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January 6, 2022

The Honorable John Bel Edwards  
Governor, State of Louisiana

Dear Governor Edwards:

Act 236 of the 2018 legislative session established an advisory council to focus on Louisiana's eight Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), both public and private. Legislation amending Act 236 passed in the 2021 Regular Legislative Session and is now enrolled as Act 417. It added a student member to the HBCU Advisory Council and requires an annual report of the Council's actions and recommendations to be shared with the Legislature.

Attached please find the 2021 HBCU Advisory Council Report, which highlights the work of the Council's four committees to foster collaboration and the achievement of collective objectives on behalf of the more than 20,000 students annually enrolled in Louisiana's private and public HBCUs. Several of the group's significant accomplishments include such topics as broadband funding opportunities, Workforce Ecosystem 101 workshops, campus survey mapping relative to federal Small Business Innovation and Research programming, work toward establishment of an HBCU Research Collaborative and access to Second Chance Pell Grant application information.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me concerning this response or any other matters relating to higher education.

Sincerely,

Kim Hunter Reed, Ph.D.  
Commissioner of Higher Education

Attachment

c: Senate Education Committee Chairman Cleo Fields  
House Education Committee Chairman Lance Harris  
Yolanda Dixon, Secretary of the Senate  
Michelle Fontenot, Clerk of the House  
Poynter Library (DRPLibrary@legis.la.gov)



## 2020-21 Annual Report



**DILLARD**  
UNIVERSITY



**SOUTHERN**  
UNIVERSITY SYSTEM  
BATON ROUGE • NEW ORLEANS • SHREVEPORT



## Background

During the 2018 legislative session, the Legislature approved Act 236 (See Page 16) to establish an advisory council to focus on Louisiana's eight Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), both public and private.

In partnership with the Board Regents, the Council will focus on ways to strengthen the capacity of HBCUs to provide the highest-quality education, increase opportunities for HBCUs to participate in and benefit from state programs, and ensure that Louisiana has the highest proportion of college graduates from HBCUs in the country. The Council shall:

- Advise the Commissioner of Higher Education regarding methods to enhance the capabilities of HBCUs;
- Strengthen the capacity of HBCUs to participate in federal and state programs; and Enhance the ability of HBCUs to fully participate in Louisiana's workforce and economic development activities.

Legislation amending Act 236 passed in the 2021 Regular Legislative Session and is now enrolled as Act 417. It adds a student member to the HBCU Advisory Council and requires an annual report of the Council's actions and recommendations to be shared with the Legislature. More details on HB119/Act 417 can be found on Page 24.

## **2021 Membership List (with appointing authority)**

**Dr. Kim Hunter Reed, Chair, Board of Regents**

**Dr. James Ammons, Southern University at New Orleans**

**Dr. Ray Belton, Southern University System**

**Sen. Joseph Bouie, Jr., Senate President**

**Sen. Gerald Boudreaux, Senate Committee on Education**

**Mr. Preston Castille, Board of Elementary and Secondary Education**

**Secretary Ava Dejoie, Workforce Commission**

**Dr. Rodney Ellis, Southern University at Shreveport**

**Sen. Cleo Fields, Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus**

**Mr. Rick Gallot, Jr., Grambling State University**

**Rep. Patrick Jefferson, House of Representatives Committee on Education**

**Dr. Jim Henderson, University of Louisiana System**

**Rep. Randal Gaines, Black Caucus**

**Rep. Jason Hughes, House Speaker**

**Dr. Walter M. Kimbrough, Dillard University**

**Dr. Orlando McMeans, Southern University Agricultural Research & Extension Center**

**Ms. Mandi Mitchell, Louisiana Economic Development**

**Mr. John Pierre, Southern University Law Center**

**Ms. Kelsey Perine, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People**

**Dr. Larissa Littleton-Steib, LA Community and Technical College System**

**Dr. Toya Barnes-Teamer, Urban League of Louisiana**

**Mr. Emmanuel Ukot, SGA President at Xavier University**

**Dr. Reynold Verret, Xavier University of Louisiana**

**Ms. Arlanda Williams, Southern University System**

**Ms. Stephanie L. Willis, American Civil Liberties Union of LA**

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## **Executive Summary**

### Louisiana HBCU Advisory Council

Louisiana is proud to be home to eight Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) – Dillard University, Grambling State University, Southern University and A&M College, Southern Agriculture Research and Extension Center, Southern Law Center, Southern University at New Orleans, Southern University at Shreveport and Xavier University of Louisiana – and the nation's only HBCU System (Southern University System) – which uniquely positions it as an exemplar of successful HBCU policy and practice.

The Legislature established the HBCU Advisory Council in 2018 to foster collaboration and the achievement of collective objectives on behalf of the more than 20,000 students annually enrolled in both the private and public institutions (See Appendix A). In 2019-20 the state's HBCUs served a total of 22,854 students.

To efficiently address the charges of the HBCU Advisory Council, the members divided into four committees: academics, public relations and outreach, state and federal programs and workforce and economic development. This report provides updates on the work of the Council and its actions and activities throughout 2021.

