COVID-19 LSU Staff Webinar
April 2-3, 2020

LSU Staff Webinar Summary
Thank you to everyone who attended the staff webinars last Thursday and Friday. It was great seeing all of you, and we really appreciate everything you have done. You have been absolutely fantastic, and through this crisis you have done incredible things. None of us signed up for this, but you have all stood up to this and you have kept our students, faculty, and institution standing.

Commencement
- Student Government conducted a survey of about 2,000 students to gather feedback on preferences for commencement plans.
- Commencement is not cancelled, it is postponed. We will have a commencement, and we will happily celebrate with the class of 2020 when we can come together safely again.

Health & Safety
- Your health and safety, continues to be our number one concern and our number one priority. So, please – continue to stay at home.
- If you have questions about how many cases have been confirmed within the LSU community, please visit the LSU Coronavirus Updates and Information page. LSU will continue to reach out to anyone who is known to have been in close contact with someone who tests positive.

Communication
- From the beginning, we have had to make decisions quickly. We have made those decisions with the best information we have, and try to give as much warning as possible.
- We know that a lot of e-mails have been sent out, but we want to be as informative and transparent as we possibly can. Please continue to check your e-mail, the LSU website, and social media.
- LSU has done an amazing job responding to this crisis – through volunteer work, service on the front lines, sharing research and technical expertise, providing alternative forms of instruction, and continuing to be a central part of everyone’s daily lives through music and other forms of connection. We want to tell those stories, so please continue to share them with us.

Pivot to Remote Learning
- As of April 2, 2020, the university had 30,137 students in 5,581 courses. These students pivoted to remote learning in two weeks.
- You can read more about the impressive statistics related to our transition.
Spring Intersession, Summer Sessions, and Summer Intersession

- Spring Intersession, both Summer Sessions, and Summer Intersession will move to a remote learning format.
- Making this decision now gives our faculty a chance to plan, and our students a chance to make decisions about the types of courses they want to take before scheduling closes and before fee bills go out.
- We will continue to provide support for faculty who move their courses to a remote learning format.

Students

- Graduate students will be granted extensions, and the Graduate School will be sending out additional information.
- Graduate stipends and tuition benefits will remain in place.
- Student workers are allowed to work remotely. Units should provide as much remote work as possible to students and allow flexibility for students to maintain funding. Please visit FAQ for Student Employment for more information.
- There has been a tremendous focus on retaining and supporting our current students. Our advisors continue to meet with their students online to ensure that they are successful.
- The LSU Center for Academic Success now provides online resources to assist every LSU student in their journey to academic success. These student support services ensure that, no matter where they are, students can access academic support and resources.
- Visit the website for Communication Across the Curriculum to access communication tips for remote learning success, online writing support, and other resources.
- The LSU Olinde Career Center is offering online support to assist with job searches, graduate school planning, major and career decision-making, and other career-related needs.
- The Student Health Center is providing telehealth services including primary medical care, mental health services, and wellness consultations.
- Students remaining in residential housing have been relocated to locations with one bathroom, one bedroom, and a place to cook and store food. Housing is occupied at about a 15 percent capacity.
- The LSU Student Emergency Support Fund provides immediate relief for students who experience sudden challenges such as family illness, serious financial limitations, and natural disasters. Your gift will help students who need it most and will keep them on track to continue earning their degree.

Enrollment Management

- SPIN, our typical Spring Invitational for our highest achieving students, has been moved to a virtual environment. Our assistant deans, advisors, counselors, and staff across campus have worked very hard to load schedules for those students so they know they have a place here at LSU.
- Summer orientation will also be moved to a virtual environment.
Welcome Week is scheduled to take place during its regularly scheduled time, and there will be changes to that to incorporate what has already been covered in their summer orientation.

Budget
- LSU has experienced unexpected costs, and units have been directed to keep track of those costs in the event that the institution is able to seek reimbursement from state or federal governments.
- The legislature is currently out of session due to the governor’s stay-at-home order.
- We anticipate that there will be an impact on the state budget which is why we have made the difficult decision to institute a hiring freeze.

Resources for Employees
- Please visit the LSU Coronavirus Updates and Information page for employee updates and information.
- Please visit the HRM website for guidance on time entry and leave procedures, benefits, I-9 process, retirement, unemployment insurance, and other resources.
- Visit the LSU Parenting & Pregnancy Program website to register for their virtual speaker series. Their goal is to help serve and support LSU families during this unprecedented time.

Emergency Resources
- External requests for assistance are now coming in rapidly to all of campus. To centralize our response, all inquiries about LSU and their response to the COVID-19 challenge, whether it be from a business or healthcare partner or about areas like 3D printing or PPE, should be routed to COVID19Resources@lsu.edu. Typical requests include donation of protective gear, and fabrication of a range of materials used in the COVID-19 response.