

MINUTES

BOARD OF REGENTS

January 9, 2023

The Board of Regents met as a Committee of the Whole at 10:37 a.m. on Monday, January 9, 2023, in the Louisiana Purchase Room, Claiborne Building, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Acting Chair Gary Solomon called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

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

Present for the meeting were:

Kim Hunter Reed, Commissioner  
Gary Solomon, Jr., Vice Chair  
David Aubrey  
Christian Creed  
Randy Ewing  
Stephanie Finley  
Robert Levy  
Catarena Lobré (student member)  
Phillip May, Jr.  
Darren Mire  
Wilbert Pryor  
T. Jay Seale III  
Terrie Sterling  
Felix Weill  
Judy Williams-Brown

Absent from the meeting were:

Blake David  
Collis Temple III, Chair

Mgt. Board Representatives present:

Dr. Leon Tarver, Southern System  
Mr. Alterman Jackson, LCTC System  
Ms. Mary Werner, LSU System

Appendix A  
Guest List

PUBLIC COMMENT

Acting Chair Solomon asked if there were any public comments. There were none.

OATHS

**Board Members**

Ms. Brianna Golden swore in the following new members: Regent David Aubrey and Regent Christian Creed.

## APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 19, 2022 MEETING

**On motion of Regent Ewing, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the October 19, 2022 meeting.**

### CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Acting Chair Solomon made the following comments:

- He noted that Chair Temple could not be present today, so Regent Solomon was serving as Acting Chair and speaking on behalf of Chair Temple.
- He invited Student Board Member Catarena Lobré to provide an update to the Board.
  - Regent Lobré informed the Board of the upcoming COSBP trip to Washington, D.C. There will be 25 students from Louisiana attending. They are planning to tour the United States Capitol and are hoping to tour the White House as well.
  - She discussed meetings scheduled for the Washington, D.C. trip. The students will meet with the following members of Louisiana's Congressional delegation: Senator Kennedy, Senator Cassidy, Representative Graves, Representative Letlow, and Representative Johnson. They will also receive a tour from Representative Scalise. Additionally, they will meet with the State Higher Education Executive Officer Association.
  - She will provide an in-depth recap at the March meeting.
  - She noted her gratitude for the Board members' continued dedication to higher education.
- Acting Chair Solomon stated that the Board is looking forward to hearing how the trip goes and thanked Student Board Member Lobré for making the trip.
- He noted that two members were recognized at the Board holiday party for their service: Regents Charles McDonald and Sonia Pérez. Acting Chair Solomon thanked Chair Temple for hosting the event.
- He further recognized Regent McDonald, who was presented with a Board resolution for his authoring of the legislation that created TOPS.
- He recognized Regent Perez for her contributions and dedication to the Board of Regents during her term.
- Acting Chair Solomon thanked Commissioner Reed and her husband for hosting the staff and their families at the Baton Rouge Zoo for the agency's annual holiday party. He expressed his gratitude that everyone was able to come together to celebrate.
- He noted that Commissioner Reed gave a keynote address at the National Association of System Heads in Washington, D.C. She was followed by Deputy Commissioner Tristan Denley, who has been leading a national conversation on how to measure prosperity and educational attainment.
- Members were provided with a copy of the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry's *5<sup>th</sup> and Main* magazine that came out in December 2022. Commissioner Reed was interviewed about the Board of Regents' efforts to engage business leaders and expand the talent pipeline.

### **MASTER PLAN UPDATE**

Ms. Mellynn Baker, Assistant Commissioner for Student Success, and Mr. Adam Lowe, Director, Saffron Ventures Consulting, updated the Board on the annual Dual Enrollment report. Mr. Lowe expressed how impressed he was with the Board's leadership and positive impact on higher and K-12 education.

Mr. Lowe began the update by explaining that shifting the report to a December deadline allows for more data to present. He reminded the Board that in 2019 the Board and BESE adopted the goal that, by the time the class of 2029 graduates, every student should graduate high school with college credit, a credential, or both. He reviewed the data collected on Dual Enrollment, which includes data on race, course delivery methods, grades earned by method of student eligibility, enrollment changes, and the relationship between racial composition and rates of participation. He highlighted the 11% increase in Dual Enrollment participation and credited this increase to the commitment of the public institutions to this work.