## **Student Member Election**

Outreach to SGA presidents and SGA advisors at Louisiana's HBCUs informing them of the Student Member position within the HBCU Advisory Council and determining interest in running for the position began on June 14, 2021.

Four candidates opted to run for the student member position. An online meeting was scheduled on Thursday, September 23 at 3:00 p.m., to provide the candidates with an opportunity to introduce themselves to the full group with an online vote following immediately.

The election stemmed from Act 417 (HB119), which became law following the 2021 Regular Legislative Session. This law added an elected student body president to the HBCU Advisory Council (See Appendix A).

Xavier SGA President Emmanuel Ukot was elected to serve. A senior from Houston, he is majoring in Business Management. He has served in SGA since his freshman year and is serving his second term as Student Body President. During his tenure, the SGA advocated to adjust school scholarship GPA requirements and implemented a new digital ticketing system with the campus police department; students also voted to increase the SGA operating budget by over \$300,000, allowing Mr. Ukot to increase funding for student organizations by an average of 65%. Outside of college, Emmanuel is active in his local church, loves biking, and can be found performing on the piano, which he has played for over 17 years. With a passion for project management and operations, he hopes to secure a job in business operations or administration next summer.

He attended his first meeting of the Council and was welcomed as a member on November 2, 2021, at which time it was shared that student membership will rotate between private and public institutions. With Xavier represented this year, the student member next year will be elected from among the state's public HBCUs. The following year another LAICU HBCU student will serve, and so on.

## Priorities and Meeting Topics

Full Advisory Council meetings, coupled with meetings of the academics, public relations and outreach, state and federal programs and workforce and economic development committees are designed to highlight topics of shared importance and explore unique opportunities available to HBCUs.

Priority topics discussed during the three full Advisory Council meetings in 2021 include addressing pandemic needs and uncertainties; the impact of various storms and natural disasters including the January ice storms and Hurricane Ida; increasing visibility of the value of HBCUs; HBCU small business innovation and research; and broadband funding opportunities for HBCUs (See Appendix B).

Beyond Council and committee meetings, members have access to information and networking throughout the year. The Council also serves as an internal marketing resource for members who want to promote HBCU-specific opportunities.

## 2021 Committee Priorities



### Academics Committee

NARRATIVE: The scope of the Academics Committee focuses on the specific deliverables outlined in Act 236 which include:

- Promoting centers of academic research and programmatic excellence;
- Increasing HBCUs' contributions to the state's educational and workforce goals; and
- Working with the Louisiana Workforce Commission to help identify educational programs to address workforce gaps.

*Co-Chairs: James Ammons and Randal Gaines*

### 2021 Goals

- Teacher Preparation, specifically the Black Male Initiative (partnership with Dr. Cade Brumley, Superintendent of Education)
- Expand dual enrollment/college credit opportunities
- Increase K-12 outreach and influence
- Strengthen relationships with LCTCS (transfer pipeline)

## **Goals Achieved**

**Partnerships to Improve K-12 Pipeline** - A workgroup is being created following a meeting with Dr. Brumley, Dr. Reed and university deans and directors. Conversations included diversity in teacher recruitment efforts and the workforce, as well as potential solutions to barriers for PRAXIS requirements and certifications.

**Strengthen Transfer Relationships** - The Committee identified work needed to improve the postsecondary pipeline, which will include an emphasis on strengthening students' transfer pathways. This entails a more seamless process among institutions for student mobility, acceptance of credit, and program alignment. It was announced that the Board of Regents is currently working with LCTCS in developing a common crosswalk for veterans and transfer students.

Institutions' focuses on strengthening teacher preparation and expanding dual enrollment are ongoing.



## **State and Federal Programs Committee**

NARRATIVE: The scope of the State & Federal Programs (S&FP) Committee encompasses strengthening the capacity of Historically Black Colleges & Universities in Louisiana to participate in federal and state programs. The specific deliverables in Act 236 addressed by the S&FP Committee are to work with state and federal departments, agencies and offices to identify programs and initiatives in which HBCUs may be either underserved or underused as a resource; encourage HBCUs to participate in state and federal programs and initiatives; establish methods to increase the capacity of HBCUs to effectively compete for grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements; and encourage public- and private-sector involvement with HBCUs on such initiatives.

### **2021 Goal**

- Cultivating federal- and state-level champions

## **Goals Achieved**

**Mapping:** A mapping survey of the campuses was conducted, led by Dr. Michael Stubblefield at SUBR, who has worked over the past year to assemble a collaborative of public/private HBCUs to address grand challenges particularly related to businesses and industry in HBCU communities and federal funding/Small Business Innovation and Research

(SBIR) initiatives. All campuses pledged participation, with engagement of an external consultant planned to help shape the partnership and set priorities.

**Long-term Sustainability:** HBCU-designated funding from federal COVID relief dollars and the massive injection of digital divide/broadband funding help bring parity to these campuses in terms of access.

**HBCU Research Collaborative:** A research collaborative is part of the initiative being organized by Dr. Stubblefield.

**Broadband Funding Opportunities:** An update providing an overview of state and federal broadband funding opportunities was presented by Louisiana Office of Broadband and Connectivity Executive Director Veneeth Iyengar and Brian Looser, Policy Advisor, Senator Bill Cassidy's Office. Application information for state GUMBO Grants and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's Connecting Minority Communities pilot program was presented and submission was encouraged.



