



Louisiana State University at Eunice

Strategic Planning Committee

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Meeting Minutes

March 30, 2026

Meeting Attendance

These meeting minutes were approved on April 13, 2026.

Name and Title	Status
Ms. Kristie Broussard Leger, Dean, Div of HSBT & Public Protection & Safety	Present
Ms. Rachelle Brown, Instructor, Communications, Faculty Senate Chairperson	Present
Ms. Melonie Ceaser, Interim Director of Facility Services and Safety Coordinator	
Mr. Audwin Donatto, Vice Chancellor of Business Affairs	Present
Mr. Juan Dorta, Assistant Director, Strategic Communications	Present
Ms. Amanda Dunlap, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, Department Chair, Mathematics	Present
Ms. Alisha Fontenot, Director of Dual Enrollment & LSUE Academy	Present
Dr. Billy Fontenot, Dean, Division of Arts and Sciences	Present
Dr. Cheryl Fruge, Dean of Student Engagement	Present
Ms. Courtney Fruge, HR Manager, Chair of Staff Senate	Present
Ms. Jamie Funk, Manager – Office of Business Affairs	Present
Ms. Ashley Green, Clinical Coordinator of Radiologic Technology	Present
Mr. Stephen Heyward, Director of Information Technology	WorkDay
Ms. Cassie Jobe Ganuchau, Executive Director of Library & Student Support Services	Present
Ms. Carey Lawson, Associate VC of University Advancement & Exec Dir of the LSUE Foundation	Present
Ms. Felicia “Nikki” May, Assoc Prof of Business Admin, Depart Chair for Business Technology	Via Zoom
Dr. Douglas Narby, Special Assistant to the Chancellor, Associate Professor of Psychology	Off campus
Mr. Gary Reeves, Instructor of Communications	Present
Mr. Luke Ruppert, President, Student Government Association	
Mr. Donnie Thibodeaux, Dean of Enrollment Management	Present
Mr. Travis Webb, Director of Strategic Communication	Off campus
Mr. Jeff Willis, Director of Athletics	Practice
Dr. Nancee Sorenson, Chancellor (Ex Officio)	Present
Dr. Charles Stewart, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost (Ex Officio)	Present
Dr. Paul Fowler, Executive Director for Institutional Effectiveness and Accreditation (Ex Officio)	Present

- I. Approve the meeting minutes from March 16, 2026

Motioned by Jamie Funk and seconded by Courtney Fruge; there were no comments and no dissent.

II. Chancellor's and Paul Fowler's Comments made during the current meeting:

The Chancellor made general comments and noted that we need to make sure that there is some type of certificate or employability at 30 credit hours for most programs. The Chancellor also mentioned that we need to determine where dual enrollment students end up after they graduate from high school. The goal has long been to keep them at LSUE.

Fowler noted that LSUE uses the National Student Clearinghouse's Six-Year Total Graduation Rate to examine the outcomes for all new full and part-time students beginning at LSUE in the fall semester.

Fowler also said quite a bit of data is difficult to obtain and will remain that way until the data warehouse associated with the new WorkDay Student System comes online. The most significant example is the census data for each semester. Census day data technically no longer exists as WorkDay is a live system meaning that data changes from minute to minute and day by day. In addition, students are no longer marked as new first-time students.

Chancellor's Comments (based on Expanded Leadership from March 18, 2026)

From System President Rousse:

"3 letters, 2 colors, 1 state"

Setting the stage for excellence & accessibility across the entire state

Expand, empower, elevate

Key performance outcomes to hold ourselves to:

Retention, graduation, and employment

Other thoughts:

Need to be thinking about building internships through all our programs where possible

Must focus on credentials of value

What data do we REALLY need and want. (retention of pt & ft students (segmented by demo), following our graduates to jobs, following dual enrollment students if they don't remain with us, etc.), more info about our part time students (did they complete somewhere?)

III. AY 2024-2025 success and withdrawal rate – improvement plans.

The improvement plan was kept general given that it is the iteration for both outcomes. Suggestions included maintaining consistency, increasing educational opportunities, offering more internships, and AI focused coursework. As a result, the following was entered for both objectives:

The Strategic Planning Committee considered the improvement plan on March 30, 2026 (see highlighted in the attached meeting minutes below). Given that the outcome is new, the strategic planning committee recommended to:

1. maintain consistency over time,
 2. incrementally increase the success rate over time,
 3. create a focus on artificial intelligence,
 4. increase internships, and
 5. continue to create new academic opportunities (some of those being considered are physical therapy, engineering technology, construction technology, and continue creating 30-hour certificates within LSUE's associate degrees).
- a. Given that the observed success rate of 78.5% > the established incremental benchmark of 75.30%, this objective is met.

