The 2016 legislative season, which entailed two special sessions and one regular session, proved to be the longest consecutive session in our state’s history. When we began this process back in February, higher education faced historic challenges as our state’s projected budget shortfall was predicted to be as high as $2 billion. LSU’s budget appears to be relatively unchanged from the current fiscal year, and we appreciate that decision-makers acknowledge the important role higher education plays in the future of Louisiana by stabilizing funding for our colleges and universities.

The institution will create a balanced FY 2017 budget through a combination of new revenues generated from modest tuition and fee increases and an internal reallocation of resources from current university budgets. In order to meet these objectives and submit a balanced budget, the University will also implement a modest but permanent 0.5% budget reduction for unrestricted state operating budget accounts and auxiliary units.

For 9 years, LSU’s state funding has been dramatically reduced while mandated costs increased. With the difficult decisions made by our state leaders during this legislative session, our university may now be on firmer ground than we’ve seen in some time. With predictable funding, LSU has the opportunity to look to the future with confidence, pursuing our mission of providing exceptional educational opportunities to Louisiana students, solving the state’s largest problems, pushing the boundaries of knowledge, and sharing that information with the people we serve.

LSU Workday is live! Human resource, payroll and financial transactions are now processed through LSU Workday which is easily accessible through myLSU. Training resources are available online, and will be updated regularly to incorporate your feedback. These materials can be accessed with your myLSU credentials at http://www.lsu.edu/workday/training.php. Request help, get step-by-step instructions, and see answers to frequently asked questions at http://www.lsu.edu/servicenow.

Tickets submitted via this new, web-based service tool will be closely monitored to ensure proper attention is given and timely action is provided on any recurring issues.

Employees are encouraged to ensure the accuracy of their data by completing the activities identified in the Day 1 Checklist which is included online: http://www.lsu.edu/workday/getting_started.php.

For the latest information on the budget visit: lsu.edu/budget
The NBBJ master planning team successfully wrapped up Phase 1 of the process in May. LSU and NBBJ held several on-campus meetings the week of May 2-4, including meetings with the LSU Executive Oversight Committee, Working Group, Support and Facilitation Committee, Facility Design and Development Committee, and the University Planning Council. NBBJ shared preliminary campus needs and some “big picture planning strategies” to spark discussions around three physical campus framework alternatives and their long-range implications. The presentation can be viewed on the master plan website: https://masterplanlsu.com/documents

In addition to these meetings, LSU students, faculty, staff and the public attended an open house session held outside Memorial Tower. Attendees provided valuable input on a series of broad topics including campus land and building use; transportation, transit, and parking; open space and pedestrian connections, as well as architecture and landscape character. The feedback received during the meetings and open house and information that is being provided by the Support and Facilitation Committee will be utilized by the master planning firm as they begin to prepare preliminary observations and recommendations.

The NBBJ master planning team is now in Phase 2 of the process, and based on the “big-picture planning strategies” discussed at the May meetings, NBBJ is now exploring master planning alternatives that address the specific needs and goals as identified in the process to date. The NBBJ team will define and describe an array of planning strategies that test various options related to land use, acquisition/disposition, building use, academic space defragmentation, program distribution and adjacencies, renovation versus new construction, supporting infrastructure, mobility options, exterior campus enhancements, landscape strategies and campus life initiatives.

In mid-August the NBBJ team will share draft options with LSU’s Support & Facilitation Committee in a design workshop in order to prepare for the re-engagement of the committees and stakeholders. The team will also prepare a list of prioritized criteria which will be the basis to objectively score each option. These options will be developed using the NBBJ 3D digital model tool to allow for better understanding of the physical scale and impact of each scenario. NBBJ will also prepare an evaluation matrix summarizing and comparing their potential impacts. The refined options and the matrix will be presented at the September Working Group and Executive Oversight Committee meetings and feedback received then would be the basis of selecting a preferred strategy.

The Master Plan Support & Facilitation Committee and NBBJ appreciates and thanks everyone for their participation and feedback that has been provided so far in the project. This ensures the creation of an exceptional strategic and comprehensive Master Plan that will guide physical development and serve the University mission for many years.

For additional information, please refer to the LSU Master Plan web site: masterplanlsu.com.
HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

♦ 2016/2017 Evaluations - Planning sessions and all necessary documents will be facilitated in Workday.

♦ Mandatory Annual Training must be completed by December 31, 2016.
  ♦ The Louisiana Code of Governmental Ethics - In response to Louisiana Revised Statute 42:1170, all public employees are required to complete one hour of training on the Code of Governmental Ethics. Click Here for the online training course.
  ♦ Preventing Sexual Misconduct - This new training combines the mandatory Sexual Harassment and Title IX courses into 1 course. Click here to take this course. Click Yes to self-enroll in this Community Moodle course.

AUXILIARY SERVICES

The UPS Store will open for business on Monday, August 15, 2016 in the LSU Student Union Room 101. The UPS Store will be responsible for all University mail operations and will deliver convenient solutions through personalized and dedicated customer service.

Services The UPS Store will provide:
  • Delivery of all departmental and student mail, and packages
  • Processing of all out-going mail
  • Full-service packaging
  • Digital and online printing
  • Black-and-white and color copies
  • Document finishing (binding, laminating, etc)
  • Custom crating and shipping for large items
  • Office and packaging supplies

PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION

Effective July 1, 2016, LSU Parking & Transportation Services (PTS) increased tow rates to comply with rates and policies established by the Louisiana Public Service Commission (LPSC). LPSC governs all rates as it applies to the towing of vehicles that are in violation of PTS’ rules and regulations. Direct any questions to parking@lsu.edu.

FACILITY SERVICES

In April, Facility Services launched FAMIS, a new computerized maintenance management system that replaces Maximo and allows the organization to more effectively and efficiently manage all university facility-related work requests, preventative maintenance, purchase requisitions, real time labor and cost accounting, reporting, work order billing, as well as materials and equipment inventory distribution and warehousing. FAMIS provides relevant metrics on cost, procurement, inventory and labor, and also measures real time performance against organizational goals.

The software also includes a Space Management module that integrates with the other modules for capital and space planning, space identification, and cost recovery for space allocation and assignment. Prior to the launch, the FAMIS committee partnered with the Workday team to ensure that the two systems were compatible, and provided training for facilities staff, Building Coordinators and others who use the work order and space management modules. FAMIS is helping Facility Services and Planning, Design & Construction to be more strategic and proactive in maintaining the university’s physical assets and planning for future physical development of the campus.