## **Workforce and Economic Development Committee**

**NARRATIVE:** The primary focus of the Economic and Workforce Development Committee of the HBCU Advisory Council is strengthening the capacity of HBCUs to fully participate in Louisiana's workforce and economic development activities. To accomplish this goal, the EWD Committee works with the Department of Economic Development to ensure full participation and inclusion of HBCUs at inception and throughout implementation of economic development activities. Additionally, the EWD Committee collaborates with the Louisiana Workforce Commission to help identify educational programs to address workforce gaps.

### **2021 Goals**

- Identify advocates in business and industry around work-based learning initiatives
- Serve as a connector for hiring practices with a focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion

## **Goals Achieved**

**LED Playbook Training** - Senior leaders from LED Fast Start worked individually with HBCU campuses to hold LED-led Playbook implementation training for campus teams at the state's HBCUs.

**Internship Opportunity for HBCUs through CILI** - In its quest to identify advocates in business and industry around work-based learning initiatives, the EWD invited Perry Sholes, Founder of the Corporate Internship Leadership Institute (CILI) Program, to address the Committee. CILI is a Louisiana based 501c3 that addresses regional and state challenges related to unemployment and underemployment of degreed students of color.

**Second Chance Pell (SCP) Opportunity for HBCUs** - In December of 2020, the FASFA Simplification Act amended the HEA to eliminate provisions that prohibited students from receiving Pell grants if they were incarcerated in state or federal institutions. This allows all eligible offenders housed at state and federal institutions to leverage Pell Grant dollars and enroll in postsecondary programs, with Department of Corrections (DOC) approval. The U.S. Department of Education (U.S. DOE) has been given until 2023 to establish regulations and policies to authorize these changes. Over the next two years, the DOC will work with Louisiana colleges and universities to implement Pell-funded programs in all state facilities. This amendment will allow any DOC-approved school to provide postsecondary education opportunities within the prison system. With the SCP Experimental Sites Initiative, only U.S. DOE schools are allowed to provide programming.

To this end, the EWD Committee facilitated an opportunity for the state's HBCUs to work with the Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections (DPSC) to position themselves to participate in Second Chance Pell offerings (See Appendix C).

**Workforce Ecosystem 101 Statewide Regional Tour** - Consistently in conversations with various partners, a clear need was raised for more visibility and situational awareness of each other's work on the ground level. To that end, partners in each of the state's eight economic development regions gathered for a Workforce Ecosystem 101 half-day workshop. The basic purpose of the gathering was to come together, meet key points of contact in the region, share the basic nuts and bolts of the workforce activities each partner has underway (along with policy frameworks and funding sources), and explore methods for sustainable and regular dialogue.

Over a two-and-a-half-month period, hybrid half-day workshops (virtual and in-person) were held in each region, inviting the following groups to come together along with HBCUs:

- Community college staff, including workforce and adult education teams
- Regional and local economic development authorities and chambers of commerce
- Local workforce development boards
- Perkins Regional coalition coordinators
- Regional vocational rehab (LRS) leaders
- JumpStart leaders and relevant K-12 stakeholders
- Local corrections and prison education partners
- State partners, including workforce leads at LWC, LED, DCFS, and the Board of Regents (and/or their relevant regional staff)
- Other training providers, foundations, and community service organizations as relevant by region

**Update to WIC and IBC Council** - On December 16, 2021 Board of Regents staff provided an update to members of the Workforce Investment Council (WIC) and its Industry-Based Certification (IBC) Council members, which includes information on the Master Plan, TOPS and other LOSFA-led Initiatives, as well as HBCU Advisory Council and LaSTEM updates.



## **Public Relations and Outreach Committee**

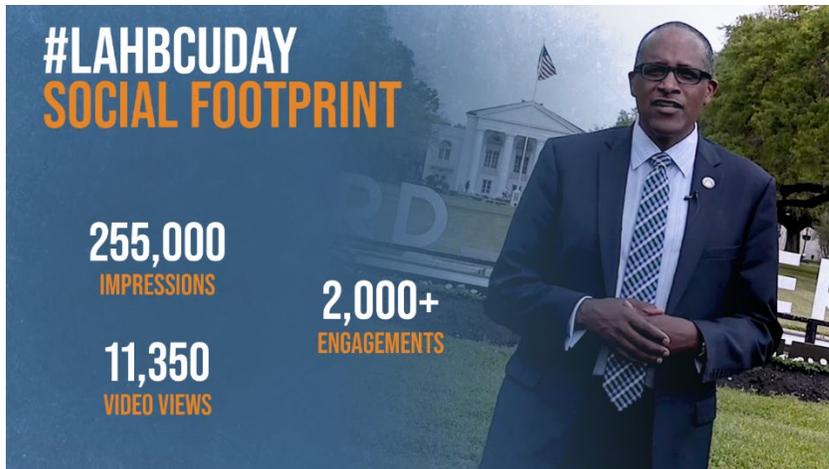
**NARRATIVE:** The Public Relations/Outreach Committee works to improve the identity, visibility, distinctive capabilities and overall competitiveness of HBCUs in Louisiana. By informing public policy discussions and practices, this workgroup will enhance the availability and dissemination of high-quality information concerning HBCUs to elected officials and the public.

