MINUTES  
BOARD OF REGENTS  
October 20, 2021

The Board of Regents met as a Committee of the Whole at 10:15 a.m. on Wednesday, October 20, 2021, in the Louisiana Purchase Room, Claiborne Building, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Vice Chair T. Jay Seale III called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

Board Secretary Christine Norton called the roll, and a quorum was established.

Present for the meeting were:  
Blake David, Chair  
T. Jay Seale III, Vice Chair  
Randy Ewing  
Stephanie Finley  
Cameron Jackson, Student Member  
Robert Levy  
Darren Mire  
Gary Solomon, Jr.  
Terrie Sterling  
Collis Temple III  
Felix Weill  
Judy Williams-Brown

Absent from the meeting were:  
Phillip May, Jr.  
Charles McDonald  
Sonia Pérez, Secretary  
Wilbert Pryor

Appendix A 
Guest List

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Vice Chair Seale asked if there were any public comments. There were none.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 22, 2021 MEETING

On motion of Regent Ewing, seconded by Regent Temple, the Board, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2021 meeting.
CHAIR’S COMMENTS

Vice Chair Seale made the following comments:

- Vice Chair Seale said that last week, during LSU Homecoming, Commissioner Reed was named an LSU Legend by the A.P. Tureaud Black Alumni Chapter. He noted that A.P. Tureaud, Jr. was the first Black undergraduate student to attend LSU and his father, A.P. Tureaud, Sr., sued the university so that his son and others could attend. He said that we celebrate Dr. Reed with tremendous pride and admiration for her many accomplishments.

- Vice Chair Seale said that tomorrow Dr. Reed will be recognized in New Orleans at the Girl Scouts of East Louisiana’s Juliette Gordon Low Leadership Luncheon with the Four Pillars Award, given to a notable woman in the community in recognition of her service to the four pillars of Girl Scouting: STEM, outdoors, leadership skills and entrepreneurship. He said that the award is designed to recognize the many contributions that Dr. Reed has made to our state and highlight her as a role model for Girl Scouts everywhere. In addition, former Regents member Charlotte Bollinger is also being recognized as the Girl Scouts’ Outstanding Woman of the Year. He expressed congratulations to Dr. Reed and former Regent Bollinger.

- Vice Chair Seale noted Chair David’s appointment of the following members to the Nominating Committee:
  - T. Jay Seale III, Chair
  - Sonia A. Pérez
  - Randy L. Ewing
  - Wilbert D. Pryor
  - Felix R. Weill

- He acknowledged Student Member Cameron Jackson’s leadership during challenging times at Grambling and asked him to share his report. Regent Jackson provided updates on some of the SGA action items around the state:
  - Regent Jackson reported that there was a shooting on Grambling State University’s campus during homecoming. He noted that this was a traumatic experience and that he, along with other student body presidents, has begun a campaign against gun violence.
  - Regent Jackson presented his COVID update:
    - He met with Ms. Sheree Taillon, Louisiana Department of Health, to discuss vaccine campaign initiatives, focusing on why students choose to opt out of receiving the COVID-19 vaccine. He is also a part of a COVID-19 Task Force which will be focused on engagement, data collection, communication and mental health. In addition, he hosted an information session with students.
    - He is promoting the Mask UP, Vax Up, Stack Up campaign and encouraging those who have received the vaccine to share their reasons for getting vaccinated, or “tell your why.”
    - He noted that progress is being made with a plan to divide Louisiana into two regions – north and south – to promote information to students regarding vaccinations.
Regent Jackson said that the Pushing Undergraduate Students Higher in Louisiana (PUSH LA) campaign is underway, and data will be collected at the end of the semester.

- He expressed interest in working on a scholarship project to target first-generation students with a focus on breaking boundaries. He noted that he is a first-generation student and expressed a deep, personal interest in the importance of getting first-generation students to college.

- Finally, Regent Jackson said that he is promoting the “Get You Ready for the Race” program to assist students in building resumes.