Mr. Lowe presented data that showed gaps in diversity of enrolled participants. Of the students enrolled in Dual Enrollment courses, only 42% were African American. He explained that many students participated in Dual Enrollment programs hosted by institutions in the Southern University System and that there was a 5% increase in African American participation in Dual Enrollment programs since the 2018-2019 school year. He noted that the percentage of African American participants in Dual Enrollment programs does not reflect their percentage of the overall high school student population and that more progress is needed to increase the participation of African American students in Dual Enrollment programs.

Ms. Baker presented five recommendations based on the report. First, she explained that to close equity gaps, Dual Enrollment programs need to engage more students of color and those from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. Second, further targeted investments are needed to address schools struggling with Dual Enrollment due to funding availability. She explained

that the state funding request made by the Dual Enrollment Task Force is aimed at breaking down financial barriers. Third, she recommended that career and technical pathways be rebuilt and expanded, explaining that pandemic disruptions and a lack of in-person availability decreased enrollment in and availability of these courses. Fourth, she noted a need for continued use of multiple measures to determine student eligibility for Dual Enrollment programs. Fifth, she cited a need for strengthening college and career advising for students.

Regent Ewing expressed concern over college and career advising. He explained that most people he has spoken to have told him that they were offered little to no advising in their education experiences and identified this as an area that will need considerable work. Ms. Baker responded that a Dual Enrollment Task Force member, a school counselor, has expressed similar concerns. She stated that the Task Force will continue to discuss potential solutions.

Commissioner Reed added that this is both a national and a statewide problem on which work is currently being done. She expressed the need to convey to students that Dual Enrollment includes career and technical courses and is for everyone. The Commissioner mentioned looking to the states that have better access to programs to find solutions.

Dr. Leon Tarver, the Southern University System representative, requested that the Dual Enrollment report be shared. Commissioner Reed informed everyone that there is a legislative requirement to share the report with committees and that it will also be shared with management boards. Regent Aubrey expressed concern about the resources of rural communities to participate in Dual Enrollment programs. He expressed a need for support in those areas and hoped that universities see this as an opportunity to create pathways.

**On motion of Regent May, seconded by Regent Ewing, the Board, acting as Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to submit the Dual Enrollment report to the House and Senate Committees on Education.**

## REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

## NOMINATIONS

The first order of business under Reports and Recommendations was the nomination of officers to the Board. Regent Seale nominated Regent Temple as Board Chair, Regent Solomon as Vice Chair, and Regent Levy as Secretary.

**On motion of Regent May, seconded by Regent Williams-Brown, the Board, acting as Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the nominations of Board officers.**

Next, Regent Seale nominated four non-officer members to serve on the Executive Committee in 2023. Regent Seale nominated Regent Seale, Regent David, Regent Mire, and Regent Williams-Brown.

**On motion of Regent Ewing, seconded by Regent May, the Board, acting as Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the nominations for the Executive Committee.**

Regent Seale requested authorization of the 2023 committee assignments.

**On motion of Regent Weill, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board, acting as Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the request for authorization to develop the 2023 committee assignments.**

Ms. Golden asked to waive the December timeline in order to execute oaths of office at the current Board meeting due to the December meeting postponement resulting from the weather-related office closure.

## LEGISLATIVE STUDY REPORTS UPDATE

Ms. Golden, Policy Advisor for Strategic Planning and Student Success, provided an update on the status of four legislative reports. The first report she discussed was the Postsecondary Inclusive Education Advisory Council and Fund. She explained that the Council and Fund, created by Act 682 of the 2022 Regular Legislative Session, are aimed at creating more inclusive college programs. The report deadline is February 1, 2023.

Second, she provided an update on the American Sign Language and Computer Science study related to Senate Resolution 196 of the 2022 Regular Legislative Session. The resolution requested the Board and BESE to include computer coding and American Sign Language as course equivalents for the TOPS core curriculum and high school graduation requirements. She explained that a study was not required for these items because relevant legislation has already been passed. Since the issues in the resolution have been resolved, a letter will be sent to the legislature regarding this matter.

Third, she presented an update on Senate Resolution 129 of the 2022 Regular Legislative Session, which urged the Nursing Supply and Demand Council to study statewide nurse retention. The Council distributed a survey to nurses in October and received over 1,000 responses.

