

April 30, 2021

Dear Members of the University Senate:

It is with great honor that I accept this nomination. My name is Lisa Elam and I'm currently working in the Office of the Provost and have been at Louisiana Tech University for 29 years.

I started at this University when I was just 20 years old. I started working temporary for the College of Engineering, but worked from 1989-1993 in the College of Business as the Undergraduate assistant and Developmental Advisor. In 1993, it was best for me to leave the University and raise my three children. But in 1997 was given a great opportunity in returning to the University in the Counseling and Career Services.

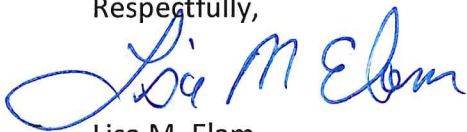
My favorite part of working at the University is assisting the students, faculty and staff. If I have helped someone in anyway, I feel I've done a great job. Louisiana Tech is truly my family and I'm proud to be associated with our great University.

Recently, I've enjoyed working with Tom Hoover and the IT team; Joshua Chovanec, Registrar; Donna Johnson, Vice President for Academic Advancement; and many of the faculty in creating an advising tool called Bulldogpath. While creating this awesome tool, we have also done a great job in auditing these programs and making changes in our curriculum and our catalog. What an honor to be a part of this amazing team and I can't wait for the rest of the University to use this tool.

For me, the most important tenant of this university is Integrity. I want my student workers and coworkers to be able to rely and trust me. I feel that is one of the most important qualities you should have. You should always be honest, even when no one is looking.

Thank you for the opportunity to be awarded with the Loyalty award; just being nominated is an honor.

Respectfully,



Lisa M. Elam

Administrative Coordinator IV  
Academic Affairs



# LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY

## Office of the Provost

April 30, 2021

Louisiana Tech University  
University Senate Awards  
Ruston, LA 71272

Re: Loyalty Award Letter of Support for Lisa Elam

Dear Selection Committee:

Lisa Elam moved to the Office Academic Affairs in August 2018 as a very welcome addition to our team. I am delighted to support Lisa as recipient of the University Senate Loyalty Award.

Lisa has been a dedicated member of the Tech Family for many years and continues to provide leadership, mentorship, service, and support to faculty, staff, and students across the University and throughout the community in her Junior Achievement activities. She consistently demonstrates her kindness, collegiality, and willingness to serve without reservation, and seeks opportunities to participate in service roles across campus, especially if the activities are student-centered.

Lisa enthusiastically volunteers to serve at student gatherings and mentors the Office's student workers with care and compassion. Lisa embodies the characteristics of "people person" by her cheerful demeanor, willingness to serve, and unreserved loyalty to Louisiana Tech. She accepts challenges with focus, persistence, and determination.

I wholeheartedly support Lisa as a deserving and excellent representative of loyalty to her family, friends, community, and Louisiana Tech University.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Terry M. McConathy".

Terry M. McConathy, PhD  
Provost



# LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY

CAREER CENTER

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Loyalty Award Selection Committee

**FROM:** Ron Cathey, LPC-S, LMFT-S, MCC  
Director of Career Center

**DATE:** April 26, 2021

**SUBJECT:** **Lisa Elam**  
Loyalty Award - Classified Award Selection Committee

I strongly recommend Lisa Elam for the Loyalty Award - Classified. During the past 20 years, I have had the opportunity to work with Lisa closely in Counseling Services and as a colleague as she worked for the Air Force ROTC program and the Office of the Provost.

First of all, let me describe the person and heart of Lisa Elam. She is true and loyal to her beliefs and convictions and gets along easily with all groups and cultures of people. Lisa genuinely enjoys meeting people, helping people, and is friendly, outgoing, and can talk to anyone. She is organized and follows through on all of her projects. She is committed to following rules, policies, and procedures.

For several years Lisa assisted me on a daily basis to keep my professional life and the administration of Counseling Services in order. She was committed to make me and the Office of Counseling Services successful and effective. She has an ability to anticipate what is needed to be done. An organized helper, she wants to see the job get done...and done right! Lisa is conscientious, cooperative, and honestly concerned about others' experiences and affairs.