### **2021 Goal**

- Provide an HBCU update to the Workforce Investment Council and Industry-Based Certification Council

### **Goals Achieved**

**Highly Visible Campaign on HBCU Value** - With a focused social media campaign the week of HBCU Day at the Capitol, campuses assisted with video promotions to highlight the value of Louisiana HBCUs. The social footprint led to a significant number of impressions, video views and engagements (see graphic below).



**Update to WIC and IBC Council** - On December 16, 2021 Board of Regents staff provided an update to members of the Workforce Investment Council (WIC) and its Industry-Based Certification (IBC) Council members, which included information on the Master Plan, TOPS and other LOSFA-led Initiatives, as well as HBCU Advisory Council and LaSTEM updates.

## HBCU Day at the Capitol



In order to meet COVID-19 protocols, HBCU Day at the Capitol in 2021 was hybrid in format. While the formal HBCU Advisory Council meeting that kicked off the day was held virtually, members were extended the invitation to attend in person when the House and Senate convened that day.

The virtual morning meeting included reports from several legislators, including the following:

- Rep. Jason Hughes stated that the previous week he was joined in the House Education Committee by Dr. Kim Hunter Reed to present a bill to make adjustments to the HBCU Advisory Council.
- Rep. Hughes also stated his intention to present House Concurrent Resolution 38 in acknowledgement of the state's HBCUs and invited Dr. Reed and other Council members to join him for its reading in the legislative chambers that afternoon.
- Rep. Ted James noted that the Legislative Black Caucus had released its legislative agenda, specifying three tax bills in the House Ways and Means Committee.
- Additionally, Rep. James informed the Council of a series of bills authored by other Black Caucus members pertaining to education, criminal justice reform, and women's health.
- Higher Education Council members mentioned the importance of faculty pay in the proposed budget.

After the meeting a number of Advisory Council members were recognized on behalf of the Council when resolutions in honor of HBCU Day were read in both chambers (See Appendix D). Grambling President Rick Gallo, a former state senator, and Southern University System President Dr. Ray Belton were also on hand to speak with legislators about the manifold contributions and value of HBCUs to Louisiana and her citizens.

## Information Sharing

Throughout the year, Advisory Council members received information regarding opportunities available to HBCUs and their students, as well as notices of and invitations to events, seminars, conferences, and online meetings to benefit their institutions. The list below provides an overview of the communications shared with members:

- Sent 3.23.21  
**An article from The Advocate highlighting the vital role of the HBCU football tradition**  
HBCU football bowl in La. a good bet for players, schools, state  
<https://advocate-la.newsmemory.com/?editionStart=Baton+Rouge>
- Sent 4.1.21  
**Call for Letters of Inquiry for *Equity-Minded Pathways to STEM Graduate Education* investment by the Sloan Foundation**
- Sent 4.13.21  
**Southern Area HBCU Servant Leader Scholarship Application**
- Sent 7.16.21  
**Request for outreach regarding IGNITE HBCU Excellence Act**
- Sent 8.20.21  
**Office of Broadband and Connectivity Memo re: FCC Broadband Affordability Program**
- Sent 9.18.21  
**HBCU Green Careers Roundtable Invitation**
- Sent 9.17.21  
**Second Chance Pell Application Opportunity**
- Sent 9.30.21  
**Second Chance Pell Application Information and Template**
  1. Federal Student Aid Letter: Invitation to Participate in the Second Chance Pell Experiment Under the Experimental Sites Initiative (ESI) (EA ID: GENERAL-21-46)
  2. State map of DOC facilities
  3. List of educational programs currently being offered throughout DOC institutions
  4. Second Chance Pell SAMPLE Letter of Interest
- Sent 10.5.21  
**Thurgood Marshall Scholarship Opportunity**

## **APPENDIX A**

# Applicable Laws

2018 Regular Session **ENROLLED**

## **ACT 236**

SENATE BILL NO. 199

BY SENATOR BISHOP

2 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:3138.7 and R.S. 36:651(T)(7), relative to postsecondary education; to  
3 establish the Advisory Council on Historically Black Colleges and Universities under  
4 the jurisdiction of the Board of Regents; to provide relative to the membership,  
5 powers, duties, and functions of the council; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 17:3138.7 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

### 8 **§3138.7. Advisory Council on Historically Black Colleges and Universities**

9 **A. The Advisory Council on Historically Black Colleges and Universities**  
10 **(HBCUs) is hereby established under the jurisdiction of the Board of Regents**  
11 **for the purpose of focusing on ways to strengthen the capacity of HBCUs to**  
12 **provide the highest quality education, increase opportunities for HBCUs to**  
13 **participate in and benefit from state programs, and ensure Louisiana has**  
14 **the highest proportion of college graduates from HBCUs in the country. In**  
15 **consultation with the Southern University System and Grambling State**  
16 **University, the council shall provide guidance and advice to commissioner**  
17 **of higher education and the Board of Regents regarding best practices to**

