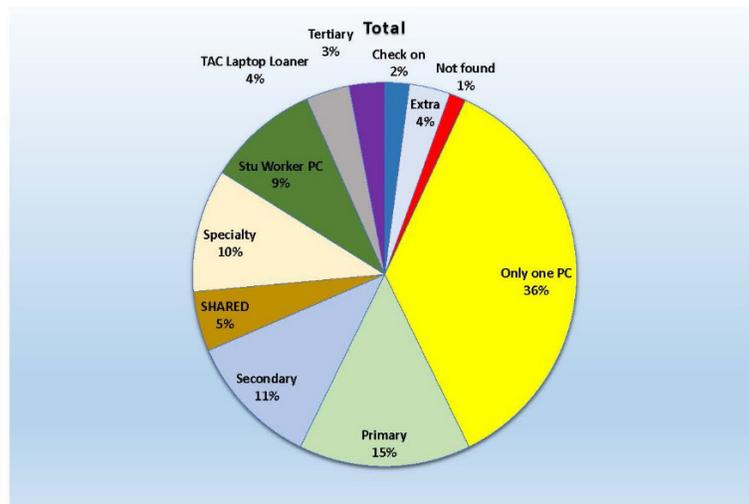
project to provide 100GB of Internet to our Natchitoches campus. These upgrades will provide faster, more reliable and more secure connectivity.

TAC

- **PC Replacement Initiative**

- Thanks to Business Affairs for coordinating efforts to secure funding to replace outdated computers.
- Replacements will begin with primary staff and faculty PCs that are seven years old or older, up to 435 devices.
- The goal is to establish a sustainable, recurring replacement cycle.
- Replacement devices will be laptops
- Staff should plan to surrender unsupported devices when receiving new computers. This will:
 - Reduce support for outdated operating systems and software.
 - Improve security, reliability and performance.
 - Streamline annual inventory
 - Reduce support ticket volume.

Row Labels	Computers
Check on	9
Extra	15
Not found	6
Only one PC	156
Primary	63
Secondary	49
SHARED	22
Specialty	45
Stu Worker PC	41
TAC Laptop Loaner	16
Tertiary	13
Grand Total	435
<i>Out of 1250 computers</i>	



Legend:

Check on	Devices that may be lost, off campus, disabled.....needs more time to research
Extra	Devices that are active but left vacant due to loss of personnel
Not found	Devices that haven't been active since the loss of personnel
Only one PC	Personnel with access to only one computer
Primary	Personnel with access to at least two or more computers
Secondary	Personnel with access to two computers
SHARED	Shared devices within departments. Could be for multiple employees or Student Workers
Specialty	Special devices for a particular purpose. These are not computers for everyday office tasks.
Stu Worker PC	Mostly used by student workers across campus
TAC Laptop Loaner	Laptops meant for special functions across campus (freshman connection, inside view....)
Tertiary	Personnel with 3 or more devices

Enterprise Applications

- **MyNSU Migration to Ellucian Experience Portal**
 - Because MyNSU (my.nsula.edu) and the Ellucian Experience portal will overlap, a new site name should be considered to better distinguish between the two.
 - Our suggestions is **VIC (Virtual Information Center)**
- **Banner Self-Service 9 Transition**
 - ITS is finalizing the transition to Banner 9 Self-Service as support for Banner 8 ends and enhanced security and performance are required. Server upgrades and new Banner 9 modules are undergoing testing and configuration to ensure a smooth and reliable transition for all users.
- **Plus Server**
 - Recent developments have underscored the great need to transition away from the Plus ERP server. This server, last updated in 2012, has suffered multiple hardware failures within the past 12 months. HR and Registrars still access this server daily. Our Enterprise applications team are looking for vendor support that can assist with moving this data before it is lost.
- **Degree Works**
 - Ongoing updates to bring the software to the currently supported version.

Security

- **Cybersecurity**
 - As we close out Cyber Awareness Month, our final focus areas are software updates and artificial intelligence (AI). Keeping software current is one of the most effective ways to guard against cyber threats, and users should always use official update channels and verify URLs carefully, as recent scams have mimicked trusted sites like Microsoft. As AI becomes more common in everyday tools, be mindful of the information you share, review privacy settings, and remember that **ITS staff will never ask for passwords or account verification by email, text, or form.**
- **Confidentiality Agreement**
 - Working on additional updates for this agreement.
- **Data Processing Agreement**
 - This agreement provides protection for any university data shared with third parties and is required whenever information is shared or data connections are made with university applications.

Web

- **ADA – Web Content Accessibility Guidelines**
 - The Department of Justice’s April 2024 update to ADA Title II requires all public-facing web content and mobile applications to meet WCAG 2.1 Level AA accessibility standards by **April 24, 2026**, with limited exceptions that still necessitate proactive remediation. Northwestern has met its initial requirements by designating a coordinator, completing training, and compiling an inventory of web properties, while preliminary testing has identified areas needing remediation in collaboration with system partners. The university remains on track for the 2026 compliance deadline, contingent upon continued cross-departmental cooperation, faculty and staff training, and sustained administrative support.

Student Support

- Student Tech Fee Budget Approved for 2025-26
- New equipment purchases
 - Computers - Following budget approval, we are proceeding with the scheduled purchase of new lab computers as part of our annual replacement cycle to ensure reliable performance and up-to-date technology for students
 - Datacenter – Student Tech Fee provided funds to assist with the ongoing Data center upgrade project