One example stands out to me. While working in Counseling Services, Lisa served as the Coordinator of Clinical and Administrative Services. She greeted every student who entered the doors of the Counseling Center. Many of these students were afraid, anxious, uncertain and tentative. As Lisa greeted each one, she wisely considered and attended to each student. If in crisis, Lisa knew what to do to get the student the support needed. She is a practical and realistic caregiver.

One of the best definitions of loyalty I have discovered is "using adversity to confirm the commitment to those called to serve." After the departments of counseling and career services were merged, Lisa was then Coordinator of Clinical and Administrative Services in Counseling Services. A death occurred in the Career Center, then a staff member left to take another position. This left the Career Center short staffed. Lisa willingly assumed part of the work load of the vacancies. Lisa spent time in the Career Center to cover the needs there. She was not instructed to do so. Because she was loyal devoted, she stepped in as a hardworking and cooperative team member.

A MEMBER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM

Lisa is loyal to Louisiana Tech University. In every role she has worked at this University, she has sought to collaborate with the University community to connect with other resources that make for efficiency. In her desire to learn and continue her personal professional development, she has advanced to higher levels in classified work. She always wants to learn and be better at what she does.

I recommend Lisa Elam for the Loyalty Award - Classified. Lisa is an example of loyalty, faithfulness, and devotion.



5156 Casentino Court  
Myrtle Beach, SC 29579  
April 28, 2021

Members of Louisiana Tech University Senate:

I am honored to have the opportunity to write this letter in support of Lisa Elam who is a nominee for the Loyalty Award – Classified. I had the opportunity to work with Lisa for over twenty years before we each moved on to other Tech divisions and departments. I first worked with Lisa in the Louisiana Tech Counseling Services. Her role, in part, was to greet students who were seeking counseling and to begin the intake process prior to their counseling appointment. I observed Lisa with students, both referred and self-referred, and noted her manner was calm, courteous, and assuring. She helped to make the experience a safe and positive one for each student client.

As Lisa advanced in position, she and I would occasionally collaborate on a project. In 2007, the Division of Student Affairs conceived, planned, and implemented the First Year Experience Convocation. My colleagues and I had hopes for this to be a memorable annual event for our newest bulldogs, faculty, and staff. The project required approximately 100 volunteers from various departments to assist. Lisa volunteered to assist in seating the hundreds of first year students. Each year following, she volunteered with the intricate seating arrangements for that program until it became clear she knew the task better than anyone. Thereafter she was the supervisor for other faculty and staff volunteers. Not only did she create an efficient strategy for seating, but she also demonstrated kindness in insisting that the students were warmly welcomed at their first campus event, making it one they would remember.

Lisa's pride in all things Tech is well known. She was once recruited as an exhibitor by a Student Affairs department head to travel to the state counseling conference to promote Louisiana Tech services. On another occasion I was planning a meeting with a professional on an extremely sensitive subject. I made a request to Dean Ford, which was granted, for Lisa to accompany me to the session so she could note the important dialogue. She observed, took notes, and presented me with a transcript the next day. Never was I concerned about her discretion. My observation has been that Lisa will participate in events, and perform duties with no expectation of her gain, if students will benefit.

Lisa's kindness is her hallmark and caring is just part of her being. She is an active church member and community advocate. She volunteered for several years with Life Choices so that young women and their partners could build skills in vital decision making about family. Lisa's leadership with Junior Auxiliary has contributed to the success in JA's ability to support numerous programs for the community. She conceived, organized, and hosted monthly luncheons for retirees and those still in service as an opportunity for interaction. In Student Affairs we were implored to be kind, caring, and committed. Lisa embodies all these traits.

Lisa has modeled for other administrative employees by seeking additional training, education, and experience, which benefited the university and resulted in her well-deserved advancement. In addition to pride for her profession Lisa clearly models Tech Pride in enthusiastically promoting projects such as Loyal Blue Fridays. I am grateful for the opportunity to reflect on and celebrate Lisa Elam's growth as a professional as well as her passion for and dedication to Louisiana Tech.

Respectfully,



Linda D. Griffin, Ed.D.  
Dean Emerita, Student Services