18 **strengthen the capacity of Louisiana’s HBCUs.**

19 **B. The council shall be composed of twenty-three members as follows:**

20 **(1) The commissioner of higher education, or his designee.**

21 **(2) The president of the Southern University System, or his designee.**

22 **(3) The president of the University of Louisiana System, or designee.**

23 **(4) The president of the Louisiana Community and Technical College**  
24 **System, or his designee.**

25 **(5) The chancellor of Southern University at New Orleans, or his**  
26 **designee.**

27 **(6) The chancellor of Southern University at Shreveport, or designee.**

2 **(7) The chancellor of the Southern University Law Center, or his**  
2 **designee.**

3 **(8) The chancellor of Southern University Agricultural Research and**  
4 **Extension Center, or his designee.**

5 **(9) The president of Grambling State University, or his designee.**

6 **(10) The president of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary**  
7 **Education, or his designee.**

8 **(11) The secretary of the Department of Economic Development, or**  
9 **designee.**

10 **(12) The executive director of the Louisiana Workforce Commission,**  
11 **or his designee.**

12                   **(13) The president of the Louisiana State Conference of the National**  
13                   **Association for the Advancement of Colored People, or his designee.**

14                   **(14) The president of the Urban League of Louisiana, or his designee.**

15                   **(15) The president of American Civil Liberties Union of Louisiana,**  
16                   **or his designee.**

17                   **(16) The president of the Senate, or his designee.**

18                   **(17) The speaker of the House of Representatives, or his designee.**

19                   **(18) The chairman of the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus, or his**  
20                   **designee.**

21                   **(19) A member of Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus, appointed by**  
22                   **the chairman of the caucus. If the chairman is a member of the**  
23                   **House of Representatives, the appointed member shall be a member**  
24                   **Senate. If the chairman is a member of the Senate, the appointed**  
25                   **member shall be a member of the House of Representatives.**

26                   **(20) The president of Xavier University of Louisiana, or his designee.**

27                   **(21) The president of Dillard University, or his designee.**

28                   **(22) The chairman of the Senate Committee on Education, or his**  
29                   **designee.**

30                   **(23) The chairman of the House Committee on Education, or his**

2                   **designee.**

2                   **C. Members of the council shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing**

3 authority and vacancies shall be filled in the manner of the original  
4 appointment.

5 D. Members shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed  
6 for expenses as provided by the appointing authority.

7 E. (1) The commissioner of higher education shall call the first meeting  
8 of the council no later than September 1, 2018, and a chairman and a vice  
9 chairman shall be elected from among the council's membership at this meeting.

10 (2) The council shall meet upon the call of the chairman, but not less than  
11 twice annually.

12 F. The Board of Regents shall provide staff support to assist the council  
13 in performing its duties and responsibilities.

14 G. The council shall:

15 (1) Advise the commissioner of higher education regarding methods to  
16 enhance the capabilities of HBCUs to serve the needs of their students and  
17 state and methods whereby the state can better serve HBCUs. The council  
18 shall also help identify methods to:

19 (a) Improve the identity, visibility, distinctive capabilities, and overall  
20 competitiveness of HBCUs.

21 (b) Provide the highest quality education to the greatest number of  
22 students.

23 © Promote centers of academic research & programmatic excellence

24 (d) Strengthen the fiscal stability of HBCUs.

- 25 (e) Increase HBCUs contribution to the st'te's educational and  
26 workforce goals.
- 27 (f) Elevate public awareness of the contributions and value of HBCUs.
- 28 (g) Encourage public-private investments in HBCUs.
- 29 (h) Engage the philanthropic, business, government, and education  
2 30 communities in a dialogue regarding current and  
future HBCU programs and initiatives.
- 2 (i) Foster enduring private-sector initiatives and public-private  
3 partnerships.
- 4 (j) Inform public policy discussions and practices by improving the  
5 availability and dissemination of high-quality information concerning  
6 HBCUs to elected officials and the public.
- 7 (k) Share best practices regarding administrative and programmatic  
8 processes.
- 9 (2) Strengthen the capacity of HBCUs to participate in federal and state  
10 programs by:
- 11 (a) Working with state and federal departments, agencies, offices to:
- 12 (i) Identify programs and initiatives in which HBCUs may be  
13 either underserved or underused as a resource.
- 14 (ii) Encourage HBCUs to participate in state and federal  
15 programs and initiatives.
- 16 (iii) Establish methods to increase the capacity of HBCUs to

17 effectively compete for grants, contracts, cooperative agreements

18 (b) Encouraging public-sector and private-sector involvement with

19 HBCUs on such initiatives.

20 (3) Strengthen the capacity of HBCUs to fully participate in Louisiana's

21 workforce and economic development activities by:

22 (a) Working with the Department of Economic Development to ensure

23 full participation and inclusion of HBCUs at inception stage and throughout

24 implementation of economic development activities.

25 (b) Working with the Louisiana Workforce Commission to help identify

26 educational programs to address workforce gaps.