Fourth, she gave an update on the Hunger-Free Campus initiative, created by Act 719 of the 2022 Regular Legislative Session, which required the Board to establish the Hunger-Free Campus program and related grants for postsecondary education institutions. She explained that staff are consulting with other states regarding similar grant programs and noted that a survey had been administered by Regents to gauge the current status of food pantries at institutions.

In total, she noted thirteen reports to the legislature, ten of which are annual and three pursuant to legislation from 2022. She stated that there is progress being made via policy implementation in relation to Acts 205 and 308, noting that these do not require reports.

**On motion of Dr. Tarver, seconded by Regent Mire, the Board, acting as Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to grant the Commissioner the authority to finalize the legislative reports required by the 2022 Regular Legislative Session and submit them along with any other legislative reports by their respective 2023 deadlines and update the Board on these reports at the March 2023 Board meeting.**

#### AUTHORIZATION TO DEVELOP 2023 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Commissioner Reed discussed the 2023 legislative priorities as staff prepare for the April Regular Session. She noted that this year will be a fiscal session and that each legislator will have the opportunity to bring only five bills that are not fiscal in nature. She explained that the focus for Regents will be on fiscal issues.

Regent Ewing inquired as to priorities for additional funding. Commissioner Reed responded that there are a couple of key focus areas. She stated that Regents is always interested in talent development and research development and that faculty and staff support is a high priority. Commissioner Reed discussed the impact of disruptions on education and reminded the Board that resiliency relates to the delivery of education, continuation of business practices, and policy implementation when disruption occurs.

Regent Ewing asked whether student support, specifically financial support and affordability of education, is a legislative priority. Commissioner Reed responded that student support is always a priority and that Regents will continue to advocate for affordability in higher education through programs such as TOPS, need-based aid, the Murphy J. Foster Promise program for adult financial aid, dual enrollment, and textbook affordability.

Regent Sterling inquired about mental health resources available on campus and how to close gaps. Commissioner Reed replied that there has been a significant gap in mental health resources since before the pandemic. She added that Dr. Allison Smith is the Regents point of contact with the Department of Health and is working with them to seek additional resources.

**On motion of Regent Finley, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board, acting as Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to grant the Commissioner and the Board Chair the authority to finalize the legislative agenda and act on legislation as needed, with an update to the Board at the March 2023 Board Meeting.**

#### REPORT REGARDING HCR 39 OF THE 2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The report regarding HCR 39 of the 2021 Regular Legislative Session was presented by Dr. Susannah Craig, Deputy Commissioner for Strategic Planning and Student Success, and Ms. Em Cooper, the Louisiana Department of Education's Deputy Assistant Superintendent of Educator Development. Dr. Craig explained that HCR 39 of the 2021 Regular Legislative Session created the Teacher Recruitment, Recovery, and Retention Task Force. She gave a brief overview of the work done by the Task Force and current status of items related to its work.

Dr. Craig explained that over the past sixteen months, the Task Force has been working to address the 21 questions posed in the House concurrent resolution. She explained that the questions break down into three categories: teacher recruitment, teacher retention, and recovery. She presented data, collected from February 2022 through January 2023. First, she noted that there are currently 43,931 certified teachers and 1,145 vacancies in Louisiana public schools, and that there has been a decline in enrollment in educator preparation programs.

Ms. Cooper then explained that the Task Force recommended that the Louisiana Department of Education expand pre-educator pathways in high schools. The pre-educator pathway is now offered by 96 schools that span across 46 school systems.

Ms. Cooper then discussed educator diversity. She explained that 25% of the educator workforce identify as persons of color. She stated that 50% of students identify as persons of color. She then explained that Louisiana was selected as one of three states in the country to participate in the American Institute of Research Center for Great Teachers and Leaders' national collaborative on increasing diversity in the workforce.

She then discussed recruitment. Ms. Cooper noted that last fall the Task Force studied the barrier of Praxis Core to recruiting teachers into the profession and explained that Praxis Core is a standardized, skill-based exam that individuals were required to take prior to beginning a teacher preparation program. The Task Force endorsed the removal of this requirement. She

stated that the Praxis II is still required and necessary for evaluating an individual's competency to teach.