MASTER PLAN – LOUISIANA MATH FORWARD

Ms. Janet Newhall, Assistant Commissioner for Academic Affairs, and Ms. Mellynn Baker, Assistant Commissioner for Academic Innovation, presented the update on Louisiana Math Forward. Ms. Newhall reminded the Board that last October they heard from Dr. Alison Kadlec of Sova, who introduced them to the importance of developmental education reform and Louisiana Math Forward, an initiative to support accelerated implementation of high-quality corequisite math models across the state in order to significantly increase the number of students who pass gateway math courses in their first year, noting that traditional remediation leaves a majority of students behind, and that enrolling students directly in a college-level math course with just-in-time support through the corequisite model is a significantly more successful method. Ms. Newhall said that the Master Plan identifies improving student success as a key component of reaching our state’s attainment goals, with developmental education reform and the implementation of Math Pathways as the two highest priorities for improving student outcomes. She said that Regents staff pursued an opportunity with the Education Commission of the States’ developmental education reform project, Strong Start to Finish, through which we received a Strategy Site grant to launch our efforts. She then highlighted strategic activities used to advance the initiative including an interactive series of workshops that covered targeted data analysis, accurate placement of students in the best courses, evidence-based corequisite models, classroom practices that support student success, and high-quality student advising, noting that the workshops’ average attendance was 140 representatives from all 28 of the state’s public undergraduate institutions. She noted that the funding from Strong Start to Finish allowed us to offer mini grants to our colleges and universities for additional targeted assistance and that 21 institutions are currently working with technical assistance.
providers on activities like deep-dive data analysis and faculty professional development to implement, scale, and improve corequisite math.

Ms. Baker shared preliminary analysis of outcomes for students in Louisiana taking remedial math. She noted that remedial math is the required non-credit course before enrollment in college-level math and that, for every 100 students who enroll in remedial math in Louisiana, only 50 students pass and of those only 20 took a college-level math course in the Spring semester with only 11 passing their college-level math course in Academic Year 2020-21. She compared that with corequisite math where 49 passed a college-level math course in Spring 2021 out of the 100 students enrolled. She said that the performance trend associated with remedial courses is consistent to national performance as states are engaging in conversations related to reforming developmental education, with some states taking measures to end remedial education. She said that preliminary analysis will inform our next steps related to Math Forward and our work to scale math corequisite work, noting that we are conducting a comprehensive review of the effectiveness of the placement and corequisite policies based on national best practices, but rooted in Louisiana data. She then welcomed Dr. James Ammons, Chancellor of Southern University at New Orleans (SUNO), to speak to the impact of Math Forward and scaling high-quality math corequisite models.

Chancellor Ammons thanked the Board and Dr. Reed for allowing him to speak on behalf of the Southern University System and expressed his enthusiastic support for Louisiana Math Forward and developmental education reform. He said that he was pleased to report that all three of the Southern University campuses have participated in all five of the workshops that have been conducted, with participants including campus leadership, student success staff and math faculty. He noted that all three campuses were also participating in extra support through the mini grant, and thanked the Regents for providing some of the resources needed to make environments better for student success. He said that the mini grant project at SUNO, with Student-Ready Strategies, is engaged in one-on-one student support as well as virtual workshops geared toward improving student success. In addition, SUNO has received external funding which allowed it to open a STEM lab, which will include a component for math, and a
writing lab. He noted that the work of the Southern University Baton Rouge (SUBR) campus was inspired by the Charles Dana Center as well as that of Dr. Tristan Denley, Chief Academic Officer at the University of Georgia, who made presentations in Louisiana on best practices in student success. He said that SUBR has taken an in-depth look at high-failure-rate courses to examine barriers of student success within these courses. As a result, SUBR developed a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, with student success as its focus. In closing, Dr. Ammons said that, in this era of institutional effectiveness, campuses will monitor and assess these practices and will continue to support Louisiana Math Forward.

Regent Finley asked if there was any indication whether the writing lab was helping students. Dr. Ammons said that the lab had just opened and there was no data available at this time. Regent Ewing asked for clarification of the distinction between remedial courses and corequisite courses. Dr. Ammons explained that, unlike remedial courses, corequisite courses were longer, three- to five-hour courses, generating credit toward the students’ degrees, with tutoring access available. Regent Ewing said that he hoped the new system proves to be effective. Dr. Ammons reminded the Board that corequisite math students are passing college-level courses at a rate of 50% and reiterated that no data was available for the reading and writing programs yet. Regent Weill asked about the level of corequisite courses as opposed to traditional college-level math courses. Ms. Newhall explained that the corequisite courses are college-level courses, including college algebra, finite math, statistics, and Math Pathways. She explained that the corequisite courses are offered as supplemental math courses that apply to the degree. Regent Mire commended Dr. Ammons and Southern University, saying that he was looking forward to seeing more data in the future. Regent Ewing asked how many institutions were still offering remedial courses and suggested a greater focus on dual enrollment. Ms. Newhall said that many institutions are transitioning to the corequisite model and that she said she would provide the requested information to him. Dr. Reed explained that both Dual Enrollment and corequisite courses are needed, especially since many students needing remediation are non-traditional students. Regent Sterling said that she would like staff to keep track of the transition and provide more data in the future.
Ms. Baker thanked Chancellor Ammons, the members of the Math Forward steering committee, and Alison Kadlec and Quintina Barnett-Galion from Sova, who through Strong Start to Finish provided expertise and support throughout the duration of this grant and said that she looks forward to continuing the work of Louisiana Math Forward to enable more students to meet college math requirements, acquire skills needed for both college and work and persist to complete their credentials.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

