FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Wednesday, January 25, 2006

The Finance Committee met on Wednesday, January 25, 2006, at 10:45 a.m. in the Louisiana Purchase Room of the Claiborne Building, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Vice Chair William D. Blake called the meeting to order. The roll was called, and a quorum was established.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

William D. Blake, Vice Chair
Scott O. Brame
Walter Guidry, SU System
Robert W. Levy
W. Clinton Rasberry, Jr.
Winfred Sibille, UL System
Artis L. Terrell, Jr.

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Richard E. D’Aquín
Frances T. Henry
Stanley J. Jacobs
Chris L. Jividen
Ingrid T. Labat
Mary Ellen Roy
William Clifford Smith
Harold M. Stokes
Pat A. Strong
Roland M. Toups

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Virgil Robinson, Jr., Chair
John E. DeLaney, LCTCS
James P. Roy, LSU System

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

E. Joseph Savoie
Donald J. Vandal
Wendy C. Simoneaux
Louise Moore
Axel A. Vásquez

GUESTS PRESENT

Appendix A
Mr. Donald J. Vandal, Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration, provided the committee with a recap for state funding in the amount of $10,000,000 appropriated to the Board of Regents by the legislature for performance incentives in support of institutional efforts to achieve the goals and objectives of the Master Plan for Postsecondary Education and for continued growth and development of community and technical colleges and learning centers. An allocation of such funding was approved during the Board of Regents’ August 2005 meeting. Mr. Vandal indicated that initially $4,000,000 would be allocated to four-year systems, $4,000,000 would be allocated to the LCTCS and two-year institutions and learning centers, and the remaining $2,000,000 would be retained by the Board of Regents for new state initiatives. Mr. Vandal reminded the committee, however, such schedule was held in abeyance in December pending the outcome of budget reductions from the 2005 1st Extraordinary Legislative Session.

Mr. Vandal then stated that such funding was indeed affected by a five percent mandated reduction. Mr. Vandal stated that although the remaining allocations for the LCTCS and two-year institutions and learning centers and four-year systems would remain funded at the same level, the proposed allocations had been revised. Mr. Vandal then provided the committee with a detailed explanation of the schedule for the LCTCS and two-year institutions and learning centers.

After discussion, the Finance Committee took the following action:
On motion of Regent Rasberry, seconded by Regent Smith, the Finance Committee unanimously recommended the Board approve the revised allocations for the LCTCS and two-year institutions and learning centers as reflected in Appendix B.

Mr. Vandal then provided the committee with a detailed explanation of the schedule for the four-year systems.

After discussion, the Finance Committee took the following action:

On motion of Regent Rasberry, seconded by Regent Brame, the Finance Committee unanimously recommended the Board approve the revised allocations for the four-year systems as reflected in Appendix C.

LOUISIANA TECHNICAL COLLEGE BA-7 (BUDGET ADJUSTMENT) FOR “CARRY-OVER FUNDS”

Mr. Vandal stated that a budget adjustment was necessary to allow Louisiana Technical College to spend carry-over funds. It was explained to the committee how there was a change in procedure in regards to the Louisiana Technical College. At first, any self-generated monies remaining were deposited into the treasury. Now, legally, Louisiana Technical College no longer has to deposit remaining self-generated monies into the treasury.

Mr. Vandal summarized how Louisiana Technical College intended to use these funds. Louisiana Technical College intends to use these funds to offset budget reductions, equipment purchases, facilities improvements, and instructional supplies.

After discussion, the Finance Committee took the following action:

On motion of Regent Rasberry, seconded by Regent Jacobs, the Finance Committee unanimously recommended the Board approve the proposed BA-7 to allow the Louisiana Technical College to budget $1,836,757 in carry-over funds.
REPORT FROM DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

Mr. Vandal then briefly updated the committee on the following issues:

- Budget planning for FY 2006-07
- Funds Flow and Benchmarking Project involving the health sciences institutions.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the committee, the committee adjourned at 11:40 a.m.