In terms of compensation, Ms. Cooper noted the Task Force's endorsement of Regents and the Louisiana Department of Education conducting research on teacher compensation. The Task Force also supported the creation of the Geaux Teach Fund, which allocated \$5 million in financial aid for individuals enrolled in teacher preparation programs and expanded two fellowships: the Aspiring Principals Fellowship and the Human Resources Fellowship.

Ms. Cooper then presented information on Act 244 of the 2022 Regular Legislative Session, which expanded reciprocity opportunities. She informed the Board that the act removed the requirement that in-service teachers coming to Louisiana from other states have one year of successful teaching in Louisiana even if they have met the exam requirements. She added that with Act 244 a teacher will be allowed to teach in Louisiana as long as they meet the exam requirements.

Ms. Cooper next presented the New Teacher Experience program, which has enabled the Task Force to support new teachers. Additionally, the Task Force is currently reviewing the teacher evaluation system in hopes of improving the system. She explained that, to create better support for educators, the Task Force has conducted listening sessions and surveys to understand educator challenges. Ms. Cooper noted that the annual workforce snapshot showed positive movement in the retention of educators, diversity, and certification rates.

Regent Seale inquired about the plan for the continued work of this Task Force. Dr. Craig explained that the Task Force is requesting legislation to extend its work for two additional years. With the additional time, the Task Force plans to explore options for teacher compensation and continue work on the Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact. This is an initiative by the U.S. Department of Education to strengthen the ability of educators to move from state to state and a

related bill should be going before Congress this summer. She explained that currently twenty states are considering adopting the program and only ten states are needed to create the program.

Regent Seale inquired as to what legislative committees the Task Force is working with. Dr. Craig answered that the Task Force would work with the House and Senate Committees on Education. Commissioner Reed added that the Task Force would also work with the money and retirement committees, depending on the policy issue.

Regent Ewing asked about data related to the impact of a teacher having an aide has on teacher retention. Mrs. Cooper responded that such data are not currently available, but LDOE would be willing to look into the issue.

Regent Pryor inquired whether the Task Force has evaluated the impact of student standardized testing requirements on teacher retention. Ms. Cooper answered that the Task Force is looking into all things, including testing concerns, that create burnout among teachers.

Regent Weill asked where the vacancies for teachers are and if the vacancies are concentrated in particular areas of the state. Ms. Cooper responded that there is concentration of vacancies within charter schools, rural schools, and lower-performing schools.

**On motion of Regent May, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board, acting as Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to receive the 2022 finalized report for HCR 39 of the 2021 Regular Legislative Session and authorize the Regents staff to submit the report to the House and Senate Committees on Education.**

#### REPORT REGARDING ACT 472 OF THE 2021 REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Dr. Allison Smith, Assistant Commissioner for Student Health and Wellness, provided the report pursuant to Act 472 of the 2021 Regular Legislative Session. She presented the work done since the adoption in August 2021 of the Power-Based Violence policy. She noted that all systems have utilized Regents training for responsible employees; as of September 2022 systems

were at a 90% completion rate of trainings. She explained that institutions have continued to train as they hire new employees.

Dr. Smith showcased the success of the Board of Regents' Title IX 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary symposium. She noted that most systems have also conducted their own training, but have requested further training with a specific focus on making distinctions between Title IX, Power-Based Violence, Title VII, and ADA. Regents staff is currently working to plan this training, as well as to create a survey to gain feedback from individuals who have gone through the grievance process at Louisiana institutions.

Dr. Smith also informed the Board that, this past summer, the U.S. Department of Education released proposed changes to Title IX. Once the rules have been finalized, Regents will review and update its policies accordingly.

Next, Dr. Smith discussed the campus climate survey, noting that the Violence Against Women Act was reauthorized and requires a national campus climate survey every two years. In order to prevent survey fatigue among students, the Power-Based Violence Review Panel recommended delaying the Louisiana Campus Climate survey to align with the federal calendar. Finally, Dr. Smith informed the Board that Regents is currently working on creating online tools as well.

Regent Solomon sought clarification on the data presented in the report, asking why there is such a huge range of cases per student head count and what this tells us about campus climate. Dr. Smith responded that this can be attributed to varying enrollment rates as well as underreporting in certain communities. She indicated that as trust is established with Title IX offices, reporting will increase. Ms. Mary Werner, Louisiana State University System representative, added that there are many reporting mechanisms. While students are encouraged to report to the Title IX office, they are not required to do so.

