

*Kim Hunter Reed, Chair*  
*James Ammons*  
*Ray Belton*  
*Joseph Bouie*  
*Gerald Boudreaux*  
*Preston Castille*  
*Ava Dejoie*  
*Rodney Ellis*  
*Randal Gaines*  
*Richard Gallot, Jr.*  
*Jimmy Harris*  
*James Henderson*  
*Jason Hughes*



*Walter Kimbrough*  
*Mandi Mitchell*  
*Orlando McMeans*  
*Kelsey Perine*  
*John Pierre*  
*Edward Price*  
*Larissa Littleton-Steib*  
*Toya Barnes-Teamer*  
*Reynold Verret*  
*Arlanda Williams*  
*Stephanie Willis*

## MINUTES

### Historically Black Colleges and Universities Advisory Council Via Zoom February 8, 2021

The Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Advisory Council met in session at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, February 8, 2021 via Zoom. Dr. Kim Hunter Reed called the meeting to order.

#### ROLL CALL

The roll was called and a quorum was established.

<u>Present at the meeting were:</u>	<u>Absent from the meeting were:</u>
Dr. Kim Hunter Reed	Dr. Ray Belton
Dr. James Ammons	Senator Joseph Bouie
Preston Castille	Dr. Rodney Ellis
Ava Dejoie/Kellie Taylor White	Representative Randal Gaines
Dr. Reynold Verret	Dr. Rick Gallot
Dr. Walter Kimbrough	Senator Jimmy Harris
Dr. Jim Henderson	Arlanda Williams
Representative Jason Hughes	Kelsey Perine
Dr. Orlando McMeans	Stephanie Willis
Mandi Mitchell	
John Pierre	
Dr. Larissa Littleton-Steib	
Dr. Toya Barnes-Teamer	
Senator Gerald Boudreaux	

Commissioner Kim Hunter Reed called the meeting to order and congratulated Dr. James Ammons on being named

Chancellor of Southern University at New Orleans. Dr. Ammons provided brief remarks.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

**On the motion of Representative Jason Hughes, seconded by Chancellor John Pierre, the HBCU Advisory Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the November Council meeting.**

KELLOGG FOUNDATION:

Dr. Toya Barnes-Teamer introduced Christy Slater, Program Officer at the Kellogg Foundation. Ms. Slater provided information on the Foundation, indicating that it focuses on three areas: working families, thriving children, and equitable communities. Its vision for New Orleans is that it becomes a child-centered city. Kellogg received a \$300 million grant to disperse to the community and its new grant portal will be available in March. HBCUs can address one of the following focus areas for their grant submissions to be competitive: innovations in quality early childhood education, employment or economic equity and health equity; philanthropic partnerships for community rebuilding and reimagining post-COVID-19; support for institutions or leadership serving people of color, racial equity, and racial healing, including narrative change; and policy advocacy and systems change. Ms. Slater addressed questions and comments; a number of HBCU presidents thanked her for Kellogg's existing grant support.

HBCU SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH CENTER OF EXCELLENCE:

Carrie Robison introduced Dr. Michael Stubblefield, SU A&M's Vice Chancellor for Research and Strategic Initiatives. Dr. Stubblefield is working on a collaborative center of excellence approach, designed to engage all Louisiana HBCUs, to spur workforce and economic growth in Louisiana communities served by HBCUs. He has identified several purposes for the center: establish collaborative business development; launch a research and innovation center to aid in Louisiana workforce, economic, and community growth; engage technology and business stakeholders to define local needs; engage Louisiana's HBCUs to spur economic development by supporting new and existing businesses in the community; embed business development efforts with workforce needs and training opportunities through HBCUs; aid in launching early-stage technology and other innovative businesses; establish a statewide incubator pilot with potential for regional expansion and national modeling; and assist in accelerator efforts once early-state testing and market pitches are done. Dr. Reed recognized the importance of asset mapping and knowing what support may be needed and sought from foundations for our efforts. Dr. Stubblefield will be seeking buy-in from all HBCUs to advance this effort through engagement of external consultants to provide advice

relative to the structure and organization of the center. Dr. Stubblefield indicated that he will be engaging with all HBCUs in the coming weeks to discuss initial commitments and plans for implementation of the concept.

#### 2021 COUNCIL GOALS UPDATE:

##### Academic Affairs

Dr. Ammons presented to the Council the focus and strategies of the Academic Affairsworkgroup. The workgroup is designing a systemic approach to teacher prep and teacher readiness programs. The goal is to identify barriers that prevent scholars of color from pursuing and obtaining teaching degrees. Identifying these barriers is essential to the work to increase the number of teachers of diverse background, as well as to the focus on increasing the numbers of male teachers.

The workgroup identified partnerships with the Louisiana Library dual enrollment grant, recently received from the U.S. Department of Education, to assist in their efforts. This work will include an emphasis on strengthening students' pathways and increasing student enrollment through the LCTCS transfer pipeline. The workgroup also supports a data component to analyze the number of African American students who take dual enrollment, defined as college courses in high school.

##### Workforce and Economic Development

Mandi Mitchell presented the Workforce and Economic Development workgroup's focus as it continues to roll out the playbook and ensure that HBCUs are familiar with LED best practices for business engagement. Tavares Walker was introduced to the Council as Workforce Development lead for the Louisiana Workforce Commission; Mr. Walker provided brief comments.

##### Public Relations

Dr. Kimbrough informed the Council that HBCU Day at the Capitol will be April 26, 2021. He requested that each institution provide a designee to serve on the planning committee. HBCUs have also partnered with Louisiana Public Broadcasting to participate in its upcoming program, "Black Churches in Louisiana." This broadcast, scheduled for tonight at 6:30 p.m., will include a discussion among a panel of the HBCU leaders.

Dr. Kimbrough expressed the importance of capitalizing on social media and the current heightened focus on HBCUs, announcing that the public relations workgroup is planning a branding and media summit. Dr. Reed reminded the Council that proposed legislation requires an annual report from this workgroup and requested that they think about a timeline for developing that report.

#### BOARD OF REGENTS UPDATE:

Dr. Reed expressed the importance of sharing positive and accurate messaging around the COVID-19 vaccination campaign. She told the Council that she is meeting with Woman's Hospital to address the infertility concerns being raised related to the vaccine.

Dr. Reed also announced that Regents is partnering with the Louisiana Department of Education in a program called Fast Forward, which will effectively redesign the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades of high school.. Fast Forward will include a pilot in every region of the state, with eight planning grants to be dispersed during March. The planning work, to include school districts, higher education and business partners, will begin in June. Dr. Reed also provided an update on the new statewide Student Success Council, which has just begun its work.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no public comments.

#### CLOSING REMARKS~ NEXT STEPS, FUTURE MEETINGS:

The HBCU Advisory Council's next meeting is scheduled for April 26, 2021, in conjunction with HBCU Day at the Capitol.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the HBCU Advisory Council, the meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.