STATE OF LOUISIANA LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR

Louisiana Technical College,
Delta-Ouachita Campus
Louisiana Community and
Technical College System
State of Louisiana
West Monroe, Louisiana

May 2, 2001



Financial and Compliance Audit Division

Daniel G. Kyle, Ph.D., CPA, CFE Legislative Auditor

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Daniel G. Kyle, Ph.D., CPA, CFE

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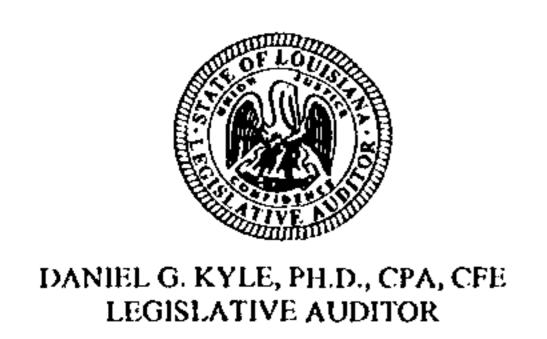
LOUISIANA TECHNICAL COLLEGE, DELTA-OUACHITA CAMPUS LOUISIANA COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM STATE OF LOUISIANA

West Monroe, Louisiana

Management Letter March 29, 2001

Under the provisions of state law, this report is a public document. A copy of this report has been submitted to the Governor, to the Attorney General, and to other public officials as required by state law. A copy of this report has been made available for public inspection at the Baton Rouge and Shreveport offices of the Legislative Auditor and at the office of the parish clerk of court.

May 2, 2001



OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR

STATE OF LOUISIANA BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70804-9397

> 1600 NORTH THIRD STREET POST OFFICE BOX 94397 TELEPHONE: (225) 339-3800 FACSIMILE: (225) 339-3870

March 29, 2001

LOUISIANA TECHNICAL COLLEGE,
DELTA-OUACHITA CAMPUS
LOUISIANA COMMUNITY AND
TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM
STATE OF LOUISIANA
West Monroe, Louisiana

As part of our audit of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System's financial statements for the year ending June 30, 2001, we considered the Delta-Ouachita Campus' internal control over financial reporting; we examined evidence supporting certain accounts and balances material to the System's financial statements; and we tested the campus' compliance with laws and regulations that could have a direct and material effect on the System's financial statements as required by *Government Auditing Standards*. In addition, we considered the Delta-Ouachita Campus' internal control over compliance with requirements that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program, as defined in the Single Audit of the State of Louisiana, and we tested the campus' compliance with laws and regulations that could have a direct and material effect on the major federal programs as required by U.S. Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133.

The financial information provided to the Louisiana Community and Technical College System by the Delta-Ouachita Campus is not audited or reviewed by us, and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion on that information. The campus' accounts are an integral part of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System's financial statements, upon which the Louisiana Legislative Auditor expresses an opinion.

In our prior management letter on the Delta-Ouachita Campus for the year ended June 30, 1999, we reported findings relating to controls over payroll, state movable property regulations, purchasing procedures, and cash controls. The findings relating to payroll, purchasing, and cash have been resolved by management. The finding relating to movable property is addressed again in this letter.

Based on the application of the procedures referred to previously, all significant findings are included in this letter for management's consideration. All findings included in this management letter that are required to be reported by *Government Auditing Standards* will also be included in the State of Louisiana's Single Audit Report for the year ended June 30, 2001.

Bank Account Not Disclosed

The Louisiana Technical College, Delta-Ouachita Campus did not include a bank account in the financial data provided to the Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) for the purpose of preparing the Annual Fiscal Report at year-end. In addition, the campus did not obtain approval for the bank account from the Cash Management Review Board, as required by Louisiana Revised Statute 39:372. Good

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internal control dictates that all funds received in the name of the campus be deposited and reported in the financial records so that public assets will be safeguarded and the LCTCS's financial statements will be fairly presented in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

When the campus' current director was made aware of the account's existence in July 1999, she instructed her staff to stop using the account. Consequently, there has been no activity in the account since July 1999, when the balance was \$2,525. The director notified LCTCS in writing of her unsuccessful attempts to close the account and remit the balance to the state treasury.

