

MINUTES

BOARD OF REGENTS

December 13, 2023

The Board of Regents met at 2:27 p.m. on Wednesday, December 13, 2023, in the Thomas Jefferson Rooms A&B, Claiborne Building, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Chair Collis Temple III called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

Ms. Doreen Brasseaux called the roll, and a quorum was established.

Present for the meeting were:

Collis Temple III, Chair
Gary Solomon, Jr., Vice Chair
Robert Levy, Secretary
David Aubrey
Christian Creed
Blake David
Randy Ewing
Stephanie Finley*
Samuel Gil, Student Member
Darren Mire
Wilbert Pryor
T. Jay Seale III
Terrie Sterling
Felix Weill
Judy Williams-Brown

Mgt. Board representatives present were:

Jimmie Woods, Sr., LSU System

Mgt. Board representatives not present were:

SU System Representative
UL System Representative
LCTCS Representative

Absent from the meeting was:

Phillip May, Jr.

Appendix A

Guest List

Chair Temple welcomed Governor John Bel Edwards, who joined the Board of Regents prior to the committee meetings. He provided an introduction and thanked Governor Edwards for what he has done during his time as Governor. Governor Edwards thanked the Regents members for their service on the

* Present for Committee Meetings

Board and spoke of the importance of the work they do. He spoke of his time in office and the challenges faced, noting the positive impacts that investing in education and training have on the state.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Temple asked if there were any public comments. There were none.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 18, 2023 MEETING

On motion of Regent Weill, seconded by Regent Creed, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2023 meeting.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Chair Temple made the following comments:

- He transitioned to Student Board Member Samuel Gil to provide his updates:
 - Regent Gil noted the Council of Student Body Presidents are heading to Washington, D.C. at the end of January to attend the College Convention, but that he is unfortunately unable to make this trip. He indicated that he would like to have COSBP potentially author a welcome letter to Governor-elect Landry to express their support for his agenda.
 - He noted that McNeese State University's president recently resigned, so the UL System will be undertaking its fifth presidential search this year.
 - He stated that most commencements at institutions have occurred, and he is excited for those individuals who are entering the workforce.
- He acknowledged the engagement of several Board members at higher education events happening across the state. He noted that Regent David and his son, Bryce, attended the Artemis 1 recognition event at the NASA Michoud facility. He added that Regent Mire joined Governor Edwards and officials from the LSU-HSC, LCMC Health, Tulane and Louisiana Cancer Research Center to announce a new agreement between the four local healthcare institutions to accelerate the state's effort to secure a prestigious National Cancer Institute designation. Regent Levy and Regent Williams-Brown joined Commissioner Reed and Dr. Susannah Craig at Louisiana Tech University to tour the campus as President Guice wrapped up his term there. Regent Solmon joined Commissioner Reed at the LUMCON Blue Works ribbon cutting, toured the new facility and attended the quarterly LA STEM meeting.
- He noted the celebration of the 50th Bayou Classic a few weeks prior. Regent Aubrey and Commissioner Reed attended the festivities. Commissioner Reed had the opportunity to wear a one-of-a-kind jacket created by the undergraduate students who are part of the "Fab Lab" at Southern University. This jacket was a combination of the two schools' mascots, jaguars and tigers, and the staff had the opportunity to speak with these students during an episode of the Regents' podcast, "Louisiana's Got Talent."
- He stated that the Board had a great time the previous night when they attended the McNeese vs. LSU Women's Basketball Game held at the PMAC. Regents had the opportunity to meet with McNeese Head Coach Lynn Kennedy and LSU Head Coach Kim Mulkey.

- He then expressed his appreciation of outgoing board member Regent Randy Ewing and acknowledged his tremendous work both on the Board of Regents and beyond. Regent Ewing then voiced his sentiments regarding his time on the Board.

