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Posted on November 11, 2014 by Ali Cortez in News

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Photo by Ali Cortez/The Vermilion

Provost Jim Henderson and Office of Transportation Director Cheri Soileau discussed upcoming changes in their respective departments while tensions ran high among senators regarding a proposed amendment.

Soileau presented updates on the current bus situation. The university is currently in the process of two lease agreements to provide the campus with more buses. The

Lafayette Consolidated Government has also agreed to lease five buses to the school, but the agreement has yet to be signed.

The office has requested three bus lanes in front of the new Student Union, which is will now be called The U, to have more places on campus for buses to drop off students.

The Office of Transportation is looking into providing a late-night shuttle service once a week to gets kids to and from downtown safely. There is also the possibility of a shopper service before finals week to help the on-campus residents Christmas shop.

Hostility arose when Amendment No. 4, which failed 16-22, would have raised GPA requirements for the executive branch and senate chair. The current requirement is a 2.5, and the new amendment would have required them to have a 2.8 to run and maintain a 2.6 while in office.

The prevailing notion among senators was that GPA does not define leadership. The senate members who voted the amendment down stated they would not want to have anyone unable to run based on their GPA.


The University of Louisiana at Lafayette received \$2.1 million through the workforce investment fund. Henderson stated the money will be used where there is a large


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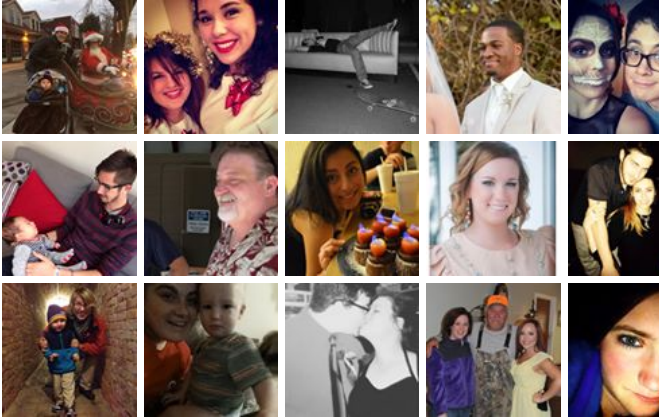
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workforce demand for it such as scholarships, additional faculty and creating different programs and providing infrastructure support for them. However, some of the money is dedicated to certain issues such as resolving problems from hurricanes. These restrictions will limit how the money can be spent.

UL Lafayette has a new pilot program that offers a form of the collegiate experience to students with intellectual disabilities. The program currently has four participants, but Henderson stated he hopes to raise the number to eight for next year. The students have to be within three years of completing their high school program to be eligible. As of now the students do not receive college credit.

Appropriations this week include \$200 from the College of Engineering and \$160 from the General Fund to help defer the cost of Subasish Das to attend the TRB 94th Annual Meeting, 2015 in Washington, D.C.; \$200 from the College of Engineering and \$200 from the General Fund to help defer the cost of the American Institute of Chemical Engineering to attend the 2014 ALChE National Student Conference in Atlanta, Georgia; \$150 from the College of Sciences, \$100 from the College of Liberal Arts and \$50 from the College of Education to help defer the cost of Lisha Choubey to attend the Society of Neuroscience Conference 2014 in Washington, D.C.; \$150 from the College of Sciences and \$150 from the College of the Arts to help defer the cost of Jantzen Collette to attend the Society of Neuroscience Conference 2014 in Washington, D.C. and \$325 from the College of Liberal Arts to help defer the cost of Miles Ray and Brandon Hoard to attend Pike University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

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