

MINUTES

BOARD OF REGENTS

MARCH 22, 2007

The Board of Regents met in session at 9:00 a.m. Thursday, March 22, 2007, in the Louisiana Purchase Room of the Claiborne Building in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Chair Pat Strong called the meeting to order. Executive Assistant to the Commissioner, Ms. Carolyn Blanchard, called the roll, and a quorum was established.

Present for the meeting were:

Pat Strong, Chair
Scott Brame, Vice Chair
Artis L. Terrell, Jr., Secretary
Richard D'Aquin
Ingrid Labat
Robert Levy
W. Clinton Rasberry
Mary Ellen Roy
Victor Stelly
Harold Stokes
Terry Landry, Jr.

Absent for the meeting were:

Frances Henry
William Clifford Smith
Roland Toups

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Strong noted that no written requests were received for public comments and asked whether the audience had any comments at this time. There were none.

MINUTES APPROVED

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 22, 2007

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of February 22, 2007.

PRESENTATION ON THE CLEAN POWER AND ENERGY RESEARCH CONSORTIUM (CPERC) BY MR. CHARLES CUISIMANO, CHAIRMAN OF CPERC

Regent Strong introduced Mr. Charles Cuisimano, Chairman of the Clean Power and Energy Research Consortium (CPERC). Mr. Cuisimano noted that CPERC was established under the Louisiana Governor's Energy Initiative in 2003 to address critical scientific issues in power and energy generation. He noted that core expertise and well-established research programs in these areas already exists at the seven institutions which are members of the Consortium: Louisiana State University and A&M College, University of New Orleans, Nicholls State University, Southern University and A&M College, Tulane University, University of Louisiana Lafayette, and LSU Agricultural Center.

Mr. Cuisimano introduced Dr. Sumanta Acharya, Director of the Turbine Innovation and Energy Research (TIER) Center at Louisiana State University and A&M College. Dr. Acharya presented a power point which focused on CPERC's mission, achievements and plans. A question and answer session followed the power point presentation.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE REPORT

On behalf of Regent Stokes, Vice Chair of the Technology Committee, Dr. Larry Tremblay, Acting Deputy Commissioner for Academic and Student Affairs, presented the Technology Committee Report of March 21, 2007.

LONI UPDATE

Dr. Tremblay noted that a briefing was given by Mr. Charlie McMahon, Executive

Director for the Louisiana Optical Network Initiative (LONI), on the progress of LONI.

REPORT OF THE ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER FOR INFORMATION AND LEARNING TECHNOLOGY

Dr. Tremblay stated that an update was given on the upcoming Quality Matters training and the relocation of the Office of Information and Learning Technology to the Bon Carré Technology Park.

ADOPTION OF THE TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE REPORT OF MARCH 21, 2007

On motion of Regent Stokes, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Technology Committee Report of March 21, 2007.
(Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

LEARNING CENTERS COMMITTEE REPORT

On behalf of Regent Labat, Chair of the Learning Centers Committee, Dr. Larry Tremblay presented motions from the Learning Centers Committee Report of March 21, 2007.

RECOMMENDATION FOR DELIVERY OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE SERVICES FOR CENTRAL LOUISIANA

On motion of Regent Labat, seconded by Regent Stelly, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Learning Centers Committee to enter into contract negotiations with Louisiana State University-Eunice to provide Community College services for Central Louisiana at the Learning Center for Rapides Parish.

REPORT FROM THE DEAN

Dr. Tremblay noted that an update was given regarding spring enrollment and the facility renovations which are underway at the Learning Center for Rapides Parish.

ADOPTION OF THE LEARNING CENTERS COMMITTEE REPORT OF MARCH 21, 2007

On motion of Regent Labat, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Learning Centers Committee Report of March 21, 2007. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

PLANNING, RESEARCH, AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

On behalf of Regent Stokes, Chair of the Planning, Research, and Performance Committee, Dr. Larry Tremblay presented motions from the Planning, Research, and Performance Committee Report of March 21, 2007.

LICENSURE

On motion of Regent Stokes, seconded by Regent Brame, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee to renew the license of Mississippi University for Women, located in Columbus, Mississippi.