**On motion of Regent Finley, seconded by Regent Williams-Brown, the Board, acting as Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the submission of the Power-Based Violence report on behalf of the Board.**

## **FACILITIES AND PROPERTY**

### **ACT 959 PROJECT: UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE**

Mr. Matthew LaBruyere, Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration, presented the Act 959 Project for the University of Louisiana at Lafayette New Iberia Research Center, estimated to cost \$2.6 million.

**On motion of Regent Levy, seconded by Regent Seale, the Board, acting as Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the Act 959 Project for the University of Louisiana at Lafayette New Iberia Research Center.**

### **LAND TRANSFER**

Mr. LaBruyere presented an update on land transfers and recommended approval of the land transfer of the Louisiana Marine and Petroleum Institute site from Fletcher Technical Community College to the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium.

**On motion of Regent Seale, seconded by Mr. Alterman Jackson, Louisiana Community and Technical College System representative, the Board, acting as Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the land transfer of the Louisiana Marine and Petroleum Institute site from Fletcher Technical Community College to the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium.**

## **ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS**

Dr. Tristan Denley, Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs and Innovation, presented the Consent Agenda, consisting of routine staff approvals, addition of standardized AP/CLEP scores to AA 2.23, the report related to Act 356 of the 2009 Regular Legislative Session (Articulation and Transfer), and the report related to Act 682 of the 2022 Regular Legislative Session (Postsecondary Inclusive Education Advisory Council).

**On motion of Regent Sterling, seconded by Regent May, the Board, acting as Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda.**

## ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Dr. Denley presented two new programs for approval, starting with the AAS Criminal Justice program at River Parishes Community College. He explained that this program, intended to train students so that they can enter the police force, was created in response to a request by the Sheriff of Ascension Parish. Regent Ewing asked if the program would be similar to training deputies. Dr. Denley affirmed that it would.

Second, Dr. Denley presented the AAS Practical Nursing program at Northwest Louisiana Technical Community College. Regent Ewing asked how many people apply to nursing programs and are not admitted due to the institutions' inability to handle the application load. Dr. Denley responded that ongoing work will allow staff to follow up on this issue.

**On motion of Regent Sterling, seconded by Regent Ewing, the Board, acting as Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the academic programs as presented.**

## ACADEMIC AFFAIRS POLICIES

Dr. Denley presented two new policies. He started with the Reverse Transfer policy (AA 2.24), aimed at aiding students to complete their degrees. He explained that the new policy would allow a student who started at a community college and then transferred to a different institution prior to completing the associate's degree to receive the associate's degree from the first institution if their studies across all institutions attended satisfy the degree requirements of the first institution.

Second, he presented the Universal Transfer Pathway policy (AA 2.25), explaining that this policy will create discipline-specific associate's degree curricula that satisfy all of Regents' 39 units of general education and also include 21 additional units that will be awarded as an

associate's degree and create a pathway that will be seamlessly transferrable to any of Louisiana's public four-year institutions offering that degree program.

Dr. Denley recommended that the Board approve Policy 2.24 and Policy 2.25, which create Reverse Transfer and Universal Transfer Pathways.

**On motion of Regent Lobré, seconded by Regent Finley, the Board, acting as Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve Policy 2.24 and Policy 2.25, which create Reverse Transfer and Universal Transfer Pathways.**

Next, Dr. Denley presented two revisions to policy. First, he presented the addition of the Nexus Degree to AA 2.15, Definition of Undergraduate Degrees and Undergraduate/Graduate Certificates. He indicated that it is crucial in higher education to create qualifications that are nimble enough for the post-pandemic world and that this proposal will add a new kind of degree for Louisiana. He noted that this degree, recognized in 2018 via accreditation, is the first of its kind. The Nexus degree has the general education core built into the curriculum, with the remaining hours created in partnership with a major business center. The program entails both upper- and lower-level coursework. He explained that the Nexus degree, which requires only 20-21 credit hours, can function in three ways: as a new kind of entry level credential; combined with a traditional four-year degree; or earned by someone who already has a degree and is returning to school.

Regent Lobré asked how this degree is different from having a minor. Dr. Denley explained that the Nexus degree requires more hours, experiential learning, and upper-division coursework.

