



June 17, 2020

REGENTS RESPONDS TO LEGISLATIVE STUDIES

Community & Technical Colleges, Legal Education and HBCUs addressed

BATON ROUGE, La. – The Board of Regents received a report today from the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS) focused on the current and long-term strength of the state’s community and technical college system as a result of the COVID-19 crisis. House Resolution 52 of the 2020 Regular Session requested the LCTCS Board of Supervisors and Regents to study and make recommendations relative to any academic, operational, structural or technical changes that should be considered as a result of the global pandemic.

“Higher education is focused on how it can harness this crisis to drive improvements,” said Commissioner of Higher Education Kim Hunter Reed. “This study provides solid recommendations to assist LCTCS in moving toward a more coordinated academic model and a more efficient business model as well. Our best recovery strategy is to invest in our people and develop their talent at scale.”

“As we began to look at the financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the mission of two-year colleges, we needed a more detailed analysis of how our colleges would be impacted long term. This report does that by setting forth recommendations to be considered which can help guide our work and ensure the mission and future success of community and technical colleges are achievable,” said LCTCS President Monty Sullivan.

The report recommends LCTCS continue a systemic approach to education and training programs as opposed to campuses operating as individual institutions. In addition to a widely standardized curriculum, the report also recommends expanded dual enrollment and sustained use of an early warning system to monitor the financial condition of each campus. Further, it delineates factors to consider if making decisions regarding mergers.

The report cites the unexpected costs associated with the rapid transition to online course delivery as well as reduced revenue from enrollment disruptions and other auxiliary enterprises as “the perfect storm of environmental and financial forces.”

It goes on to make a number of recommendations for the Legislature and Regents to consider regarding overall LCTCS funding, including state support for work-related certifications. The executive summary and full report can be found [here](#).

During its regular meeting, the board requested Regents and LCTCS to work collaboratively to develop an action plan based on the report's recommendations within 90 days.

Also today, Regents also revisited a previous legislatively requested study regarding the need for additional legal education opportunities in the Shreveport/Bossier area. The study which was received by the Board in February included the following findings regarding legal educational needs in northwest Louisiana:

- Louisiana has a distribution issue with respect to where legal professionals practice, not a capacity issue in terms of educating the number of legal professionals necessary to sufficiently serve the state.
- Research suggested minimal evidence existed to warrant establishing a new law school in the Shreveport/Bossier region and that costs to establish a branch campus would be significant (though indicating physical space may be furnished by the local community).
- Shreveport-Bossier is underserved in opportunities for graduate- and professional-level education, including legal education and several individuals interviewed for the study would prioritize "higher demand and impact professions like health care and engineering."

Regents recommended no new law school be established but encouraged a comprehensive study of graduate program needs for the region. The Board also requested that the study be shared with the university systems and the Caddo Commission for evaluation and comment before being transmitted to the Legislature.

This month, the Southern University System responded that it agreed with NCHEMS findings that a new law school was not feasible. Instead, the System proposed a three-phase approach to establishing a branch campus noting that significant budget challenges would have to be overcome for it to succeed.

The first phase includes allowing students in their final year of law school to complete up to 16 hours of coursework in Shreveport during Spring 2022 and 2023. This "Semester in Shreveport" pilot concept allows students to prepare for the Louisiana Bar exam and to pursue experiential-learning opportunities and potential employment opportunities in the underserved northwest region.

Given the additional input from systems and the Caddo Commission, paired with the NCHEMS recommendation that Regents explore a range of alternatives to incentivize new graduates to locate in Shreveport, the Board voted to support the "Semester in Shreveport" pilot, which will allow the Southern University Law Center a year to assess its impact while gauging community financial support for a branch campus.

The full report, in addition to the responses received by Regents today, will be transmitted to the Legislature in response to HCR 24 by Representative Glover and SCR 75 by Representative Peacock from the 2019 Regular Session.

In other action, Regents approved a statewide supplemental designation for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) in light of the longstanding and unique role they play in educating underrepresented and underserved students in the state.

Currently, as part of its Master Plan, Regents classifies each institution in the state and establishes its mission statement. Classifications include Comprehensive Research University (Flagship), Specialized Units, Statewide Universities, Regional Universities and Community and Technical Colleges.