MASTER PLAN UPDATE – MEAUXMENTUM MOMENT

Dr. Tristan Denley, Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs and Innovation, began by stating that the second Meauxmentum Summit will be held on February 7th and 8th. He added that since the first Summit was held, LSU A&M has been hard at work implementing their plans and introduced Dr. Roy Haggerty, Executive Vice President and Provost of Louisiana State University and A&M College, to present on the work being done at LSU A&M. Dr. Haggerty noted that the 2023 Summit was a collaborative event and his team, lead by Vice Provost Jacqueline Bach, has continued to meet on a monthly basis based on the work started at the Summit. He then provided an overview of their work in terms of Meauxmentum, stating that they are focused on three key components: to increase retention rates, decrease time to graduation, and reduce student debt. He provided statistics of student success at LSU A&M and noted improvements are still continuing despite these gains. He noted three projects being done at LSU: developing a more streamlined process for changing a major, revising curricular pathways, and incorporating experiential activities in career exploration. Regent Aubrey appreciated LSU A&M's work to raise its profile and attract high-quality students. Regent Pryor asked whether LSU A&M's response to the crime the previous year was appropriate and discussion was had on the specifics of this question. Dr. Haggerty responded by comparing LSU A&M's safety to other similar institutions, emphasizing that the LSU A&M campus is very safe and outlining the safety measures being taken to keep students safe.

Regent Pryor expressed concern about the lack of nursing school options available at the flagship when compared to neighboring states' flagship offerings. Dr. Haggerty responded that LSU does have two nursing programs, but these are not offered at the LSU A&M campus. Further discussion occurred on this item. Dr. Haggerty suggested LSU A&M would only pursue this if it would guarantee an overall increase in the total number of nurses graduating in the state and in no way do harm to any other program. Regent Sterling stated that presently in the Baton Rouge region there are nursing programs at Southern

University A&M, BRCC, and others. She noted that there is a shortage of clinical rotations and spots in Baton Rouge, so the question of impact would be legitimate. She added that LSUHSC-New Orleans and LSUHSC-Shreveport produce superior candidates based on the interdisciplinary learning that happens in association with the medical school and other campuses. Commissioner Reed thanked Dr. Haggerty for his Meauxmentum work and asked him to continue to articulate suggestions to advance this work, as we want this to be a lasting partnership.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Chair Temple inquired if any member of the Board wanted to take up any of the Committee reports separately before a motion was made to accept all reports. There were no requests.

On motion of Regent Mire, seconded by Regent Sterling, the Board voted unanimously to approve all Committee recommendations from the December 13, 2023 Committee meetings.

LEGISLATIVE

LEGISLATIVE REPORTS

Ms. Brianna Golden, Policy Advisor for Strategic Planning and Student Success, presented the Committee with an overview of Regents' annual reports that are to be sent to the legislature. There are fifteen annual reports required:

- Title IX/Power-Based Violence Reports – Act 472 (2021 Regular Session)
- Postsecondary Inclusive Education Advisory Council Report – Act 682 (2022 Regular Session)
- LASTEM Advisory Council Status Report – Act 392 (2017 Regular Session)
- Master Plan Annual Report – Act 400 (2018 Regular Session)
- Teacher Recruitment, Recovery, and Retention Task Force Report – HCR 39 (2021 Regular Session)
- Health Works Commission Annual Report – 17:2048:51 (2008 Regular Session)
- Nursing Supply and Demand Council Report – SR 129 (2022 Regular Session)
- Dual Enrollment Task Force Findings and Recommendations – Act 147 (2021 Regular Session)
- HBCU Advisory Council Report – ACT 417 (2021 Regular Session)

- Statewide Articulation and Transfer Report – RS 17:3168
- Governor’s Military and Veteran Friendly Campus Program Status Report – Act 232 (2015 Regular Session)
- HERO Fund Report – Act 109 (2021 Regular Session)
- TOPS Scholarship Program Report – RS 17:5067
- Cybersecurity Talent Initiative Fund Report – Act 57 (2020 Regular Session)
- College and Career Readiness Outcomes Status Report – SCR 37 (2023 Regular Session)

She noted that, of these fifteen reports, two have already been submitted and three will be considered today, leaving ten reports to be completed.

