

LSUS Staff Senate Resolution Opposing Merger with Louisiana Tech University:

Whereas the study obtained from Eva Klein & Associates, an out-of-state for-profit consulting firm with limited knowledge of higher education in northwest Louisiana, for a private committee with an unknown agenda, does not form a reasonable basis for a merger of two universities;

And whereas representatives of Eva Klein & Associates have not referenced a successful merger of such caliber anywhere in the United States, illustrating that success of an LSUS and LTU merger is pure speculation by Klein;

And whereas the study obtained from Eva Klein & Associates calls for “a well-planned communication strategy aimed at providing to constituents of both institutions accurate information about the purpose of the consolidation, its intended outcomes, and the implementation steps that must be taken to bring it about” before formal action is taken;

And whereas no such “strategy” has been developed informing the LSUS community of potential effects regarding employment, changes to benefits for staff and faculty, loss of LSUS Athletics, and increased admissions standards and costs to students;

And whereas neither Louisiana State University in Shreveport (LSUS) nor the LSU System has requested such a study nor asked that LSUS be merged with Louisiana Tech University (LTU), thus transferring out of the LSU System;

Be it thus resolved that the LSUS Staff Senate opposes the proposed transfer of LSUS out of the LSU System and its merger into Louisiana Tech University and calls for all elected and appointed government officials in Louisiana, especially those from the Shreveport-Bossier metropolitan area, to support the growth of LSUS and insist that LSUS be given the necessary resources to provide comprehensive undergraduate and graduate education to the Shreveport-Bossier metropolitan area.

Respectfully submitted by the LSUS Staff Senate