



## LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY

Wes Cavin  
5/3/2024

Dear Members of the University Senate,

I am honored to be nominated for the Loyalty Award for unclassified staff. This is my second nomination for this award and I believe this demonstrates that my colleagues have consistently viewed my character and dedication to Louisiana Tech University as above and beyond the expected standard. When I examine the list of those who have previously won the award, I am honored to be considered in the same regard.

When I consider the type of work that I been able to engage in at Louisiana Tech, which is mostly overseeing the activity of our student organizations, I view my work as an act of worship for Jesus Christ. Though my role at Tech is a secular position, my faith is what drives me to go above and beyond the standard responsibilities outlined in my job description so that I can live on mission daily. I am called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world and to serve others. Sometimes, for me, that has looked like plunging a toilet in Tolliver Hall or trying to lure squirrels outside that have gotten into Tolliver. I have met with students at 10:00 at night just because the student was battling mental anxiety and needed someone to talk to. There have been times when I've gone to intramural games at night because I wanted my students to know that I'm invested in their lives. I embraced those and many other similar opportunities, and give the best effort I can give, not to be nominated for this award or to get praise, but because I view the work I get to do as a way to glorify God and because it helps to cultivate the idea of what we call the Tech family. We have thousands of students with different beliefs and different backgrounds, and I try to serve them because I want students to love Louisiana Tech and to feel like they're part of something special.

Another way that I try to serve our campus is to be collaborative. I serve as a chairperson for multiple student conduct committees. I advise SGA on various projects like Dog Haul with ResLife each year and I also work with the SGA senators to identify various projects that we can fund in each academic college. I work with the Union Board to invite other departments and organizations to participate in our events. I oversee the student organization grant fund, which is utilized to help each of our student organizations to obtain funding for various initiatives. I've spent many hours helping these organizations to put together grant applications that are professional and that help to give them experience with regard to planning, programming, and presenting information. Through my effort, I've been able to work with over 50 organization leaders this year to receive grant funding exceeding \$125,000, to be utilized for professional development, leadership speakers, event supplies, uniforms, and many other programmatic needs.

I am proud to represent this University. I love our students and I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve them daily. I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to submit this letter and my packet and for your consideration as the 2023-24 recipient of the unclassified staff Loyalty Award.

Sincerely,

Wes Cavin  
Director of Student Activities

A MEMBER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM

P.O. BOX 8578 • TOLLIVER HALL • RUSTON, LA 71272-0034 • TEL: (318) 257-3479 • FAX: (318) 257-4292

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY UNIVERSITY



DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS  
DEPARTMENT OF STUDENT DEVELOPMENT  
AND ACADEMIC ENHANCEMENT

May 1, 2024

To the committee for the University Senate Loyalty Award:

Please accept this letter of support for **Wes Cavin**, and his nomination for the University Senate Loyalty Award. I have known Wes now for over 15 years in which I first met him during his undergraduate days at Louisiana Tech. He served as a Resident Assistant for Residential Life and shortly after that time, was promoted to Hall Director for one of the campus facilities. He jumped right in and became an avid supporter of all things Tech.

Wes has a work ethic that has been extremely solid. He pays incredible detail to taking care of any task and embodies those principles of what we expect each student to display upon graduation. If I had to pick a few of the Tenets of Tech to best describe Wes, I would start with Loyalty followed closely by Caring and Hope.

**Loyalty** for Wes is exemplified in many aspects of his life. He is extremely loyal to his job, family, faith, and activities. Wes does everything to the fullness and attention that it deserves. His demeanor is very indicative of a behind the scenes persona. He has a true affinity for dedication and purpose with each task at hand.

**Caring** is one of Wes's most valuable characteristics. He is very passionate about the students he serves and is vocal about how he feels. Students that have many times been at the end of their rope with organizations and activities or have found themselves desperate for help have had Wes to be able to guide the student leaders through communicating together. He has been able to walk students through difficult processes and help get to resolutions.

**Hope** is most evident to me for Wes as we serve together on several Student Conduct panels. In many scenarios where students have fallen short and chosen paths against the code of conduct, Wes listens to the viewpoint and challenges the students to a higher level of accountability. I believe it is in the hope that students learn valuable lessons and are truly willing to earn restorative measures that will produce a productive community citizen of our University.

It is an honor to be asked to write a letter of support for Wes and the Loyalty Award. I am excited for his nomination and would welcome the opportunity to share any additional details with you all as you continue with the selection process. I truly believe that Wes would be a stellar recipient of this recognition.

Kindest Regards-

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'WBP', followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Melanie B. Peel  
Director of Students in Transition  
Student Affairs





# LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF THE DEAN  
OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND  
UNDERGRADUATE RECRUITMENT

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter of recommendation for Wes Cavin, an individual with whom I have had the privilege of working for several years. Throughout our professional relationship, Wes has consistently demonstrated his unwavering commitment to Louisiana Tech University, exemplifying extraordinary service in various capacities.

As the Dean of Student Engagement and Undergraduate Recruitment, I have had the opportunity to witness firsthand Wes's exceptional capabilities and loyalty as a dedicated member of our university community. Although my initial acquaintance with Mr. Cavin dates to his time as a student, it was during his tenure with Louisiana Tech University Advancement that I first recognized his remarkable commitment to service, irrespective of the recipients. However, our collaboration deepened when he assumed the role of Director of Student Activities.

What struck me most about Wes was his steadfast dedication to being fully present and readily available for students. His innate ability to balance accountability with imparting valuable life lessons is truly remarkable. I have been consistently impressed by the unsolicited praise from students who have expressed their appreciation for his mentorship and guidance. One poignant example that stands out is when a group of college students attended Mr. Cavin's young daughter's basketball game, demonstrating the profound impact he has had on their lives, prompting them to show support for one of his family members. This anecdote serves as a testament to Wes's unwavering care and dedication to serving students with excellence.

Should you require any further information or have inquiries regarding my recommendation, please do not hesitate to contact me at (318) 680-5959. I wholeheartedly endorse Wes Cavin as a tremendous representative of Louisiana Tech University, and I am confident that he will continue to excel.

Thank you for considering recognizing Wes Cavin for his outstanding loyalty and commitment.

Sincerely,

Samuel L. Speed, Ed.D.  
Dean of Student Engagement  
& Undergraduate Recruitment



Louisiana Tech University Senate,

I am writing this letter in recommendation of Mr. Wes Cavin for the Louisiana Tech University Loyalty Award for unclassified staff. Wes not only upholds and portrays all the tenets of Tech but is the absolute epitome of 'Ever Loyal Be'. His tireless work ethic coupled with passion for people allows him to effortlessly navigate the bridge between student and administration. Wes's dedication to student and organizational advancement is a driving force for the Louisiana Tech University itself. Wes is known both on and off campus as a leader, confident and friend, always eager to help regardless of task and willing to go the extra mile for the benefit of others. It is with zero hesitation that I recommend Wes Cavin to be the recipient of this year's Louisiana Tech University Loyalty Award.

Thank you for your consideration.

Thomas 'Tommy' Perkins  
Tenant Services and Facilities Coordinator  
Innovation Enterprise