Mr. Jackson asked if the Nexus degree can be a first degree. Dr. Denley responded that it can be a first degree but is also stackable with others.

Regent Seale asked if the Nexus degree is available at other SREB institutions. Dr. Denley said that Georgia offers it, with approximately twenty programs approved to date. Commissioner Reed added that Dr. Denley is the creator of the Nexus degree in Georgia.

Regent Levy inquired if there has been any resistance from four-year institutions to two-year institutions teaching upper-level courses. Dr. Denley indicated that he has received positive feedback from all sides.

Regent Aubrey asked if the campuses will be tasked with creating their own programs. Commissioner Reed affirmed that the institutions will be responsible for program development.

Regent Lobré asked for examples of the programs that are being considered. Dr. Denley responded that he had not yet heard from the institutions about what programs they will be creating, but provided program examples from Georgia including cybersecurity in financial technology, computing, and healthcare.

Regent Solomon asked how we plan to encourage employers to recognize these degrees and how we will inform parents of the benefits. Dr. Denley responded that as part of the program creation, the institutions will have to interact with industry in creation of the degree and that the institution will need to help the community understand the Nexus degree.

Next, Dr. Denley discussed Dual Enrollment, recommending making permanent the emergency changes made to the Dual Enrollment policy. He added that it would be beneficial to expand the Dual Enrollment pathways to allow students who are talented in a particular subject area to take courses in that field.

**On motion of Regent Levy, seconded by Regent Seale, the Board, acting as Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the revisions to policies AA 2.15 and AA 2.22.**

## **RESEARCH AND SPONSORED INITIATIVES COMMITTEE**

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Appointment of Endowed Chairholders without National Search: Loyola University New Orleans and Tulane University Health Sciences Center**
- B. Request to Divide BoRSF-Matched Endowed Chair: Grambling State University**
- C. Board of Regents Support Fund (BoRSF) Plan and Budget Recommendations, FY 2023-24**

Ms. Carrie Robison, Deputy Commissioner for Sponsored Programs, presented the Consent Agenda and recommended approval.

Regent Ewing asked if there are backlogs in matching Endowed Chairs and Professorships. Ms. Robison indicated there are unfunded slots in Chairs, though these are competitive and not guaranteed funding, along with 75 unmatched Professorships requests at two campuses.

Regent Finley inquired as to why campuses request to fill Chairs without a national search. Ms. Robison responded that this approach is used as a faculty retention tool and that policy requires that any chairholder meet minimum requirements.

Regent Aubrey asked which institution had not participated in the Support Fund and if all BoRSF programs are competitive. Ms. Robison explained that Northwest Louisiana Technical Community College had recently become eligible and had not yet submitted proposals or match requests. She further explained that all programs are competitive, except the Endowed Professorships program, which operates on a per-campus guaranteed funding basis.

**On motion of Regent Ewing, seconded by Regent Weill, the Board, acting as Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda.**

**OTHER BUSINESS: CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 1**

Ms. Robison mentioned that a copy of the Treasurer's annual report on the Kevin P. Reilly Louisiana Education Quality Trust Fund had been included in the materials provided to the Board and briefly summarized its contents.

Regent Ewing asked why Constitutional Amendment 1 did not pass; Ms. Robison discussed possible reasons.

## **STATEWIDE PROGRAMS COMMITTEE**

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of Final Rulemaking – Rulemaking to amend Sections 509, 703, 705, 803, 805, and 2103 and to add Chapter 24 of the Scholarship and Grant Program rules to implement the provisions of Act 207, Act 463, Act 681, and Act 502 of the 2022 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature.**
- B. Approval of Rulemaking – Rulemaking to amend Section 2103 of the Scholarship and Grant Program rules to add a mental health sub-type to the temporary disability exceptions available to students when they cannot meet certain TOPS continuation requirements.**
- C. TOPS Exceptions – TOPS provisions that require students to remain continuously enrolled and to earn the annual credit hours required during the academic year.**
- D. 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. Sujuan Boutte summarized the items on the Consent Agenda and recommended approval.

