

The Alexandria Summit Meetings

Colleagues bettering higher education
from the heartland of
Louisiana

Origins, Sponsorship, and Purposes The Alexandria Summits

- Conceived in 2010 as an emergency faculty response to the most severe budget crisis in the history of Louisiana higher education
- Very quickly became the go-to venue for faculty eager to address the full range of challenges to our profession and our institutions of higher learning
- Sponsored for its first three years by the Louisiana Association of Educators (National Education Association)
- Co-sponsored by ALFS (the Association of Louisiana Faculty Senates) since its beginning
- Co-sponsored by the LSU Faculty Senate since 2015
- The premier and indeed only platform for the exchange of ideas among faculty from all four Louisiana higher education system (LSU; UL; LCTCS; Southern)
- A venue for all teaching and researching faculty concerned with higher education management, policy, planning, and prosperity—not only Faculty Senate officers
- A forum that is admired and occasionally imitated by colleagues in many other states.

THE VENUE:

LSU of Alexandria, winner of multiple Arbor Day Foundation awards!





Core Commitment: Giving a Voice to All Faculty in Louisiana

- Central Louisiana location is easy and inviting for colleagues from Shreveport to Schriever
- Colleagues on campuses with less active Faculty Senates gain confidence and competence
- Colleagues in different systems with assorted administrative traditions develop both common and diverse strategies for the improvement of higher education and of our working conditions
- Dispersed faculty in a thinly populated state achieve a perspective on the statewide and national character of our challenges
- Unified faculty action and discussion is noted and taken seriously by administrators and decision-makers

What happens at the Alexandria Summits? The format.

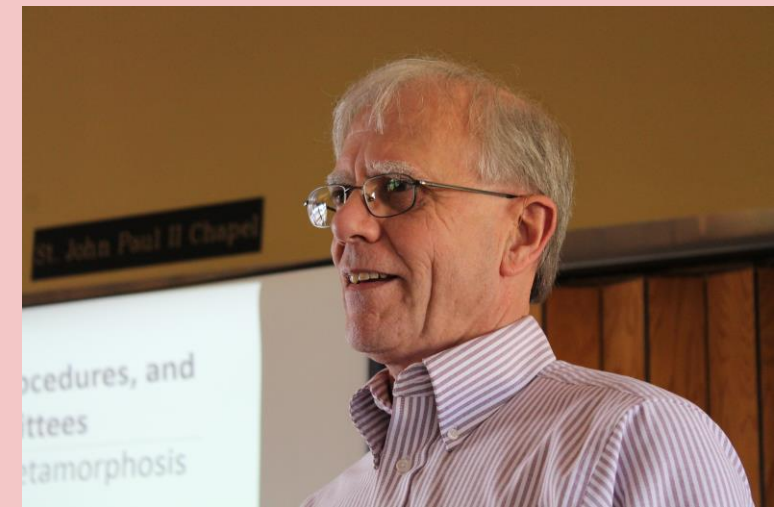
The typical Alexandria Summit Meeting begins with a greeting from the LSUA Chancellor.

Next comes a keynote presentation by a prominent educator, administrator, or politician.

During the main program, three colleagues offer presentations and lead discussions.

Finally, the state AAUP reports and presents.

And, of course, there are delicious breakfast and lunch offerings!



SOME EXAMPLES OF OUR KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Belle Wheelan, SACSCOC President
United States Senator John Kennedy
Commissioner of Administration Jay Dardenne
Governor's Education Advisor Donald Songy
All four University System Presidents
Numerous Campus Presidents and Chancellors
University of Texas—Permian Basin President Sandra Woodley
Commissioner of Higher Education Jim Purcell
Commissioner of Higher Education Joseph Rallo
Commissioner of Higher Education Kim Hunter Reed
Regent Collis Temple III
Former LSU HRM Chief A. G. Monaco
Louisiana Association of Educators President Michael Walker-Jones
AAUP Collective Bargaining Unit Director Howard Bunsis
And many, many more!

SOME OUTCOMES

Statewide day of public forums featuring multiple Louisiana legislators

Recurring town halls in southwest Louisiana

Forums for gubernatorial candidates in Baton Rouge, Hammond, and Shreveport

Influential survey of faculty satisfaction

Creation and advancement of LSUnited

Cooperation with campus-protection movements including the resistance to the barge cleaning site and to the burning of explosives at Camp Minden

Participation in the selection of the Commissioner of Higher Education

Faculty meetings with the Governor's Chief of Staff

Meetings with the Commissioner of Higher Education

Multi-campus presentations on the retirement plan debacle

Creation of template "umbrella" policies

Emergence of two or more candidates seeking high public office

And much more!

AFFILIATED AND COOPERATING GROUPS

Association of Louisiana Faculty Senates

Conference of Louisiana Colleges and Universities

American Association of University Professors (AAUP)

Louisiana Statewide Colleagues' Collaborative

All Faculty Senates in Louisiana

National Council of Faculty Senates

As well as a bevy of journalists, reporters, bloggers, and columnists.

Who may participate?

Anyone who is interested in and committed to the welfare, improvement, and productive guidance of Louisiana's higher education institutions. The Alexandria movement aims to create an enduring cadre of colleagues with either expertise in or enthusiasm for the betterment of our colleges and universities. You are welcome!

**NEXT MEETING: 10:00 AM, SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 28, LSUA (LSU of Alexandria), in
the Live Oaks Conference Room**