FINANCE

APPROVAL OF PRELIMINARY FORMULA FUNDING AND BUDGET REQUEST FOR FY 2022-2023

Mr. Terrence Ginn, Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration, presented an overview of the budget request for Fiscal Year 2022-2023, which, by law, must be submitted to the Division of Administration next month. Regent Ewing asked what the percentage increase was over the previous year’s request and how much of the increase is to fund new programs. Mr. Ginn responded that it is a 19% increase and listed the new programs. Regent Levy asked how much of the request would go toward the formula. Mr. Ginn noted that $15M will be run through the formula to get to 50% base, 25% outcomes and 25% cost. Mr. Ginn noted that outcomes must be a priority in the formula, and that we need to lower our reliance on the base and put more emphasis on cost.

On motion of Regent Solomon, seconded by Regent Temple, the Board, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the State General Fund operating budget requests for all higher education systems, boards, and agencies for FY 2022-2023.

FACILITIES AND PROPERTY

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Chris Herring, Associate Commissioner for Facilities Planning and Disaster Services, presented the Consent Agenda items.

a. Small Capital Projects Report
   i. LSU A&M: Chemical Engineering Building – Shop Renovations
ii. LSU A&M: French House – Honors College Site and Landscaping Improvements Phase 1a
iii. LSU A&M: Life Sciences Annex – Waterproof East and North Water Infiltration Study
iv. LSU HSC-S: Stonewall Facility Renovations and Addition
v. LSU-S: Bronson Hall Elevator Equipment and Cab Upgrades
vi. LSU-S: HPE Building Equipment Pavilion Climate Chamber (Budget Increase)
vii. SOWELA: Oakdale Electrical/Instrumentation Instructional Space
viii. ULM: Chemistry and Natural Sciences Building Chiller Replacement
ix. ULM: Schulze Dining Hall Generator Project

b. Third-Party Projects
   i. La Tech: New Pedestrian Plaza
   ii. NiSU: New Baseball Field House
   iii. ULM: Baseball Field Turf Replacement
   iv. ULM: Softball Student Athlete Leadership Center

On motion of Regent Levy, seconded by Regent Mire, the Board, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the items on the Consent Agenda, including the small capital and third-party projects reports, as presented.

ACT 959 PROJECT: GSU JOHNSON CENTER OF EXCELLENCE AND STUDENT SUCCESS

Mr. Herring presented a brief overview on the Act 959 Project at Grambling University to create a student success center. Regent Jackson said that this project will greatly help to elevate student success at Grambling State University.

On motion of Regent Jackson, seconded by Regent Temple, the Board, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the Act 959 project submitted by the University of Louisiana System Board of Supervisors, on behalf of Grambling State University, to create the new Johnson Center of Excellence and Student Success within Jeanes Hall.

LEASE AGREEMENT: UNO CERM BUILDING

Mr. Herring presented a brief overview of a lease agreement between the University of New Orleans and the UNO Research and Technology Foundation, Inc., to create a business and economic development hub within the University’s Center for Energy Resources Management facility. Regent Seale asked how this lease compared in terms of structure to university housing leases. Mr. Herring said that usually for the housing leases a facilities corporation will lease the site and the contractor build the facility and upon completion, if there is no debt associated with the
project, the contractor donates the facility back to the campus. He noted that this lease agreement is a straight lease, with the Foundation responsible for maintenance and operations for the life of the agreement.

On motion of Regent Mire, seconded by Regent Temple, the Board, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the lease agreement submitted by the University of Louisiana System Board of Supervisors, on behalf of the University of New Orleans and the University of New Orleans Research and Technology Foundation, to create a business and economic development hub within the University’s Center for Energy Resources Management facility.

BOR FY 2022-2023 CAPITAL OUTLAY BUDGET RECOMMENDATION

Mr. Herring presented a brief overview of the annual Capital Outlay recommendation that will be presented to the Division of Administration. Regent Ewing asked how Deferred Maintenance needs were captured in the budget request. Mr. Herring explained that the Deferred Maintenance is included in the overall budget request.