The new supplemental designation of Historically Black Colleges and Universities would be an additional listing for an HBCU institution, meaning each designated institution would be listed twice in the Master Plan. For example, Southern Law Center would be listed both in the specialized units category and in the category of HBCUs.

The five public HBCU institutions in Louisiana include:

- Grambling State University (GSU)
- Southern University A&M College (SUBR)
- Southern University Law Center (SULC)
- Southern University at New Orleans (SUNO)
- Southern University at Shreveport (SUSLA)

Regents has ongoing work underway to strengthen and support the state's HBCUs through the HBCU Advisory Council which was created by the legislature in 2018 and is housed at the Board of Regents.

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LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The following Regents' priority bills and resolutions relating to higher education passed during the 2020 Regular Legislative Session:



The graphic features a white central area on a dark blue background. On the right, the text 'Regular Session Recap' is written in large, bold, orange font. On the left, four horizontal bars contain circular photos and text: a man with a laptop (HB676 FREE THE TRANSCRIPT), a woman with a book (HB734 DUAL ENROLLMENT), a woman in a graduation cap (HB740 ANTI-HACKING/STUDENT INFO PROTECTION), and a woman with a book (SB481 & HB870 TOPS COVID-19 ADJUSTMENTS). To the right of these bars is a collage of four photos: a car in a parking lot, a woman in a blue shirt at a desk, a man in a blue shirt with a car, and two men in blue shirts working on a car. At the bottom left is the Board of Regents logo, and at the bottom center is the text 'Board of Regents'.

HB676
FREE THE TRANSCRIPT

HB734
DUAL ENROLLMENT

HB740 ANTI-HACKING/
STUDENT INFO PROTECTION

SB481 & HB870
TOPS COVID-19 ADJUSTMENTS

**Regular
Session
Recap**

 **Board of Regents**



HR34
Data sharing needs



HR52
LCTCS COVID Changes



HCR33
Employment of grads



HCR45
Faculty issues and data

Regular Session Resolutions



Board of Regents

Regents is monitoring the follow bills during the 2020 Special Legislative Session which is set to adjourn no later than June 30th.



Special Session Legislative Update



Zeringue/HB26
AUTONOMY EXTENSION



Garofalo/HCR12
Workforce Dev Funding



Reese/SB15
Occupational Forecast



BOARD of REGENTS
STATE OF LOUISIANA



Board of Regents

REGENTS ADOPTS OPIOID EDUCATION & PREVENTION POLICY



THE GOAL



The Board of Regents, with input from the four public systems and LAICU, has developed a comprehensive campus opioid prevention education and training response policy in an effort to address the nation's rising opioid epidemic.

THE SUMMARY

Louisiana's postsecondary institutions will provide substance misuse and abuse prevention education, awareness and response training to the campus community to ensure they can identify common symptoms of an opioid overdose, administer naloxone, and provide supportive care. Through an excellent partnership with the Louisiana Department of Health, the campuses will be provided with naloxone.

THE COMPONENTS



- Educational awareness of substance misuse and abuse for the entire campus community.
- Annual training for certain campus personnel and students who live on campus.
- Naloxone administration reporting requirements to the Board of Regents.

Regents adopted an opioid education, training and reporting policy today that requires educational awareness campaigns that teach students and campus communities the dangers of opioid misuse and abuse, in addition to how to spot an opioid overdose.

"I'm optimistic with the Board's support for this policy," said Regent William Jewell, a student at Louisiana State University. "I've seen firsthand the disastrous affects that opioid addiction can have on campuses across our state. Having a comprehensive prevention policy to complement existing amnesty policies is a huge step in the right direction."

Campuses will host virtual trainings this summer in an effort to fully implement the policy as students return.