A. TOPS Annual Report

Dr. Tristan Denley, Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs and Innovation, provided an overview of the three annual reports to be considered at this meeting, starting with the TOPS Annual Report. He summarized the data for those students who utilize TOPS and noted that these data reflect similar outcomes to those we have seen in previous years. He specifically noted a concerning trend that the number of TOPS-funded students continues to decline, which is a longstanding trajectory. He provided an overview of the rates of acceptance of the difference TOPS levels over the years and stated that these data prompted a desire to know more about the students who choose not to accept the TOPS award. He noted that BOR and LOSFA worked with data from the National Student Clearinghouse to identify the percentage of students who declined to accept their TOPS award but enrolled in an institution out of state. He then walked through data tables that show proportions of students based on TOPS level who did not accept TOPS and went out of state and discussed possible reasons for these results. Regent Ewing raised the possibility of increasing the amount of the TOPS award to reflect increases in price of tuition, and Dr. Denley responded. Regent Gil asked about the excess funds returned from TOPS and Commissioner Reed noted that this is the second year that additional TOPS funding was not requested. Mr. Matthew LaBruyere responded to questions related to the TOPS funds that have remained in the higher education budget.

B. Governor's Military and Veteran Friendly Campus Annual Report

Dr. Denley then spoke about the Governor's Military and Veteran Friendly Campus Annual Report. He provided the status of participating public institutions and noted that the first private university (Dillard University) has requested and attained this designation. He noted that recent legislation has allowed for tiers of designation and that he is excited to bring this forward for board consideration in the coming year.

C. Postsecondary Inclusive Education Advisory Council Annual Report

Dr. Denley then transitioned to the Postsecondary Inclusive Education Advisory Council Annual Report and provided a brief overview of this work. He noted that the follow institutions have current programs:

- Baton Rouge Community College
- Bossier Community College
- Louisiana State University of Alexandria
- Nicholls State University
- Southeastern Louisiana University
- University of Louisiana at Lafayette

He then reviewed the funding for new programs or expanding existing programs:

Approved Applications for Establishing a New Programs - \$80,000

- Louisiana State University at Alexandria
- Louisiana State University A&M
- Southern University at New Orleans
- University of Louisiana at Monroe

Approved Applications for Expanding an Existing Program - \$50,000

- Baton Rouge Community College
- Bossier Parish Community College
- Nicholls State University
- Southeastern Louisiana University
- University of Louisiana at Lafayette

He noted that a RFA is currently open, with applications due by January 19, 2024. He added that institutions may apply for a \$20,000 planning grant, and up to \$60,000 (with a one-to-one match) to begin a new program.

Received each report and authorized the Commissioner of Higher Education to submit the reports to the appropriate executive offices and/or legislative committees on behalf of the Board of Regents.

APPROVAL FOR SUBMISSION OF LEGISLATIVE REPORTS

Ms. Golden noted that the Board of Regents has a series of reports to be submitted to the Legislature, with ten reports remaining. She asked the Legislative Committee to provide approval for the Commissioner to submit these reports.

Approved granting the Commissioner authority to finalize legislative reports required by 2023 legislation and submit them to the Legislature by their respective 2024 deadlines, with an update to the Board at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

Regent David asked if the Board members could be copied on the email submission of these reports when they are sent to the Legislature and staff agreed to do so.

RESEARCH AND SPONSORED INITIATIVES

FY 2024-25 BOARD OF REGENTS SUPPORT FUND PLAN AND BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

Ms. Carrie Robison, Deputy Commissioner for Sponsored Programs, provided an overview of the constitutionally designated Board of Regents Support Fund and the requirement to provide a budget to the Governor and the Legislature for the coming fiscal year for consideration during the 2024 Regular Legislative Session. She reviewed recent trends in revenue generation and summarized the process for identifying a base funding level for the next fiscal year.

Following the background review, Ms. Robison indicated that a base budget of \$17.85 million was recommended by staff and committees advisory to the Board. She noted that the recommended budget is aligned with the official estimate provided by the Revenue Estimating Conference. She noted that though

continuing extremely low revenue estimates threaten the viability of Support Fund programs, the recommended budget is appropriate and sufficient to retain all existing programs.

Ms. Robison then provided a breakdown of the budget request by program and subprogram, acknowledging prior commitments, administrative costs, and funds for new projects, as well as contingency plans in the event that revenues in FY 2024-25 exceed or fail to meet the base budget level.

Approved the FY 2024-25 Board of Regents Support Fund Plan and Budget, with contingencies, as presented.

STATEWIDE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PLAN DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Robison asked Dr. Michael Khonsari, Associate Commissioner for Sponsored Programs Research and Development, to discuss updates to the statewide science and technology plan, initially adopted in 2010. Dr. Khonsari provided an overview of the 2010 plan and the rationale for updating. He walked through ways in which the update will reset expectations based on the success of the 2010 plan in achieving its goals, then reviewed the timeline by which a full updated document would be provided for review and brought to the Board for action.