PROPRIETARY SCHOOLS

On motion of Regent Stokes, seconded by Regent Landry , the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee to:

- 1. Approve the Associate in Occupational Studies Degree in Culinary Arts and Restaurant Management at Culinary Arts Institute, LLC, located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana; and**
- 2. Renew the licenses of the following proprietary schools (initial license date in parentheses):**

Academy of Acadiana, Inc. (03/22/06)

Baton Rouge School of Court Reporting (01/26/06)

Blue Cliff College--Houma (03/24/05)
Blue Cliff College--Metairie (03/23/00)
Blue Cliff College--Shreveport (03/23/00)
Central Louisiana School for Dental Assistants (01/26/06)
Coastal College--Hammond (02/23/89)
Court Reporting Institute of Louisiana (01/27/00)
Creative Floral Design School of New Orleans (02/27/86)
Dryades YMCA School of Commerce (02/27/97)
Gretna Career College (12/19/91)
Kaplan, Inc.,--Baton Rouge (02/06/85)
Kaplan, Inc.,--New Orleans (02/06/85)
Louisiana Dental Assistant School, LLC (01/27/05)
New Orleans Academy of Culinary Arts (12/09/04)
Remington College, Baton Rouge Campus (01/27/00)
Remington College, Lafayette Campus (01/25/01)
SEC Training Centers, Louisiana Branch (01/26/06).

Dr. Tremblay noted that the Metropolitan School of Mortgage Finance and Paralegal Careers had failed to complete the process to renew its license by the required date and the proprietary school license had officially expired on February 27, 2007. He said that Mrs. Peggy Robinson, school's owner, made an appeal to the Committee to renew the school's license since she had been unable to meet the deadline due to a death in the family and personal illness. Dr. Tremblay said the staff will work with Mrs. Robinson to seek a new license if she so desires.

2006-07 ANNUAL REPORT, SECONDARY TO POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION (StoP)

On motion of Regent Stokes, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee to approve the 2006-07 Annual Report, Secondary to Postsecondary Education (StoP). The Board authorizes the Commissioner of Higher Education to make any necessary technical edits to the document prior to transmission to the legislature.

MASTER PLAN ISSUES PROPOSED REVISIONS

On motion of Regent Stokes, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee to approve a revision to Section I. B. of the Master

Plan Issues document to (1) remove rank from the Criteria #2 option, and (2) delete the paragraph which follows Criteria #2 option.

STAFF DRAFT OF NEED-BASED FINANCIAL AID PROGRAM

On motion of Regent Stokes, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee to endorse, in concept, the staff's draft of a state need-based financial aid program for students. The Board authorizes the Commissioner of Higher Education to continue the development of the program, seeking advice and assistance from the Master Plan National Advisory Panel.

ADOPTION OF THE PLANNING, RESEARCH, AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE REPORT OF MARCH 21, 2007

On motion of Regent Stokes, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Planning, Research, and Performance Committee Report of March 21, 2007. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

FINANCE COMMITTEE

On behalf of Regent Brame, Chair of the Finance Committee, Mr. Donald Vandal, Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration, presented motions from the Finance Committee Report of March 21, 2007.

CONSIDERATION OF DISTRIBUTION OF REMAINING FY 2006-07 COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE POOL FUNDS

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee to approve the remaining allocation of the FY 2006-07 Community and Technical College Pool Funds.

CONSIDERATION OF TECHNICAL CHANGES TO THE AID TO INDEPENDENT INSTITUTION PROGRAM REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee to

approve the proposed changes to the Aid to Independent Institution Program Regulation and Procedures.

FY 2007-08 EXECUTIVE BUDGET BRIEFING

Mr. Vandal noted that a summary of the Governor's FY 2007-08 Executive Budget recommendations at it related to Postsecondary Education was given.

REPORT FROM DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

Mr. Vandal said an update was given on the following items: (1) Status of the Funds Flow and Benchmarking Project with the LSU Health Sciences Centers, and (2) the appointment of Mr. Clark Gradney as Assistant Commissioner for Budget Analysis at the Board of Regents.

ADOPTION OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT OF MARCH 21, 2007

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Finance Committee Report of March 21, 2007. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

FACILITIES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

On behalf of Regent Rasberry, Chair of the Facilities and Property Committee, Mr. Rich Griswold, Associate Commissioner for Facilities, presented motions from the Facilities and Property Committee Report of March 21, 2007.

SMALL CAPITAL PROJECTS REPORT

On motion of Regent Rasberry, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Facilities and Property Committee to approve the Small Capital Projects Report as follows:

**Replace Chiller at Adams/Aswell/Pearce - Louisiana Tech University
\$335,000 from Auxiliary Funds**

Overlay Sections of South Jefferson, Caldwell Drive, and Other Street Repairs - Northwestern State University

\$280,000 from Vehicle Registration FeesPROJECTS UTILIZING ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF FINANCING

On motion of Regent Rasberry, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Facilities and Property Committee to approve the development of a 240 bed housing complex at Southern University at Shreveport utilizing alternative means of financing. The project will cost approximately \$13,000,000.