BOARD ACTIONS

The Board of Regents approved the following items during its virtual meeting on June 17, 2020:

Academic and Student Affairs

- Program Proposals
 - Associates
 - AAS Practical Nursing – CLTCC
 - AAS Practical Nursing – SOWELA
 - AAS Surgical Technology – BPCC
 - AS Teaching, Grades 1-5 – LDCC
 - Undergraduate Certificates
 - UC Audiology – LA Tech
 - UC Criminal Psychology – LA Tech
 - UC Geographic Information Science – LA Tech
 - UC Information Assurance and Cybersecurity – LA Tech
 - UC Lean Six Sigma – LA Tech
 - UC Business Fundamentals – LSU-S
 - UC Business Law – LSU-S
 - UC Small Business Management – LSU-S
 - UC Digital Health Management – Southeastern
 - UC Population Health Management – Southeastern
 - Graduate Certificates
 - GC Industrial-Organizational Psychology – LA Tech
 - GC Educational Technology Facilitator – Nicholls
 - GC Educational Technology Leader – Nicholls
 - GC Healthcare Advocacy – ULM
 - GC Senior Healthcare Management – ULM
 - Bachelor of Science Mass Communication – LSU-S
 - Masters
 - MS Financial Economics – LSU A&M
 - MS Industrial Chemistry – ULL
 - PhD Statistics – LSU A&M

Facilities

- Small Capital Projects
 - LSU A&M: Chemical Engineering Restroom Renovations
 - LSU A&M: FETI New Building for Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus and Compressor
 - LSU A&M: Firing Range Facility
 - LSU A&M: Food Science Building Tile Roof Repair

- LSU A&M: Football Ops Building Video Tower
- LSU A&M: Jesse Coates Hall Biology Teaching Labs
- LSU A&M: Student Union Areas 2 and 3 Roof Replacement
- LSU HSCNO: Dental School Orthodontics Conference Room & Office Renovation
- LSU HSCNO: MEB 1st Floor Lobby Flooring Replacement
- LSU-S: Asphalt Parking Lot Repair and Overlay
- LSU-S: Business Education Building – Business Intelligence Lab
- LSU-S: Business Education Building Student Advising Center Suite & Boardroom Renovation
- LSU-S: Health & PE Building Locker Room Remodel
- LSU-S: Health & PE Building Racquet Ball Court Conversion
- NSU: Turpin Stadium Elevator Upgrade
- UNO: Engineering Building Roof Replacement
- 3rd Party Projects
 - SLU Strawberry Stadium Turf Replacement

Research and Sponsored Initiatives

- Appointment of Endowed Chairholder without National Search: Pennington Biomedical Research Center
- Endowment Program Policy Revisions
- Endowed Two-Year Workforce Scholarships: Eligibility of Disciplines and Match Rates
- All Programs: Retention of Assets and Annual Spending Allocations

Statewide Programs

- Approval of TOPS Exceptions

Planning, Research and Performance

- R.S. 17:1808 (Licensure)
 - Infinity College (initial)
 - United States University (renewal)
- State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA)
 - Renewal Applications
 - New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
 - Louisiana College
 - Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University
- Academic Affairs Policy 2.22 (BRCC and the Early College Academy in East Baton Rouge Parish)

TOPS UPDATE

The Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA) ran student eligibility reports for TOPS on June 4th! Data below summarize this year's results:

TOPS 1st Eligibility Run		
	Last Year (6/7/19)	This Year (6/5/20)
TOTAL Processed*	30,455	27,845
Eligibles	20,022	19,138
Ineligibles	10,433	8,707
FAFSA Rejects	1,638	1,329
Reject 019**	8,794	7,376

**Reject code 019 includes students who have an ineligible GPA, ineligible ACT score, or unmet core curriculum units. This number may decrease as students who were unable to take the April ACT, due to COVID-19, participate in upcoming testing dates. 2020 graduates have until September 30th to achieve a qualifying ACT score.

- ACT Testing Dates: 6/13/2020, 7/18/2020, 9/12/2020
- Students with questions or needing assistance can schedule an appointment with

STAFFING UPDATES

Regents congratulates **Carol Marabella**, Proprietary School Program Administrator, on her retirement! Carol has dedicated over 30 years to Proprietary Schools and looks forward moving to Natchez, Mississippi in the near future.



Regents also salutes our 2019-2020 student board member, **William Jewell**, who graduated from Louisiana State University in May. William has elevated the student voice during his tenure on the Board of Regents and has been an engaged and influential asset during every meeting.

This month, Regents welcomes **Tyson Lee**! Tyson is the Student Body President at LSU-Shreveport and has been selected to participate in the Governor's Fellows Program. He will spend 10-weeks experiencing public policy in action while learning more about Louisiana's history and government. He is earning academic credit while getting on-the-job training and experience with the Regents' team!