On motion of Regent Weill, seconded by Regent Ewing, the Board, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the FY 2022-2023 Capital Outlay Budget Recommendation as presented.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Susannah Craig, Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs, Student Success and Innovation, presented the Consent Agenda items.

a. Program Terminations
b. Routine Staff Approvals

On motion of Regent Levy, seconded by Regent Williams-Brown, the Board, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the items on the Consent Agenda.

REPORTS

a. Governor’s Military Friendly Campus Annual Report and Policy Revisions

Dr. Craig presented an overview of the Governor’s Military and Veteran Friendly Campus
Annual Report and policy revisions. She noted that all 28 public institutions have met the requirements to be classified as Military and Veteran Friendly campuses, which represents 100% participation of our public institutions.

On motion of Regent Finley, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve staff to forward the 28 institutions listed below to the Governor with an endorsement as having met requirements for continued designation as Governor's Military & Veteran Friendly Campus and to approve the Board of Regents Uniform Policy on Governor’s Military and Veteran Friendly Campuses.

Louisiana Community and Technical College System

- Baton Rouge CC
- Bossier Parish CC
- Central Louisiana TCC
- Delgado CC
- Fletcher Technical CC
- Louisiana Delta CC
- Northshore TCC
- Northwest Louisiana Technical CC
- Nunez CC
- River Parishes CC
- South Louisiana CC
- SOWELA

Louisiana State University System

- LSU A&M
- LSU Alexandria
- LSU Eunice
- LSU Shreveport

Southern University System

- Southern University, Baton Rouge
- Southern University, New Orleans
- Southern University, Shreveport

University of Louisiana System

- Grambling State University
- Louisiana Tech University
- McNeese State University
- Nicholls State University
- Northwestern State University
b. TOPS Annual Report

Dr. Craig presented the TOPS Annual Report. She noted that while the statewide average ACT score has declined, the core GPA for TOPS recipients has increased. She highlighted some of the data showing large equity gaps in the state. Regent Sterling asked when we started requiring all students to take the ACT. Dr. Sujuan Boutté, Executive Director of LOSFA, replied that all students were required to take the ACT beginning in 2012-2013. Chair David noted a decline in TOPS recipients in 2016-2017 and asked about the cause. Dr. Craig said that it was hard to determine the exact cause, but that it could be related to that particular cohort of students. Regents Temple and Sterling asked to see the TOPS distribution by parental income broken down by higher income levels. Dr. Craig shared that information verbally and indicated that information would also be provided via email by LOSFA. Regent Temple asked if there was a way to tier/cap the award based on parental income to ensure we prioritize the neediest students. Regent Levy said that this was discussed during Governor Foster’s administration but that TOPS has become a middle-class entitlement. Dr. Reed noted that there has been significant discussion of this issue and that the response has been to add funding to GO Grants. She said with so much poverty in Louisiana we must decouple student success from family income, reminding the Board that affordability and access are critical for us to move people from poverty to prosperity in order to reach the Master Plan goals. Regent Ewing said that the TOPS program was designed to be merit-based, to incentivize students to do well in high school and college. He added that he thinks the current TOPS program has become an entitlement program and doesn’t address the poverty in the state. Regent Sterling said that we must also try to find a way to leverage funds to keep promising students in our state after graduation, to better the state.

On motion of Regent David, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the “TOPS Report: Analysis of the TOPS
Program from 2011-2020” and authorize the Commissioner of Higher Education to submit the report to the appropriate legislative committees on behalf of the Board of Regents.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS PROGRAM POLICY AND PROCESS REVISIONS

a. 2.04 Letters of Intent for Projected New Academic Programs
b. 2.05 Proposals for New Academic Programs/ Research Units

Ms. Newhall provided an overview of Academic Affairs program policy and process revisions related to new academic programs, noting that the new streamlined process would allow for more efficient review of planned program concepts; a coordinated statewide review of programmatic alignment with workforce, identification of programmatic gaps; and better planning and coordination for Regents’ review. Regent Temple asked if any feedback had been received from campuses. Ms. Newhall responded that there is institutional support for the new process but that continued collaboration is needed between campuses and system chief academic officers to finalize the details of the actual process. Regent Ewing asked if the Board should expect the same level of detail in proposals as they currently receive, and Ms. Newhall assured him that they would. Regent Seale inquired about the weight given to the workforce/economic development part of the request. Dr. Reed and Ms. Newhall said that current policies already require workforce/economic development partnership information regarding each program proposal, and that while the exact weight of this information was not yet determined, it would definitely remain a factor in the new process. Regent Seale asked whether there will be a fast-track approval mechanism. Ms. Newhall stated that this existed in other states and that staff would consider the best way to address that need. Chair David asked if the submissions would be by campus and when would they be due. Ms. Newhall responded that the submissions would be by campus and that staff are still working out the details of when the submissions would be due. Dr. Reed noted that Senior Staff was requesting approval of the policy change and that the details of the process will follow. Chair David asked if it would be possible for institutions to submit off-cycle requests and Ms. Newhall said yes we are working on an off-cycle submission process.
On motion of Regent Finley, seconded by Regent David, the Board, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the revised AA Policy 2.04 and AA Policy 2.05, effective January 1, 2022, and authorize staff to develop relevant guidelines, templates, and forms to support those revised policies, and grant staff authority to grant conditional approval of undergraduate- and graduate-level certificate programs, with regular reporting to the Board.