27 (c) Requesting the Department of Economic Development and the

28 Louisiana Workforce Commission to provide periodic updates to council on

29 their activities and initiatives.

2 301 §651. Transfer of boards, commissions, departments, and agencies to

Department of

2 Education; boards, commissions, and agencies within Department of

3 Education

4 \* \* \*

5 T. The following agencies are placed within the Department of Education and

6 shall perform and exercise their powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities as

7 provided by law:

8 \* \* \*

9       **(7) The Advisory Council on Historically Black Colleges and Universities**

10       **(R.S. 17:3138.7).**

11       Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
12       signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without  
signature

13       by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
14       vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall  
become

15       effective on the day following such approval.

**ACT 417**

HOUSE BILL NO. 119

2 BY REPRESENTATIVE HUGHES AND SENATORS BOUIE AND HARRI1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:3138.7(B)(introductory paragraph) and to enact R.S.  
3 17:3138.7(B)(24) and (G)(4), relative to the Advisory Council on Historically Black  
4 Colleges and Universities; to provide for membership of the council; to provide for  
5 an annual report to the legislat're's education committees; and to provide for related  
6 matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 17:3138.7(B)(introductory paragraph) is hereby amended and  
9 reenacted and R.S. 17:3138.7(B)(24) and (G)(4) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §3138.7. Advisory Council on Historically Black Colleges and Universities

11 \* \* \*

12 B. The council shall be composed of twenty-three twenty-four members as  
13 follows:

14 \* \* \*

15 (24) A student serving as student body president of a public or private  
16 HBCU in Louisiana, selected annually by the HBCU student body presidents.

17 \* \* \*

18 G. The council shall:

19

\* \* \*

20 (4) Submit an annual written report to the House Committee on Education

2 21 and the Senate Committee on Education, not later than sixty days prior to t1

Regular Session of the Legislature, detailing its findings and recommendations on

2 all aspects of its work pursuant to this Subsection.

## **APPENDIX B**



**HBCU ADVISORY COUNCIL AGENDA**

**Monday, February 8, 2021**

**10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

10:00 a.m. – 10:03 a.m.	<b>Call to Order/ Roll Call</b>
	<i>Dr. Kim Hunter Reed, Commissioner of Higher Education</i>
10:03 a.m. – 10:05 a.m.	<b>Approval of the August Minutes</b>
10:05 a.m. – 10:35 a.m.	<b>Kellogg Foundation</b>
	<i>Christy Slater, Program Officer</i>
10:35 a.m. -11:20 a.m.	<b>HBCU Small Business Innovation Research Center of Excellence</b>
	<i>Dr. Michael Stubblefield, Vice Chancellor for Research and Strategic Initiatives</i>
11:20 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.	<b>2021 Council Goals Update</b>
	<b><i>Academic Affairs</i></b>
	<i>Dr. James Ammons, Co-Chair</i>
	<b><i>Workforce and Economic Development</i></b>
	<i>Mandi Mitchell, Co-Chair</i>
	<b><i>Public Relations</i></b>
	<i>Dr. Walter Kimbrough, Co-Chair</i>
11:35 a.m. -11:45 a.m.	<b>Board of Regents Update</b>
	<i>Dr. Kim Hunter Reed, Commissioner of Higher Education</i>
11:45 a.m.	<b>Public Comment</b>
11:50 a.m.	<b>Closing Remarks ~ Next Steps, Future Meetings</b>
12:00 p.m.	<b>Adjourn</b>



**HBCU ADVISORY COUNCIL AGENDA**  
**Monday, April 26, 2021**  
**10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

10:00 – 10:05 am	Welcome – Chair Kim Hunter Reed
10:05 – 10:07 am	Approval of Minutes
10:07 – 10:15 am	Presentation of Senate Concurrent Resolution
10:15 – 10:40 am	Open Discussion of 2021 Regular Session Legislation
10:40 – 11:25 am	Around the Table – Spotlight on HBCU Accomplishments
	<b>Dr. Rick Gallot, Grambling State University</b>
	<b>Dr. Ray Belton, Southern University Baton Rouge</b>
	<b>Dr. Rodney Ellis, Southern University Shreveport</b>
	<b>Dr. James Ammons, Southern University New Orleans</b>
	<b>Dr. Orlando McMeans, Southern University Ag. Center</b>
	<b>Chancellor John Pierre, Southern University Law Center</b>
	<b>Dr. Reynold Verret, Xavier University</b>
	<b>Dr. Walter Kimbrough, Dillard University</b>
11:25 – 11:35 am	Future Meetings, Future Focus Areas and Next Steps
11:35 – 11:40 am	Public Comments
11:40 – 12:00 pm	Other Business
12:00 pm	Adjournment



