A Letter to the Shreveport and Monroe Communities:

LSU has remained largely silent about the ongoing issues with the Biomedical Research Foundation of Northwest Louisiana (BRF) while we attempted to negotiate with them in good faith. We believed this was important to the integrity of our negotiations. We have been in negotiations since early July, and that negotiation period has now ended. We have exhausted all avenues to resolve our differences amicably and must now take action we hoped would not be necessary.

Today, we served formal notice to BRF of breach of the public purpose set forth in the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) signed between BRF and LSU. As stated in the CEA, BRF management now must withdraw as the parent company of the University Health System.

In an effort to ensure the continued operation of University Health Shreveport and University Health Conway, a new group of civic leaders has stepped forward to bridge the transition and keep the operations of University Health running. Academic Health of North Louisiana plans to announce its board members in the near future.

Patients, hospital staff and the community at large can rest assured that the University Health hospitals will continue to operate as usual during this period.

There has been a wealth of misinformation and negativity circulated about this issue, and we anticipate this will continue. However, the facts will be revealed through the process, and we expect LSU to prevail.

LSU pledges its continued commitment to provide unparalleled medical care in the Shreveport and Monroe communities. We want to secure operational and financial stability through a viable partnership, so we can continue to grow the hospitals and the medical center, and ensure high quality medical care and education.

We regret that the problems with BRF management could not be worked out. We thank you for placing your trust in us as we work diligently to make these valuable community health care assets even more viable and accessible for you and your families.

For more information, please visit www.healthtransitioninfo.com.

Sincerely,

F. King Alexander
LSU President