**On motion of Regent Ewing, seconded by Regent Williams-Brown, the Board, acting as Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda.**

## **PLANNING, RESEARCH, AND PERFORMANCE**

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission**
  - a. Initial Applications**
    - i. Rosebud Training Academy, Baker, LA
  - b. Renewal Applications**
    - i. 160 Driving Academy, Metairie, LA - License #2340
    - ii. Academy of Interactive Entertainment, Lafayette, LA - License #2136
    - iii. Accelerated Dental Assisting Academy - Metairie, LA - License #2230\*\*\*
    - iv. Accelerated Dental Assisting Academy - Houma, LA - License #2228\*\*\*
    - v. Ayers Career College, Shreveport, LA - License #828
    - vi. Coastal College - Baton Rouge, New Orleans, LA - License #2019
    - vii. Coastal Truck Driving School of New Orleans, LA - License #2200

- viii. Crescent City School of Gaming & Bartending, New Orleans, LA - License #594
- ix. Delta College Inc. - Slidell Branch, LA - License #2066
- x. Delta College, Inc. - Covington, LA - License #947
- xi. Diesel Driving Academy - Shreveport, LA - License #369
- xii. Durham Transport Academy, Shreveport, LA - License #2341
- xiii. Excel Health Careers, Laplace, LA - License #2342
- xiv. iWeld Institute, Houma, LA - License #2323
- xv. Joshua Career Institute of Louisiana, Shreveport, LA - License #2307
- xvi. Lafayette Dental Assistant School, Lafayette, LA - License #2251
- xvii. Mia's Medical Academy, Baton Rouge, LA - License #2202
- xviii. National Aesthetic Laser Institute, Baton Rouge, LA - License #2295
- xix. New Orleans Dental Assistant School, New Orleans, LA - License #2252
- xx. Nursing Assistant Network Association (NANA), New Orleans, LA - License #920
- xxi. Over Drive Truck Driving School of Louisiana, LLC, Pineville, LA - License #2283
- xxii. Pelican Chapter, ABC - Baton Rouge Campus, Baton Rouge, LA - License #2172
- xxiii. Pelican Chapter, ABC - Southwest Campus, Westlake, LA - License #2173
- xxiv. Phlebotomy Training Specialists, Baton Rouge, LA - License #2344
- xxv. Shreveport Dental Assistant School, Shreveport, LA - License #2253
- xxvi. The Captain School, Marrero, LA - License #2161
- xxvii. The Microblading Institute, Lafayette, LA - License #2324
- xxviii. Thomas Training and Developmental Center, Inc., Franklin, LA - License #948
- xxix. Unitech Training Academy - Baton Rouge, LA - License #2256
- xxx. Unitech Training Academy - West Monroe, LA - License #2068
- xxxi. Woodland Healthcare Training, Baton Rouge, LA - License #2284

The Consent Agenda was presented by Dr. Susannah Craig and Courtney Britton (Proprietary Schools Program Administrator). Dr. Craig presented the initial and renewal applications.

**On motion of Regent Williams-Brown, seconded by Regent Seale, the Board, acting as Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda.**

## **B. Proprietary Schools Adjudicatory Hearing Results**

Mrs. Britton informed the Board of the results of the November 14, 2022 Proprietary Schools Adjudicatory Hearing. She explained that the hearing was conducted regarding the licensure of Kingdom Technical College in Shreveport, LA. The evidence showed that Kingdom Technical College was in violation of the Louisiana proprietary school law. The school was originally licensed in December 2019 through December 2021, and submitted a new license application in May 2022. After the license was granted by the Board, the license fees were returned due to insufficient funds. Staff contacted Kingdom Technical College, which stated that its bank account had been frozen. Kingdom Technical College was given multiple deadlines to submit the fees and missed them.

Ms. Britton then reviewed the hearing process, noting that the hearing was led by Mr. Chris Broadwater and that Ms. Brianna Golden served as the prosecuting attorney. She explained that Kingdom Technical College was served with notice but did not attend the hearing or send a written statement. Kingdom Technical College was charged with violating R.S. 17: 3143(1) and the Commission decided that Kingdom Technical College's licenses should be revoked based on the evidence presented at the hearing. The school was notified of this decision and responded with a statement to the Board. Ms. Britton read the statement aloud (Appendix B).

Regent Finley asked if there would be follow-up related to the \$14,000. Ms. Britton said there would not be because that money belonged to the school and none of it was owed to students since no students were enrolled in Kingdom Technical College. Commissioner Reed asked if Kingdom Technical College will be eligible to reapply for licensure in the future. Ms. Britton noted that this issue can be taken into consideration when the Board makes decisions on future licensure.

