Key Staff Positions for the Business Affairs Division

Dr. Gregg Lassen, Vice President for Business Affairs
Dr. Gregg Lassen is Vice President for Business Affairs effective July 2013 since holding a similar position for Lamar University. Prior to moving to Beaumont, Dr. Lassen served as Executive Vice President at the University of Texas at Tyler, and Vice President for Finance at the University of Southern Mississippi.

Higher education is a second career for Dr. Lassen. He enjoyed 18 years in the energy industry in a variety of positions across all facets of the business working for Amoco and then BP following the merger of those two companies. Among his duties were work in finance, audit, marketing, regulatory affairs, international business development, and management in both upstream and downstream divisions worldwide.

Dr. Lassen has developed a track record for strategic management and analysis at regional universities facing significant financial constraints. His work has resulted in the successful implementation of cost saving measures while simultaneously improving operational performance. The resulting improvement in the financial condition of the university allows for a renewed focus on growth. At Lamar University, Dr. Lassen has led the University community through a new Campus Master Plan that includes a $15-million project to renovate an outdated, unused residence hall and convert it into offices for administrative services and a student service center.

While at the University of Texas at Tyler, Dr. Lassen was responsible for business affairs. Student affairs was later added to his administrative oversight which included the offices of admissions, registrar, and housing, and a Division III athletics program. Dr. Lassen helped create for the University of Texas at Tyler a strategic enrollment management department and a one-stop shop for student services. He also led a committee and engaged a market research firm to enhance an understanding of the University’s brand and to improve its student recruiting performance in the Dallas metropolitan area. Dr. Lassen has an appreciation for the academic life of a campus and continues to teach and act as an advisor to a variety of student groups. He also is active in community service having served in leadership roles at the Texas Energy Museum, Leadership Tyler Executive Program and Leadership Utah.

Michael Dauenhauer, Assistant Vice President for Business Affairs – Accounting and Procurement was promoted to this position in March 2010. With over 30 years of financial management experience at the University, Mr. Dauenhauer oversees all business accounting and procurement functions. He has a B.S. in Management and previously served as University Bursar, Assistant Athletic Director for Finance and Business Manager for the UNO Lakefront Arena.

Tiffany G. Soublet, Assistant Vice President for Business Affairs – Budget, Finance and Systems was named Assistant Vice Chancellor in March 2010. She has 15 years of experience in higher education previously serving as a Budget Analyst, Financial Analyst, PeopleSoft Financials Analyst, and Associate Comptroller for Budget at the University of New Orleans. She
has a B.S. in Accounting and a Master in Business Administration with a concentration in Information Systems.

**Brett Cassell, University Bursar** joined the University of New Orleans as Bursar in June 2010. As the Bursar, he oversees all student account activity, the Federal Perkins Student Loan Program, Accounts Receivable, departmental deposits, and petty cash activity. Prior to the University of New Orleans, Mr. Cassell worked at The University of Southern Mississippi for over 8 years in the Bursar’s Office, Alumni Association, and the Office Contracts and Grants Accounting. He is a graduate of The University of Southern Mississippi, having earned a B. S. in Accounting in 2000, and a Master of Business Administration in 2004.

**David Muscarello, Director, Sponsored Programs Accounting** was named to this position in June 2008. He is a graduate of the University of New Orleans with a B.S. in Accounting. He is a Certified Public Accountant. Mr. Muscarello has over 22 years experience in higher education previously serving in positions in the UNO General Accounting and Financial Reporting Office, the Accounts Payable Office, and the Bursar’s Office.

**Debra B. Alvarez, Manager of General Accounting and Financial Reporting** joined the University of New Orleans in May 2010. She is a Summa Cum Laude graduate of the University of New Orleans with a B.S. in Accounting and as B.S. in Finance. She has 25 years of experience in accounting and financial statement preparation.

**Joanne N. Terranova, Assistant Comptroller** began her career at the University of New Orleans in 1990 and has served as the Vault Accountant, Accountant for the UNO Foundation, Fiscal Analyst, Payroll Manager, Tax Compliance Administrator, and Tax Compliance and Contracts Administrator. She has over 30 years of accounting and financial management experience. Since 1995, she has been licensed by the State Board of CPA’s of Louisiana. She received a MBA in 2004; B.S. degree in Accounting in 1987, and a B.S. degree in Business Administration in 1980 from UNO.

**Helen A. Choi, Budget Development Coordinator** named to this position in October 2009 and previously served as Assistant to the Payroll Manager at UNO. She has a B.S. in Accounting from The University of New Orleans. The majority of the University’s operating budget is salaries and benefits. Ms. Choi oversees the review and approval of personnel action forms and requests to fill vacancies, as well as provides direction and counsel to academic and staff in controlling their budgets and in meeting budgetary requirements.