- b. Given that the observed withdrawal rate of 7.70% < the established incremental benchmark of 9.67%, this objective is met.

IV. Group work

- a. Transfer Degree Program – continue planning offerings for fall 2026

The need for flexibility was stressed. In addition, Charles Stewart mentioned that it might be better to use the Associate of Arts Louisiana Transfer and Associate of Science Louisiana Transfer to create the pathways (concentrations) instead of the Associate of General Studies (AGS) given the stigma around the AGS. He also noted that LSUE should build credentials of value and ensure certificates can be embedded into degree programs.

- b. Courses – continue examining existing courses to offer for fall 2026 and possible new ones that might be offered in the future.

Additional courses beyond AI in Management still need to be discussed.

- c. General Purpose – continue editing the introductory information for vision, mission, etc. The current version with words highlighted is attached.

This was finalized at the meeting and sent to the Chancellor for final review via email on April 1, 2026, at 2:45 pm. The highlighted words remained highlighted when it was sent to the Chancellor.

V. Other business – none

VI. Adjournment

Motioned by Audwin Donatto and seconded by Billy Fontenot. There were no comments and no dissent.

Strategic Planning Committee

Catalog and Web Material

March 30, 2026

Introduction

Louisiana State University at Eunice is a two-year university that has served Louisiana since 1964. For more than six decades, the university has provided **accessible**, high quality higher education opportunities and supported academic achievement, workforce development, and fostered community growth as a proud member of the LSU system.

Values

The values of Louisiana State University at Eunice are the foundation of its commitment to academic **excellence**, community engagement, and workforce development. These guiding principles— Truth, Responsibility, **Accessibility**, Collaboration, and Knowledge—not only define the institution's character but also inform its actions and aspirations. In alignment with these core values, LSU Eunice designs initiatives to welcome and engage students from the moment they enroll. These initiatives create a collaborative relationship between students, faculty, and staff, empowering academic success that leads to credential completion and upward socio-economic mobility. Together, these values and initiatives elevate the university's culture and serve as a compass for meaningful achievement and growth within the LSU Eunice community. The values are:

Truth: Seek truth and excellence in all endeavors.

Responsibility: Embody responsibility through teaching and upholding accountability.

Accessibility: Provide **accessibility** by removing barriers.

Collaboration: **Expand** collaboration through educational and workforce partnerships.

Knowledge: Foster Knowledge through learning and discovery

Vision and Mission

As Louisiana State University at Eunice continues its longstanding tradition of **accessible**, high-quality education, the university's vision and mission serve as guiding principles for its stakeholders. Together, they articulate LSU Eunice's commitment to fostering **excellence**, supporting workforce development, and **empowering** individuals to achieve personal and professional growth. These statements reflect the institution's dedication to innovation, partnership, and responsiveness to the evolving needs of Louisiana and beyond.

Vision

Louisiana State University at Eunice will be a premier two-year institution of higher education, fostering **excellence** and workforce development through responsiveness, innovation, and partnerships at the state and national level.

Mission

Louisiana State University at Eunice **empowers** individuals and strengthens communities through responsive, innovative, and partnership-driven initiatives fostering excellence and workforce readiness to build brighter futures for Louisiana.

Strategic Goals

Aligned with LSU Eunice's vision to be a premier two-year institution and its mission to **empower** individuals and communities through academic **excellence** and innovative partnerships, the university's strategic goals provide a clear roadmap for fulfilling these aspirations. These goals focus on **expanding** access, enhancing student achievement, building collaborative relationships, and fostering ongoing institutional growth—ensuring that LSU Eunice remains responsive to the evolving educational and workforce needs of Louisiana and beyond. To prepare Louisiana's workforce while promoting academic excellence, LSU Eunice seeks to:

1. Ensure student **access**,
2. Strengthen student success,
3. **Expand** partnerships, and
4. Demonstrate a culture of continuous improvement.