On motion of Regent Rasberry, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Facilities and Property Committee to approve the installation of artificial turf at Malone Stadium at the University of Louisiana at Monroe utilizing alternative means of financing. Board approval is contingent upon approval by the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System at its meeting on March 23, 2007. The project will cost approximately \$850,000.

On motion of Regent Rasberry, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Facilities and Property Committee to approve the construction of the Southwest Center for Rural Initiatives for the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center utilizing alternative means of financing. The 22,000 GSF facility will be located in St. Landry Parish on donated land, and is estimated to cost approximately \$4,500,000, of which \$2,200,000 has already been collected with the balance to be financed through GE Capital.

ACT 959 PROJECTS

On motion of Regent Rasberry, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Facilities and Property Committee to approve the renovation of the natatorium at Grambling State University under the provisions of Act 959 of 2003. The project is estimated to cost \$887,499 utilizing funding from a Title III grant.

On motion of Regent Rasberry, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Facilities and Property Committee to approve the construction of a Technology Center at Southern University in New Orleans under the provisions of Act 959 of 2003. The project is estimated to cost \$1,517,934 and will utilize a grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

LEASES

On motion of Regent Rasberry, seconded by Levy, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Facilities and Property Committee to approve the lease of the playing field portion of the John L. Guidry Stadium at Nicholls State University for the purpose of installing artificial turf. Property will be leased to the Nicholls State University Foundation until the installation is complete, then the property will revert to the university with the donated improvements. Project cost is estimated at \$538,000.

On motion of Regent Rasberry, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Facilities and Property Committee to approve the lease of certain property at Nicholls State University for the purpose of constructing improvements for the women's soccer program. Property will be leased to the Nicholls State University Foundation, which will make the improvement at a cost of approximately \$650,000 and donate the improvements back to the university when complete.

AMENDMENT TO FY 2007-2008 CAPITAL OUTLAY BUDGET RECOMMENDATION

On motion of Regent Rasberry, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Facilities and Property Committee to amend its FY 2007-2008 Capital Outlay Budget Recommendation to include a project for the 6th Floor Vivarium Renovations in the Life Sciences Building at Louisiana State University and A&M College. The project, estimated to cost \$1,400,000 and funded from a federal grant and self-generated revenue, will be added to the end of the Self-Generated category.

ADOPTION OF THE FACILITIES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT OF MARCH 21, 2007

On motion of Regent Rasberry, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Facilities and Property Committee Report of March 21, 2007. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER

Commissioner Savoie reported on the following items:

- Special guests in the audience today included Theresa Rainwater from the Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education (WICHE); David Longanecker, President, WICHE; and Nancy Smith Brooks of the United States Department of Education.

- March 22-23, 2007 - the Master Plan Advisory Panel will meet in the Board's Conference Room.
- April 11, 2007 - Governor's Conference on Economic Development at River Center in Baton Rouge.
- April 11-12, 2007 - 14th Professional Development Forum sponsored by the African-Americans in Louisiana Higher Education being held at Grambling. The forum is open to all faculty, students and staff engaged in the Louisiana higher education community.
- April 16-18, 2007 - Plain Talk Conference about Reading to be held at the Astor Crowne Plaza in New Orleans. The program features an intense focus on the latest scientific research-based knowledge and strategies for those teaching reading at all ages and grade levels.
- The next Board meeting will take place on April 25-26, 2007 at the LSU Health Sciences Center in New Orleans.
- Mr. Paul Lingenfelter, President of the State Higher Education Executive Officers, was invited to testify on March 20, 2007, before the Ohio General Assembly on the provisions of H.B. 2 and H.B. 85.

OTHER BUSINESS

Regent Strong announced that Commissioner Savoie will receive the 2007 Chief Executive Leadership Award on April 1st by the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) in Dallas, Texas.

Regent Stelly requested that the Board of Regents submit a resolution to Governor Kathleen Blanco expressing appreciation and commendation for her steadfast support of public education at all levels. He said in the Governor's 2007-08 Executive Budget, she has proposed an increase in financial support that Louisiana's institutions have not enjoyed in many years.

On motion of Regent Stelly, seconded by Regent Rasberry, the Board voted unanimously to submit a resolution to Governor Kathleen Babineaux Blanco expressing appreciation and commendation for her steadfast support of public education at all levels in the Governor's 2007-08 Executive Budget.

Dr. Savoie informed the Board that during the next few weeks, there will be meetings with the media to promote passage of the education portion of the appropriation bill.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Regent Strong, seconded by Regent Rasberry, there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.