This item was for information only; no action was requested.

UPDATE: 2023 LASTEM SUMMIT

Ms. Robison invited Dr. Clint Coleman, LASTEM Administrator, to provide a recap of the 2023 LASTEM Summit, held in Lafayette on October 17th. Dr. Coleman informed the Board that the Summit was significantly larger than previous events and extremely well received by attendees and vendors. He noted that Board members had been provided at their seats with a program of the Summit and a book written by the keynote speaker. He concluded by announcing the 2024 Summit, to be held on October 8th in Lafayette. Regent Aubrey asked whether consideration had been given to hosting the Summit in a more northern part of the state. Dr. Coleman affirmed that staff are actively considering this.

This item was for information only; no action was requested.

FACILITIES AND PROPERTY

ACT 959 PROJECT: DELGADO DECKHAND TRAINING FACILITY

Mr. Chris Herring, Associate Commissioner for Facilities Planning and Emergency Management, presented the Act 959 project to the Board. He noted that Act 959 of 2003 permits institutions to initiate certain capital projects not exceeding \$10M that are funded with self-generated/auxiliary revenues, grants, donations, local or federal funds. The Louisiana Community and Technical College System submitted an Act 959 project on behalf of Delgado Community College (DCC) for the purpose of constructing a new two-story facility at DCC's existing Maritime and Industrial Training facility on the New Orleans East Campus. Over more than two decades the Maritime and Industrial Training facility at DCC has earned an international reputation for providing high-quality maritime and industrial firefighting, radar, safety, and U.S. Coast Guard-approved training. The new facility will allow DCC to expand the current training opportunities offered on the Maritime and Industrial Training campus.

The project scope involves construction of a new two-story facility consisting of approximately 3,000 square feet (SF) of teaching space and 2,000 SF of concrete staging area. The first floor will contain a teaching kitchen and dining area where students will learn to plan and prepare meals on board vessels. The second floor will contain classroom space and a mock ship bridge looking out over a mock barge, where students will participate in exercises taught by experienced instructors. The project was originally approved in June 2020 under Board of Regents policy as a small capital project with an estimated cost of approximately \$800,000, and an architect was selected through the Architect Selection Board. After design of the project commenced, the architects determined that to provide the facility as required by DCC, the estimated cost would exceed the \$1M small capital project threshold. Approval under the provisions of Act 959 allows DCC to complete the design and bid next year. The total cost of this project is now estimated to be \$1.3M, which will be funded with a grant of \$800,000 from the U.S. Economic Development Administration and \$500,000 in self-generated revenues derived from DCC building-use fees.

Approved the Act 959 project submitted by the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, on behalf of Delgado Community College, for the purpose of expanding the existing Maritime and Industrial Training facility on the New Orleans East campus.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

Dr. Tristan Denley, Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs and Innovation, presented the Consent Agenda, consisting of routine staff approvals.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approved the items on the Consent Agenda as presented.

A. Routine Staff Approvals

- 1. Louisiana State University at Alexandria: Request to terminate the Certificate of Applied Science (CAS) in Pharmacy Technician (CIP 51.0805) due to low enrollment.**
- 2. Grambling State University: Request to change the title for the Bachelor of Arts in Visual and Performing Arts (CIP 50.9999) to a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre with concentrations in Theatre and Visual Arts, to be more consistent with the curriculum and as recommended by the program's accreditor, the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST).**
- 3. LA Tech: Request to establish an Undergraduate Certificate (UC) in Sport Coaching (CIP 31.0501) with a progress report due October 1, 2024.**
- 4. Northwestern State University: Request to change the name of the Department of Psychology to the Department of Psychology and Addiction Studies to more accurately represent the focus of the department and degree programs offered within the department.**
- 5. University of Louisiana at Monroe: Request to change the name of the Marriage and Family Clinic to the Individual, Couple and Family Therapy Clinic to more accurately reflect the services provided by the discipline-specific clinicians at the clinic.**

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Dr. Denley presented for approval the Associate of Applied Science in Cybersecurity at Fletcher Technical Community College and the Associate of Applied Science in Graphic and Web Design at Southern University Shreveport (SUSLA).