## HBCU ADVISORY COUNCIL AGENDA

Tuesday, November 2, 2021

10 a.m. – 12 p.m. via Zoom

- 10:00 – 10:05 a.m.**     **Welcome, Chair Kim Hunter Reed**  
**Introduction of Student Member, Emmanuel Ukot, Xavier University**
- 10:05 – 10:10 a.m.**     **Roll Call and Approval of Minutes**
- 10:10 – 10:30 a.m.**     **Louisiana Office of Broadband Update**  
*Veneeth Iyengar, LA Executive Director of Broadband and Connectivity*
- 10:30 – 10:45 a.m.**     **Federal Broadband Outlook**  
*Brian Looser, Policy Advisor, Sen. Bill Cassidy's Office*
- 10:45 – 11:00 a.m.**     **Southern University Law Center NTIA Grant**  
*Chancellor John Pierre, Southern University Law Center*
- 11:00 – 11:25 a.m.**     **Around the Table – HBCU Highlights**  
*Dr. Ray Belton, Southern University System (15 mins)*  
*Southern University Baton Rouge*  
*Southern University Shreveport*  
*Southern University New Orleans*  
*Southern University Agricultural Center*  
*Southern University Law Center*  
*Dr. Walter Kimbrough, Dillard University (5 mins)*  
*Dr. Reynold Verret, Xavier University (5 mins)*
- 11:25 – 11:35 a.m.**     **Future Meetings, Future Focus Areas and Next Steps**
- 11:35 – 11:40 a.m.**     **Public Comments**
- 11:40 – 12:00 p.m.**     **Other Business**
- 12:00 p.m.**             **Adjournment**

## **APPENDIX C**

## **Invitation to Participate in the Second Chance Pell Experiment Under the Experimental Sites Initiative (ESI) (EA ID: GENERAL-21-46)**

The Department is pleased to announce that it will consider letters of interest submitted on or after the date of this Electronic Announcement from Title IV-eligible postsecondary institutions to participate, beginning with the 2022-2023 award year, in the Second Chance Pell experiment under the Experimental Sites Initiative (ESI) authorized under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA).

The Second Chance Pell experiment was established in an August 3, 2015, Federal Register Notice ("2015 Notice"). The 2015 Notice provided that letters of interest received after October 2, 2015, may still be considered for participation, at the discretion of the Secretary. Additional institutions were invited to submit letters of interest in a May 20, 2019 Electronic Announcement. Beginning today, a third round of letters of interest will be considered for participation in the Second Chance Pell experiment. Institutions actively participating in the Second Chance Pell experiment do not need to submit an additional letter of interest to continue participation in the experiment; however, applicants that previously submitted a letter of interest, but were not accepted, may submit a new letter and be considered again.

Under the ESI, the Secretary has authority to grant waivers from certain Title IV, HEA statutory or regulatory requirements to allow a limited number of institutions to participate in experiments to test alternative methods for administering the Title IV, HEA programs. ESI experiments are designed to facilitate efforts by institutions to explore innovative practices aimed at improving student outcomes, the delivery of services, or both.

With the passage of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021, the Department of Education will further expand the ability to serve incarcerated students beyond this experiment by reinstating Pell Grant eligibility for eligible students enrolled in certain prison education programs beginning July 1, 2023. In preparation for these legislative changes, increased participation in the Second Chance Pell experiment will allow the Department to determine what will be needed for institutions to comply with the new provisions. Additional participants will also ensure continued diversity in the experiment, allowing the Department to learn more about how to effectively implement the new legislation and provide insight on how best to serve incarcerated students in the future. In particular, the Department seeks to increase geographic diversity to include institutions from states not currently represented in the experiment.

If your institution is interested in participating in the Second Chance Pell experiment beginning with the 2022-2023 award year, please review the 2015 Notice and submit a letter of interest no later than October 28, 2021. Letters of interest must be submitted as a Portable Document Format (PDF) attachment to an email message sent to [experimentalsites@ed.gov](mailto:experimentalsites@ed.gov). The subject line of the email should read "ESI 2021-Second Chance Pell." The letter of interest should be on

institutional letterhead and be signed by the institution's president, chancellor or chief financial officer. The letter must include the institution's official name and Department of Education Office of Postsecondary Education Identification (OPEID) number, as well as a mailing address, email address, and telephone number of a contact person at the institution.

As stated in the 2015 Notice, please include in the letter a listing of the academic programs that your institution is considering for inclusion in this experiment and, for each of those programs, an estimate of the number of participating students. We understand that institutions' academic program listings and the actual number of students who participate may vary from the information submitted in the letter.

Submitting a letter of interest does not commit the institution to participate in an experiment, nor does it commit the Department to approving an institution's request to participate. From the institutions that submit letters of interest, the Secretary will select a limited number of institutions based on criteria described in the 2015 Notice and with an interest in increasing geographic diversity.

The Department encourages institutions to submit letters of interest that propose to include programs focused on preparing students for employment in a sector or occupation that currently has or is projected to have a number of open positions locally or nationally. We are also interested in programs that would allow students to continue their training or academic program upon release, including on the campus of the institution. The Department will finalize the specific evaluation and reporting requirements before the third cohort begins participating in the experiment.

If you have any questions about the application process or the Second Chance Pell experiment, please send an email to [experimentalsites@ed.gov](mailto:experimentalsites@ed.gov).