This bank account was opened without authorization from the Cash Management Review Board and was used by former campus management, who did not disclose the account to auditors, the LCTCS, or to the Division of Administration, Office of Statewide Reporting and Accounting Policy. Failure to properly deposit and account for all public funds could lead to fraud or theft and could result in LCTCS financial statements that are not fairly presented in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

Management of the Delta-Ouachita Campus should ensure that all financial data are presented to LCTCS for inclusion in the System's Annual Fiscal Report. In addition, LCTCS should assist the technical college director in closing the account and remitting the funds to the state treasury. Management concurred with the finding and recommendation and outlined a plan of corrective action (see Appendix A, page 1).

Control Weaknesses Over Movable Property

For the third consecutive audit, Louisiana Technical College, Delta-Ouachita Campus did not have adequate controls to ensure that movable property is properly and accurately reported to the Louisiana Property Assistance Agency (LPAA) in compliance with state movable property regulations. The state property control regulations, defined in the Louisiana Administrative Code Title 34:VII.307, require all acquisitions of qualified property to be tagged and pertinent inventory information sent to LPAA within 45 days of receipt of the property. In addition, good internal control dictates that assets be properly monitored to safeguard against loss or theft.

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During the examination of movable property, the following deficiencies were noted:

- A test of 27 property items acquired during July 1, 1999, through January 11, 2001, revealed that six acquisitions (22%) totaling \$42,404 were not tagged and entered into the LPAA Property Management System within 45 days of receipt. Four of these items were acquired during July 1999 to November 1999, but remained untagged and unreported as of January 2001.
- The Delta-Ouachita Campus reported \$215,687 of current year discrepancies in its Certification of Annual Property Inventory submitted on November 3, 2000, which represented 9.1% of the campus' inventory as reported in the certification.

In addition, an audit performed by the LPAA during April 2000 revealed the following:

- Thirty property items purchased in 1997, 26 items purchased in 1998, and 21 items purchased in 1999 were not tagged nor was the information entered into the Property Management System within 45 days of receipt.
- Sixty of 241 selected items (25%) totaling \$249,999 could not be located and four property items did not have property tags.
- A "high percentage" of property items were in locations other than the areas specified on the inventory listing.

The above conditions occurred because former management did not place sufficient emphasis on the controls over movable property, including conducting a proper physical inventory. Because of these deficiencies, management cannot provide reasonable assurance that movable property is adequately safeguarded, that accountability has been maintained, and that fraud or errors will be detected within a timely period.

Management should develop and implement adequate internal control over movable property to comply with movable property regulations as prescribed by state laws and regulations. In addition, management should devote additional efforts to locate movable property reported as unlocated in previous years. Management concurred with the finding and recommendation and outlined a plan of corrective action (see Appendix A, page 2).

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The recommendations in this letter represent, in our judgment, those most likely to bring about beneficial improvements to the operations of the campus. The varying nature of the recommendations, their implementation costs, and their potential impact on the operations of the campus should be considered in reaching decisions on courses of action. Findings relating to the campus' compliance with applicable laws and regulations should be addressed immediately by management.

This letter is intended for the information and use of the campus and its management and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this letter is a public document, and it has been distributed to the appropriate public officials.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel G. Kyle, CPA, CFE

Legislative Auditor

NW:ES:DSP:ss

[LTCDOC01]

Appendix A

Management's Corrective Action Plans and Responses to the Findings and Recommendations



William J. Roden, J.D. Chancellor

CAMPUSES:

Acadian Campus Alexandria Campus Ascension Campus Avoyelles Campus Bastrop Campus Baton Rouge Campus Charles B. Coreil Campus Delta Ouachita Campus Evangeline Campus Parishes Campus olkes Campus **Sulf Area Campus** Hammond Area Campus Huey P. Long Campus efferson Campus umonville Memorial Campus .. E. Fletcher Campus afayette Campus afourche Campus amar Salter Campus **4ansfield Campus 4**organ Smith Campus Jatchitoches Campus Jorth Central Campus Jortheast LA Campus Jorthwest LA Campus Dakdale Campus liver Parishes Campus uston Campus abine Valley Campus helby M. Jackson Campus hreveport Bossier Campus idney N. Collier Campus lidell Campus owela Campus ullivan Campus . H. Harris Campus allulah Campus eche Area Campus Zest Jefferson Campus ⁷estside Campus oung Memorial Campus

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LOUISIANA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Central Office

822 Neosho Avenue Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802-4219 Telephone: 225/219-8712 or 8773 Facsimile: 225/219-8780

March 29, 2001

Dr. Daniel G. Kyle, CPA, CFE Legislative Auditor Office of the Legislative Auditor Post Office Box 94397 Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9397

RE: Audit Findings of LTC-Delta Ouachita Campus

Dear Dr. Kyle:

Management of Louisiana Technical College concurs with the finding and recommendation related to Bank Account Not Disclosed. The bank account opened by a previous administration was closed on March 12, 2001. The funds were remitted to Louisiana State Treasurer's Office on March 16, 2001. Additionally, management has implemented controls to ensure all banks accounts opened in the agency's name are approved by the Cash Management Review Board and all cash balances are included in the Annual Financial Report.

Mrs. Lisa Cox, Accountant is responsible for ensuring compliance of corrective actions listed above.

Sincerely,

William J. Roden, Chancellor

xc: Dr. Wayne Brown Melvin L. Davis



William J. Roden, J. D. Chancellor

CAMPUSES:

Acadian Campus Alexandria Campus Ascension Campus Avoyelles Campus Bastrop Campus Baton Rouge Campus Charles B. Coreil Campus Delta Ouachita Campus Evangeline Campus Florida Parishes Campus Folkes Campus Gulf Area Campus Hammond Area Campus Huey P. Long Campus Jefferson Campus umonville Memorial Campus L. E. Fletcher Campus Lafayette Campus Lafourche Campus Lamar Salter Campus Mansfield Campus Morgan Smith Campus Natchitoches Campus North Central Campus Northeast LA Campus Northwest LA Campus Oakdale Campus River Parishes Campus Ruston Campus Sabine Valley Campus Shelby M. Jackson Campus Shreveport Bossier Campus Sidney N. Collier Campus Slidell Campus Sowela Campus Sullivan Campus [. H. Harris Campus Callulah Campus Ceche Area Campus **Vest Jefferson Campus** Vestside Campus oung Memorial Campus

LOUISIANA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Central Office

822 Neosho Avenue Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802-4219 Telephone: 225/219-8700

Facsimile: 225/219-8778

March 13, 2001

Dr. Daniel G. Kyle, CPA, CFE Legislative Auditor
Office of the Legislative Auditor
Post Office Box 94397
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9397

RE: Audit Findings of LTC-Delta Ouachita Campus

Dear Dr. Kyle:

Management of Louisiana Technical College concurs with the finding and recommendation related to Control Weaknesses over Movable Property.

Management of Louisiana Technical College recognizes its responsibility to provide sufficient control over moveable property and have implemented the following:

- ♦ All movable property not tagged has been tagged and reported to Louisiana Property Assistance Agency, LPAA. Controls are in placed to ensure that all moveable properties are tagged within 45 days.
- Procedures were developed and implemented July 1, 2000 for accounting for all movable property. The procedures have been disseminated to all faculty and staff members. Also, internal control measurements have been strengthened.
- A physical inventory of all movable property has been conducted and will be conducted annually.
- Property that needed to be disposed of was removed from the inventory and reported to LPAA.
- ◆ The Property Control Manager is working to locate property not accounted for during the physical inventory.

Mr. Johnny Bridges, Assistant Director, is responsible for ensuring compliance to corrective action listed above.

Sincerely,

William J. Roden, Chancellor

Cc. Dr. Wayne Brown, System President

Ms. Norene Smith, Director

Mr. Melvin Davis, Director of Internal Financial and Performance Audit and Financial Analyst