Dr. Denley noted the AAS from Fletcher also aligns with the Universal Transfer Pathway. He added that the program helps to meet the state's need for growth in cyber programs and thanked the

Cybersecurity Commission and Cybersecurity Education Management Council for their work to create cyber programs in the state.

Dr. Denley noted that the AAS in Graphic and Web Design is being built upon SUSLA's Certificate in Web Design, which is now becoming a degree. He added that SUSLA has partnered with the Epic Learning Center in Shreveport to house the program. Regents Pryor and Aubrey recognized Professor Fred Moss, Professor of Information Technology at SUSLA, and thanked him for attending the meeting.

Approved the academic programs as presented.

UNIVERSAL TRANSFER PATHWAYS

Dr. Denley then presented the Universal Transfer Pathways. He explained that this work began when the matrix was first put in place and now it is the case that general education courses will transfer from and to any public institution, making them completely portable. Now it is time to look forward at the Universal Transfer Pathways.

He explained that the pathways are 60 credit hours, which include 39 hours of general education courses and 21 hours of major-specific courses. He presented the list of 24 pathways, which were built for the most popular majors in the state.

Regent Solomon asked if there are students currently enrolled who need to know that this is available to them. Dr. Denley responded that the next step is to get the word out, but that both members of the State Articulation and Transfer Council and System Chief Academic Officers are already aware of the pathways. Campuses will begin to build the degree audit infrastructure, but until this work is complete campuses have been asked to honor the pathways. Regent Solomon asked if there is a role for Regents in assisting students in the transition. Dr. Denley responded that this will take ongoing work and Regents staff will work with campuses to ensure students receive the correct information.

Approved the Universal Transfer Pathways as presented.

STATEWIDE PROGRAMS

Dr. Sujuan Boutté, Executive Director of LOSFA, presented the Consent Agenda items.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approved the items on the Consent Agenda as presented.

- A. TOPS Exceptions – TOPS provision that requires students to remain continuously enrolled and to earn the annual credit hours required during the academic year.**
 - B. TOPS Home Study Exceptions – TOPS provision that requires a student to begin a home study program no later than the conclusion of the tenth grade.**
- A. TOPS Exceptions – TOPS provision that requires students to remain continuously enrolled and to earn the annual credit hours required during the academic year.**

Dr. Sujuan Boutté, Executive Director of LOSFA, noted Sections 705.A.6 and 7 of the TOPS administrative rules require TOPS recipients to continue to enroll in the Fall and Spring semesters of each academic year, to remain enrolled throughout the semester, and to earn the annual credit hours required by the end of the academic year. Section 2103.E authorizes the governing body to grant an exception to these requirements when the student/recipient has exceptional circumstances that are beyond their immediate control and that necessitate full or partial withdrawal from or non-enrollment in an eligible postsecondary institution.

Dr. Boutté indicated that 14 requests for exception to the TOPS requirements were reviewed and approved by the LOSFA Advisory Board at its meetings on November 7, 2023.

- B. TOPS Home Study Exceptions – TOPS provision that requires a student to begin a home study program no later than the conclusion of the tenth grade.**

Dr. Boutté reminded the Committee that the TOPS statute requires that a student begin a home study program no later than the conclusion of the tenth-grade year. Act 95 of the 2021 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature implemented a provision which allows the administering agency to grant exceptions to this requirement when a student provides documentation that the transfer to a home study program later than the statutorily provided time frame was beyond the student's control.

Regent Pryor asked for examples of reasons to request an exemption, and Dr. Boutté provided. Regent Aubrey asked for estimates of the number of exemptions provided each year and the fiscal impact. Dr. Boutté responded that the numbers can vary significantly from month to month, but that she can provide the data. She further indicated that fiscal impacts are minimal and are accounted for in the funding model.

She noted that three requests for an exception to the deadline to begin a home study program were reviewed and approved by the LOSFA Advisory Board at its meetings on November 7, 2023.

PLANNING, RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Susannah Craig, Deputy Commissioner of Strategic Planning and Student Success, provided a historical background of how Proprietary Schools came to be under the umbrella of the Board of Regents. She noted that the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education had authority over the licensing and regulation of proprietary schools until 1998, when Act 151 of the First Extraordinary Session of 1998 transferred “all powers, duties, and responsibilities of the state Department of Education, the State Board of Elementary Education, and the State Superintendent of Education for the licensing of proprietary schools to the Board of Regents and the Commissioner of Higher Education.”