### **Template for Application**

1. Must be submitted and dated no later than October 28, 2021
2. Must be submitted as a PDF attachment to an email sent to [experimentalsites@ed.gov](mailto:experimentalsites@ed.gov)
3. Must have subject line of the email read "ESI 2021-Second Chance Pell."
4. Must be on institutional letterhead
5. Must be signed by the institution's president, chancellor or chief financial officer
6. Must include the institution's official name
7. Must include Department of Education Office of Postsecondary Education Identification (OPEID) number
8. Must include address, email address, and telephone number of a contact person at the institution

## - SAMPLE LETTER -

September 28, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

Please consider this letter as indication that **(INSERT INSTITUTION OFFICIAL NAME HERE)** is interested in participating in the Second Chance Pell experiment beginning with the 2022-2023 award year.

**(INSERT INSTITUTION NAME HERE)** would consider experiment inclusion of the following programs with estimated number of participating students for each:

**(INSERT LIST OF POSSIBLE ACADEMIC PROGRAMS HERE, ESTIMATED # OF STUDENTS FOR EACH)**

We understand that academic program listings and the actual number of students who participate may vary from the information submitted in the letter.

It is our intent that focusing on programs such as these will help prepare learners for employment in a sector or occupation that meets regional or national workforce needs. We are also interested in considering programs that will allow students to continue their training or academic program upon release.

**(INSERT NAME OF CAMPUS CONTACT)** will serve as campus contact for **(INSERT INSTITUTION NAME HERE)** with Department of Education Office of Postsecondary Education Identification (OPEID) number **(INSERT OPEID NUMBER HERE)**. He/she may be contacted at **(INSERT ADDRESS, EMAIL ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER HERE)**.

Thank you in advance for accepting this letter of interested and for considering **(INSERT INSTITUTION NAME HERE)** for participation in this vital experiment.

Sincerely,

## APPENDIX D

Senate Resolution 20 by Senator Cleo Fields and House Concurrent Resolution by Rep. Jason Hughes mirrored each other with content that highlights the breadth and depth of the contributions HBCUs make to Louisiana and her citizens.

The instruments read as follows:

*Whereas, Louisiana is proud to be home to eight Historically Black Colleges and Universities – Dillard University, Grambling State University, Southern University and A&M College, Southern Agriculture Research and Extension Center, Southern Law Center, Southern University New Orleans, Southern University Shreveport and Xavier University of Louisiana – and the nation's only HBCU System (Southern University System), which uniquely positions it as an exemplar of successful HBCU policy and practice;*

*Whereas, Louisiana's HBCUs collectively enrolled 22,854 students in 2019-2020;*

*Whereas, since their establishment 184 years ago, HBCUs have provided Black students with a powerful avenue, and, for some, the only path to a college degree;*

*Whereas, as Louisiana grapples with both the global COVID-19 pandemic and historic national civil unrest, HBCUs have proven to be invaluable assets based on their history, student experiences, and societal contributions;*

*Whereas, several HBCUs and their leaders are contributing to research to help fight the biological and socio-political impacts of the pandemic;*

*Whereas, higher education universally provides wide-ranging benefits to students, including higher average lifetime wages, better career opportunities, increased job security and satisfaction, and better health, as well as a considerable economic impact on communities, the state, and the region;*

*Whereas, HBCUs enroll and successfully graduate greater numbers of low-income, first-generation and academically underprepared college students compared to non-HBCUs;*

*Whereas, evidence demonstrates high levels of student-faculty engagement and mentorship at HBCUs leading to stronger student success;*

*Whereas, HBCUs are credited with building the Black middle class in America with Black graduates of HBCUs significantly more likely to be better off financially and socially;*

*Whereas, research has found that, on average, 58% of Black HBCU graduates strongly agree that professors at their university cared about them as individuals (compared to 25% for Black non-HBCU graduates);*

*Whereas, Black HBCU graduates are nearly twice as likely as Black graduates of non-HBCUs to strongly agree that their university prepared them well for life outside of college (55% vs. 29%);*

*Whereas, the pageantry, traditions, bands and rivalries of HBCUs are second to none; and*

*Whereas Louisiana's HBCU have distinguished themselves nationally and in our state in numerous ways such as the following:*

***Dillard University*** - *One of the nation's leading producers of Black physicists*

***Grambling State University*** - *Leading producer of computer science graduates in the state of Louisiana and the only institution to offer bachelor's degree programs in cybersecurity and cloud computing*

***Southern University and A&M College (SUBR)*** – *Leading producer of Black engineers in Louisiana whose graduates play significant and creative and administrative roles at NASA, Boeing, IBM, Entergy and Dow Chemical among other leading companies*

***Southern University at New Orleans (SUNO)*** – *Only HBCU in the state to offer a forensic science program*

***Southern University Shreveport (SUSLA)*** - *Only comprehensive two-year community college in north Louisiana with an aerospace technology program*

***Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center*** - *First HBCU to launch its own CBC and THC medical marijuana lines.*

***Southern University Law Center (SULC)*** – *Counted among SULC alumni are 104 graduates currently serving as judges*

***Xavier University of Louisiana*** – *Nationally recognized for the number of Black graduates who go on to successfully complete Medical School (Medical School Association of American Medical Colleges' 2020 report)*