STATEWIDE PROGRAMS

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Boutté presented Consent Agenda item.

a. Approval of Rulemaking to implement Act 457 of the 2021 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature

On motion of Regent Williams-Brown, seconded by Regent Temple, the Board, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the item on the Consent Agenda.

PLANNING, RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE

Dr. Craig presented the Consent Agenda items.

CONSENT AGENDA

a. R.S. 17:1808 (Licensure)
   i. Renewal Applications
      (a) Bard Early College in New Orleans (BECNO)
      (b) Central Michigan University (CMU)
      (c) South University (SU)
      (d) University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences (USA)

b. State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA)
   i. Initial Applications
      (a) Digital Media Institute at InterTech

b. Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission
   i. Initial Applications
      (a) 160 Driving Academy, Metairie
      (b) Durham Transport Academy, Shreveport
      (c) Excel Health Careers, LaPlace
      (d) Houma Dental Assisting School, Houma
      (e) Phlebotomy Training Specialist, Baton Rouge
   ii. Change of Ownership Applications
      (a) BARBRI Holdings, Inc., Baton Rouge
      (b) BARBRI Holdings, Inc., New Orleans
   iii. Renewal Applications
      (a) Accelerated Dental Assisting Academy, Baton Rouge (8/21/2011)
      (b) Accelerated Dental Assisting Academy, Denham Springs (6/19/2019)
On motion of Regent Temple, seconded by Regent David, the Board, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the items on the Consent Agenda.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Commissioner of Higher Education Kim Hunter Reed presented several items to the Board:

- Dr. Reed noted that last week Louisiana’s ACT results for the Class of 2021 were released, showing that the state’s composite score declined for the fourth consecutive year, with the average composite score down this year to 18.4 from 18.7 in 2020. She noted that there was some good news in that an estimated 98% of the graduating class of 2021 took the test, and Louisiana ranked number two in the nation for the number of waivers requested and used, which speaks to the persistence of the Louisiana education community in prioritizing participation in ACT testing, encouraging students to take the test multiple times, and requesting and using fee waivers to address testing affordability for students. She said that improving minority student performance related to college readiness benchmarks must be a priority in order to expand prosperity in our state.

- Dr. Reed thanked Louisiana Congresswoman Julia Letlow, who serves on the U.S. House Committee on Education and Labor, for hosting a round-table discussion with higher education leaders focused on the priorities of our colleges and universities as we develop talent in our state.
• Dr. Reed said that she had a great conversation with congressional staffers and other national policy leaders through and the Postsecondary National Policy Institute about state authorization and how Louisiana is set to begin collecting student outcomes data from our proprietary institutions. She said that the meeting was followed by a panel discussion on Monday with the Education Writers Association, which was moderated by Delece Smith-Brown, education editor at Politico magazine. She noted that there was interest in the bipartisan infrastructure package and reconciliation bill in terms of what it means for free community college, broadband expansion, retention and completion grants, and Pell expansion. In addition, they were able to talk about Louisiana’s efforts in shifting our Master Plan attainment agenda to a recovery agenda, knowing that poverty is the enemy and education the lifeboat when it comes to pandemic- and disaster-proofing our citizens.

OTHER BUSINESS

Vice Chair Seale said that the Calendar of Meetings for 2022 was included in the Board materials.

On motion of Regent Temple, seconded by Regent David, the Board, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the 2022 Calendar of Meetings.

Vice Chair Seale noted that the Board holiday social will be held on December 14th, followed by the Joint BoR/BESÉ and regular Committee and Board meetings on December 15th.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:34 p.m.
Appendix A

Board Meeting Guest List

Wednesday, October 20, 2021

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<th>NAME</th>
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<tr>
<td>Zackeus Johnson</td>
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<td>James H. Ammons</td>
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<td>Matt Lee</td>
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<td>Anna Bartel</td>
<td>LSU</td>
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<td>Jeannine Kahn</td>
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