She also noted that proprietary school law is very prescriptive and staff follows the law regarding initial and renewal applications and handles transcripts in case of the unfortunate event that a school must close. She added that everything brought to the Board for approval has been vetted by staff and reviewed and approved by the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission.

She then presented the Consent Agenda, which included two renewal applications from Licensure of academic degree-granting institutions and 29 renewal applications from the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission. The Consent Agenda also included an approval of payment from the Student Protection Fund, for which item Ms. Courtney Britton, Proprietary Schools Program Administrator, provided a discussion of the closure of the Advanced Welding School located in Walker, Louisiana and the students who have applied for assistance from the Student Protection Fund. Regent Pryor inquired

about the renewal application of Teachers College, Columbia University and the program offered. Dr. Craig provided an overview of the program, which includes a Summer Principals Academy. Regent Creed asked where funds in the Student Protection Fund originate; Ms. Britton responded that the funds are received from proprietary school application fees and provided more information regarding the Fund.

Approved the items on the Consent Agenda as presented.

A. R.S. 17:1808 (Academic Licensure)

1. Renewal Applications

- a. Bard Early College in New Orleans**
- b. Teachers College, Columbia University**

2. Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission

- (a) 160 Driving Academy - Metairie - License #2340**
- (b) Academy of Interactive Entertainment, Lafayette, LA - License #2136**
- (c) Ayers Career College, New Orleans, LA - License #828**
- (d) Becker Online, Downers Grove, IL - License #2368**
- (e) Coastal College - Baton Rouge - License #2019**
- (f) Coastal Truck Driving School of New Orleans, Harvey, LA - License #2200**
- (g) Crescent City School of Gaming & Bartending, Shreveport, LA - License #594**
- (h) Delta College Inc. - Slidell Branch - License #2066**
- (i) Delta College, Inc. - Covington - License #947**
- (j) Diesel Driving Academy - Shreveport - License #369**
- (k) Durham Transport Academy, Shreveport, LA - License #2341**
- (l) iWeld Institute, Houma, LA - License #2323**
- (m) Joshua Career Institute of Louisiana, Shreveport, LA - License #2307**
- (n) Lafayette Dental Assistant School - License #2251**
- (o) Mia's Medical Academy, Baton Rouge, LA - License #2202**
- (p) National Aesthetic Laser Institute, Baton Rouge, LA - License #2295**
- (q) New Orleans Dental Assistant School, Metairie, LA - License #2252**
- (r) Nursing Assistant Network Association (NANA), New Orleans, LA - License #920**
- (s) Over Drive Truck Driving School of Louisiana, Deville, LA - License #2283**
- (t) Pelican Chapter, ABC - Baton Rouge Campus - License #2172**
- (u) Pelican Chapter, ABC - Southwest Campus, Westlake, LA - License #2173**
- (v) Road Ready Driving Academy, Houma, LA - License #2367**
- (w) Shreveport Dental Assistant School - License #2253**
- (x) The Captain School, Marrero, LA - License #2161**
- (y) The Microblading Institute, Maurice, LA - License #2324**
- (z) Thomas Training and Developmental Center, Franklin, LA - License #948**

- (aa) Unitech Training Academy - Baton Rouge - License #2256**
- (bb) Unitech Training Academy - West Monroe - License #2068**
- (cc) Woodland Healthcare Training, Denham Springs, LA - License #2284**

3. Approval of Payment from Student Protection Fund – Advanced Welding School Students

FINANCE

Regent Solomon began the meeting by telling the Committee that every five years the Board of Regents, in coordination with the management boards and their designees, undertakes a funding formula review. He then stated that Regents' Constitutional power is "to formulate and make timely revision of a master plan for postsecondary education. As a minimum, the plan shall include a formula for equitable distribution of funds to the institutions of postsecondary education."

Mr. Matthew LaBruyere, Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration, then provided an overview of the process for formula review, including workgroup members, information received, and potential areas of discussion. Regent Seale stated that the Board is asked to approve the allocation as presented, which is provided to the systems. He then asked what happens at the university and college levels and whether allocations can be disputed or changed. Mr. LaBruyere stated that Regents staff provides all information to the system offices for dissemination among their institutions and that the systems are allowed by law to reallocate up to 5% of the system allocation. Commissioner Reed further mentioned that working through any reallocations is a collaborative process between Regents and the systems.