**On motion of Regent Sterling, seconded by Regent Seale, the Board, acting as Committee of the Whole, voted to accept the recommendation of the Commission to**

**revoke the license of Kingdom Technical College. Regent Aubrey abstained from voting.**

**C. Teacher Preparation Programs More than 120 Credit Hours Board of Regents Criteria**

Dr. Craig explained that Act 225 of the 2022 Regular Session stipulated that the maximum number of credit hours for a teacher preparation program could be no greater than 120 hours, unless stipulated by the Board of Regents. The criteria for a program to be approved for more than 120 hours are:

1. The degree program results in licensure in two certification areas;
2. The degree program results in licensure in two or more grade categories (B-K, PreK-3, 1-5, 4-8, 6-12);
3. The degree program is bound by specific accreditation course requirements when the program is accredited by a content-specific body (e.g., NASM, NASAD); or
4. The degree program results in two degrees.

Regent Solomon inquired about the intent of the Legislature in passing this act. Dr. Craig responded that the legislature was focused on the teacher shortage and was trying to remove barriers to completion. Regent Solomon asked if the act requires the Board of Regents to approve the change in criteria, and if this would cause students to be caught between criteria. Dr. Craig explained that the law requires Regents to set the criteria and that since this does not go into effect until the 2024-25 school year, the changes should not affect current students.

**On motion of Regent Sterling, seconded by Regent Seale, the Board, acting as Committee of the Whole, voted to accept the recommendation to approve criteria to allow teacher preparation programs to exceed 120 credit hours.**

**PERSONNEL**

**APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND CHIEF SCIENTIST OF THE LOUISIANA UNIVERSITIES MARINE CONSORTIUM**

Mr. LaBruyere presented Dr. Brian Roberts for appointment as Executive Director and Chief Scientist of the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium. Dr. Reed noted that Dr.

Roberts is a long-serving and highly productive faculty member at LUMCON and is passionate about its mission and success.

**On motion of Regent Finley, seconded by Regent May, the Board, acting as Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Dr. Brian Roberts as Executive Director and Chief Scientist of the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium.**

## **REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

Commissioner Reed provided the following information:

- Commissioner Reed visited Houma and Thibodaux to engage with business and industry leaders around LUMCON.
- Commissioner Reed and Dr. Tristen Denley hosted a meeting in Baton Rouge, LA with Regional Economic Development Organizations (REDOs) to talk about talent development and education-to-employment alignment.
- Regents hosted sector-specific trainings, including cyber incident response workshops in Shreveport, New Orleans, and Lafayette. Cybersecurity threats are ever-present, and Regents is committed to campus safety both virtually and in person.
- She expressed excitement about the advising academy, which Dr. Denley is working on, aimed at engaging counselors, math educators, and English educators to prepare them for the upcoming Meauxmentum Summit.
- She recognized and thanked the committee, chaired by Mighan Johnson, Assistant Program Manager, Proprietary Schools, that led the state combined charitable campaign in the agency, and the staff for donating. Regents set a fundraising goal of \$12,300, but raised \$14,700 in donations. All the money will go to local charities and community organizations. Fundraising activities included a gumbo cook off, a silent auction, and popcorn grams.
- Commissioner Reed also congratulated Hannah Courtney on the recent birth of her daughter and expressed excitement for Mellynn Baker, whose baby will arrive next month.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business brought before the Board. The next meeting will be held on March 22, 2023.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion of Regent Ewing, seconded by Regent Seale, the meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

## Appendix A

### Board Meeting Guest List

Monday, January 9, 2023

NAME	AFFILIATION
Robert René	Southern University System
Eric B. Lewis	Rosebud
Altermann Jackson	LCTCS
Jackie Bach	LSU
Anna Bartel	LSU
Jeannine Kahn	UL System
Rachel Kincaid	Louisiana Department of the Treasury
Wendi Palermo	LCTCS
Sujuan Boutte	LOSFA/BOR
Eric Turner	LAICU
Vikki Wilbon	Rosebud
Tramille Howard	Ed Trust
Brian Roberts	BOR/LUMCON
Roy Haggerty	LSU
Ciara Hart	Education Trust CA

## **Appendix B**

Statement from Kingdom Technical College