

Regents Recap

Highlights of the Official Actions of the Louisiana Board of Regents

June 24, 2004

Regents Host Service Learning Signing Ceremony

The Board of Regents today hosted a signing ceremony affiliating the Louisiana Campus Compact (LACC), an organization of college and university system and campus heads aimed at promoting service learning, with the national Campus Compact service learning organization. Service learning is the growing practice of integrating student community service into college curricula.

“One of the hallmarks of the Master Plan is its focus on the social and economic needs of our state and of the regions served by our institutions,” said Commissioner of Higher Education Joseph Savoie. “Incorporating service-learning components into course or degree requirements is a very effective way

(continued on page 2)

North Shore Needs Assessment Received

The Board of Regents today received an assessment of needs for postsecondary education on the Louisiana North Shore (a five-parish area bordering Lake Ponchartrain on the north). The assessment was conducted and the results presented by Dennis Jones of the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS).

The report’s recommendations included providing Delgado Community College additional facilities at its Slidell campus and creating a Learning Center along Interstate 12 in the Covington/Mandeville area for joint use by Delgado, River Parishes Community College, Southeastern Louisiana University and the University of New Orleans. The Board directed the Regents staff to develop an action plan to address the issues identified in the report.

Program Approvals

The Board of Regents today approved the following proposed new academic programs and academic/research center, and received progress updates on conditionally-approved programs and centers:

Proposed New Academic Programs:

Northwestern State University - M.A. in Adult Education.

Southern University-Shreveport - A.S. in Nursing.

Nunez Community College - C.A.S. in Medical Billing and Coding.

Proposed Academic/Research Center:

Louisiana State University and A&M College - Bird Resource Center.

Progress Report on Conditionally-Approved Programs/Centers:

Northwestern State University - M.A. in Heritage Resources.

Louisiana State University and A&M College - National Center for Security Research and Training.

Regents Swear In New Student Board Member

Jeraul Mackey, Student Government Association President at the University of New Orleans, was sworn in today as the 2004-05 student member of the Board of Regents. Mackey is a senior majoring in secondary education.



Roland M. Toups
Chair

Frances T. Henry
Vice Chair

Pat A. Strong
Secretary

William “Billy” Blake
Scott O. Brame
Richard E. D’Aquin
Reggie Dupré
Stanley J. Jacobs
Robert W. Levy
William “Bill” Oliver
W. Clinton Rasberry, Jr.

Virgil Robinson, Jr.
William Clifford Smith
Artis Terrell, Jr.
Jeraul Mackey
Student Member

E. Joseph Savoie
Commissioner of
Higher Education

Regents Receive FY 2004-05 Budget Overview

The Board of Regents today received an overview of the 2004-05 state appropriations for postsecondary education as contained in the General Appropriations Bill passed by the 2004 Louisiana Legislature this week. Lawmakers went into the 2004 Regular Session faced with a projected \$500 million budget shortfall, but were eventually able to hammer out a general appropriations bill that left postsecondary education in relatively good shape compared to original projections.

Among the funding highlights in the FY 2004-05 postsecondary education budget were the following:

\$25.7 million specially appropriated to cover mandated cost increases.

\$5 million to support enrollment growth at Louisiana's community and technical colleges.

\$4.7 million from the Louisiana Education Quality Support Fund to address the backlog of unmatched private donations to fund endowed chairs and professorships at Louisiana's colleges and universities.

\$3 million to assist institutions in addressing the state's nursing and allied health care shortage.

\$3.2 million to support the Louisiana Optical Network Initiative (LONI).

In addition, the Legislature authorized system management boards to impose a 4% operational fee to cover the cost of unfunded mandates.

Regents Approve Initial Disbursement of LCTCS Growth & Development Fund

The Board today approved the initial 60% disbursement (\$3 million) of the \$5 million LCTCS Growth & Development Fund approved by the 2004 Legislature. Enrollment system-wide in LCTCS grew some 11% last year, the fourth consecutive year of double-digit growth for the system.

Funds were allocated to individual campuses in proportion to recent enrollment growth. Campuses receiving the highest percentages of the total initial distribution were Delgado Community College (32.8%), Baton Rouge Community College (23%) and South Louisiana Community College (12.3%).

Endowed Chairs, Professorships Matching Funds Awarded

The Board of Regents today approved funding for eight additional 2003-04 Endowed Chairs for Eminent Scholars, to be funded with \$3.2 million of the \$4.6 million in additional available funds announced by the State's Revenue Estimating Conference.

The remaining \$1.4 million in additional funds will be added to the regular allotment of \$2.6 million for Endowed Professorships to match funding for a total of 100 new professorships at colleges and universities across the state.

Signing Ceremony (continued from page 1)

for our college and university campuses to directly affect their communities. The Louisiana Campus Compact will be an excellent resource for our institutions in this regard."

The national Campus Compact organization unites more than 900 college and university presidents in 48 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. territories in an effort to champion the civic, educational, and community building benefits of higher education. Currently, twenty-five Louisiana college and university presidents and chancellors participate in LACC.

"Our hope is that every president and chancellor in the state will join us in this organization," said Dr. Press Robinson, Chancellor of Southern University - New Orleans and LACC chairman.

Among many other advantages, institutions participating in the Louisiana Campus Compact will have direct access to training for service-learning faculty and staff and guidance in raising funds for campus-based community outreach. The organization will also provide recognition and resources for service-learning faculty.

For more information on these and other Board of Regents actions, please visit our website at www.regents.state.la.us