Regents Ewing asked about categories of funding that better reflect institution mission, so the institutions do not work against each other. Regent Solomon stated that the dollars are initially split between two-year and four-year institutions and asked Mr. LaBruyere to further explain. Mr. LaBruyere indicated that the two sectors are separated and do not compete against each other while also noting that during the upcoming review Regents staff, with input from national experts, will consider formulas from other states and look for best practices in formula design.

Regent Aubrey asked how Regents ensures that LSU Eunice and Southern University Shreveport, which are two-year institutions, are included in any reallocations of formula funds. Mr. LaBruyere noted that the law applies to the system amounts, so a system with an institution in each sector can reallocate funds between the sectors, if the system makes that decision. Regent Aubrey also asked how Regents staff will address the research component and audit the information more timely, since errors could impact allocations. Mr. LaBruyere noted that the data are reported to the National Science Foundation and all institution financials are audited by the Louisiana Legislative Auditor. Regent Aubrey asked whether research can sway the allocations to the detriment of others, and suggested that it should be reviewed. Staff agreed to do so. During the discussion, Dr. Reed clarified that this is not an appropriation model, but an allocation model, based on what is legislatively appropriated to higher education.

Finally, Regent Sterling asked if Mr. LaBruyere could conduct a Board development session on the funding formula and process. Regent Solomon agreed that this session would be organized. Regent Solomon also stated that this agenda item was for information purposes only and did not require action.

NOMINATING

NOMINATION OF BOARD OFFICERS FOR 2024 (CHAIR, VICE CHAIR, SECRETARY)

Regent David noted the slate of Board Officers for 2024 set forth by the Nominating Committee:

- Chair – Gary Solomon, Jr.
- Vice Chair – T. Jay Seale III
- Secretary – Darren G. Mire

Accepted the nomination of the Board Officers for 2024.

NOMINATION OF FOUR NON-OFFICER MEMBERS TO SERVE ON THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 2024

Regent David then indicated nominations of the four non-officer members to serve on the Executive Committee for 2024:

- Collis B. Temple III

- Terrie P. Sterling
- Phillip R. May, Jr.
- Blake R. David

Accepted the nomination of the non-officer Members to serve on the Executive Committee for 2024.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION

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

- She recognized Dr. William Wainwright and noted that she had the opportunity to attend his investiture as the new President of Southeastern Louisiana University.
- She thanked Dr. Marcus Jones at Northwestern State University for hosting First Generations Day, where they met first-generation journalism students, first-generation academic officers, and a panel of first-generation professionals and discussed ways to support first-generation students to ensure they feel welcome and supported on campus.
- She noted that many STEM events had been held this month. The Cybersecurity Commission recognized Dr. Les Guice, who has done a phenomenal job at LA Tech, for his cyber work. She added that Cybersecurity Commission meetings under this gubernatorial administration had been completed and that she is looking forward to continue work under the next administration. Commissioner Reed also had the opportunity to speak to middle school girls participation in a STEM event at Tulane University.
- She recognized the members of the Communications Team at Regents, who received ten awards for their work this year. They recently won the award for *Outstanding Print Element 2023* for the “Master Plan Year 4 Report”, *Outstanding Branding Guide*, *Outstanding Social Media Element* (for the “Run, Hide, Fight Video” and the “Louisiana’s Got Talent Podcast”) and the Anvil Award was awarded to the Board of Regents for the *HBCU Day at the Capitol*, which included a permanent exhibit in the state museum highlighting our HBCUs.

OTHER BUSINESS

Vice Chair Solomon asked if there was any other business to come before the Board. There was no other business. He wished everyone happy holidays.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion of Regent Creed, seconded by Regent Gil, the meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Appendix A

Board Meeting Guest List

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

NAME	AFFILIATION
Rosaria Guastella	Delgado Community College
JM Wolfe	LSU A&M
Jeannine O'Rourke	UL System
Camila Valenzuela	Capital Area STEM/Cain Center
Sujuan Boutte	LOSFA/BOR
Carrie Cortez	Fletcher
Susan Guerrero	Fletcher
Jackie Bach	LSU A&M
Roy Haggerty	LSU A&M