

MINUTES

BOARD OF REGENTS

MARCH 26, 2009

The Board of Regents met in session at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 26, 2009, in the Louisiana Purchase Room, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Chair Artis Terrell called the meeting to order. Executive Assistant Carolyn Blanchard called the roll and a quorum was established.

Present for the meeting were:

Charlotte Bollinger
Scott Brame
Richard D' Aquin
Maurice Durbin
Ingrid Labat
Robert Levy, Vice Chair
W. Clinton Rasberry
Mary Ellen Roy, Secretary
Victor Stelly
Harold Stokes
Artis Terrell, Jr., Chair
Roland Toups
Jamey Arnette

Absent for the meeting were:

Robert Bruno
Donna Klein
Joseph Wiley

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Terrell noted that Mr. Colorado Robertson, Student Government Association President at Louisiana State University and A&M College, had requested to speak on Agenda Item V.C., Finance Committee Report.

MINUTES APPROVED

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 16, 2009

On motion of Regent Levy, seconded by Regent Rasberry, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of February 16, 2009.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

PLANNING, RESEARCH, AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

On behalf of Regent Stokes, Chair of the Planning, Research, and Performance Committee, Dr. Karen Denby, Senior Policy Analyst, moved to dispense with the reading of the report and approve the following motions "*in globo.*"

On motion of Regent Stokes, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to:

MASTER PLAN FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION IN LOUISIANA

Postpone adoption of the Master Plan in order to complete the work on the Formula and to make other changes in the draft plan as budget realities dictate.

LICENSURE

Approve license renewals for the following institutions:

- 1. Pearl River Community College**
- 2. Southern Arkansas University**
- 3. Southwest Mississippi Community College**
- 4. Texas Christian University**
- 5. Texas Wesleyan University**

PROPRIETARY SCHOOLS

Approve the following recommendations submitted by its Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission:

License renewals for the following proprietary schools (initial license date in

parentheses):

Baton Rouge School of Court Reporting (01/26/06)
Central Louisiana School for Dental Assistants (01/26/06)
Coastal College – Hammond (02/23/89)
Court Reporting Institute of Louisiana (01/27/00)
Creative Floral Design School, LLC (formerly Creative Floral Design School of New Orleans) (02/27/86)
Dryades YMCA School of Commerce (02/27/97)
Kaplan, Inc., Baton Rouge (02/06/85)
Kaplan, Inc., New Orleans (02/06/85)
Louisiana Dental Assistant School, LLC (01/27/05)
Remington College – Baton Rouge Campus (01/27/00)
Remington College – Lafayette Campus (01/25/02)
Remington College – Shreveport Campus (01/25/07)

ADOPTION OF THE PLANNING, RESEARCH, AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE REPORT OF MARCH 25, 2009

On motion of Regent Stokes, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Planning, Research, and Performance Committee Report of March 25, 2009. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

FACILITIES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT

On behalf of Regent Rasberry, Chair of the Facilities and Property Committee, Mr. Rich Griswold, Associate Commissioner for Facilities, moved to dispense with the reading of the report and approve the following motions “*in globo*.”

On motion of Regent Rasberry, seconded by Regent D’Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to:

SMALL CAPITAL PROJECTS REPORT

Approve the Small Capital Projects Report as listed:

Dental School Perimeter Fence Replacement - Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans. REAPPROVAL The project was previously approved at \$349,000 using State Funds. The project was reapproved at \$490,000 using Self-Generated Funds.

Covered Walkway between Entergy Parking Garage and LSU Med School - Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans. \$490,000 from Restricted Self-Generated Funds.

Renovate Wing 4K - OB/GYN Labor Delivery Room Expansion - Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center at Shreveport. \$350,000 from Self-Generated Funds.

North Stadium Waterproofing, Interior Seating Area - Louisiana State University and A&M College. \$420,000 from Auxiliary Funds.

REQUEST TO SEEK INTERIM EMERGENCY BOARD (IEB) FUNDING

Approve the request from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette to seek funding of \$4,300,000 from the Interim Emergency Board to correct emergency conditions at Fletcher Hall. Approval is contingent on similar action by the UL Board of Supervisors on March 27, 2009. If approved by the Interim Emergency Board (IEB), the current project in the Capital Outlay Budget Recommendation shall be modified as appropriate to address damage resulting from water intrusion and general renovation.

AMENDMENTS TO THE FY 2009-2010 CAPITAL OUTLAY BUDGET RECOMMENDATION

Amend its FY 2009-2010 Capital Outlay Budget Recommendation to include a project to construct a parking garage at Southern University at New Orleans (SUNO). This project will be added to the Self-Generated Category and is estimated to cost \$3,000,000. No state funds will be used for this project.

Amend its FY 2009-2010 Capital Outlay Budget Recommendation to include a project at the University of Louisiana at Monroe to correct HVAC deficiencies at the Chemistry and Natural Sciences Building. This project will be added to the Emergency Category and is estimated to cost \$3,510,000.

Amend its FY 2009-2010 Capital Outlay Budget Recommendation to include a project from the Louisiana State University System to cover the Corporation Canal adjacent to the Laboratory School at Louisiana State University and A&M College. This project will be added to the Emergency Category with a supplement of \$1,373,000.

ADOPTION OF THE FACILITIES COMMITTEE REPORT OF MARCH 25, 2009

On motion of Regent Rasberry, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Facilities Committee Report of March 25, 2009.

(Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

On behalf of Regent Brame, Chair of the Finance Committee, Mr. Donald Vandal, Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration, moved to dispense with the reading of the report and approve the following motion.

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to:

REVIEW OF BUDGET AND FUNDING ISSUES

Approve the document entitled “Priorities to Guide Higher Education 2009-10 Budget Cuts as presented.

Regent Brame next recognized Mr. Colorado Robertson from Louisiana State University and A&M College (LSU) who had requested to make a public comment at this time. Mr. Robertson thanked the Board for the opportunity to make a statement on the recent possible budget cuts to higher education. He noted that the LSU student body is the largest higher education student body in the state and pays the most student fees. He commented that students are concerned about their ability to afford an education in the state. He requested that possible cuts to higher education be applied proportionally to all four-year institutions and done in a manner where all students, parents, and citizens are kept informed of decisions made. Mr. Robertson said he did not believe it was fair that the proposed formula will impose an additional four percent of the costs to LSU students in the form of a fee increase.

Regent Brame thanked Mr. Robertson for his work, and reiterated that the Board would pay attention to the concerns of students and parents. Mr. Vandal mentioned that the factors in

the formula have a balance of different elements, and the basis for much of the formula is tied to the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) in terms of base point of faculty salaries that drive the core of the calculation. Mr. Vandal stated that those faculty salaries are derived from SREB classifications. He noted that LSU is classified as a “Category I” institution. Mr. Vandal continued by saying that LSU has faculty salaries that are distinguished from the rest of the four-year faculty salary levels; this distinction benefits LSU as a flagship institution. He continued by noting that if all four-year faculty salaries were averaged together, this would affect the Baton Rouge campus in a negative manner.

ADOPTION OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT OF MARCH 25, 2009

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent D’Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Finance Committee Report of March 25, 2009. (*Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.*)

Dr. Sally Clausen, Commissioner of Higher Education, thanked Mr. Robertson for representing what higher education is all about – the opportunity, the right, and the obligation to represent your fellow students.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT

On behalf of Regent Roy, Chair of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, Mr. Gerard Killebrew, Associate Commissioner for Academic Affairs, moved to dispense with the reading of the report and approve the following motions “*in globo.*”

On motion of Regent Roy, seconded by Regent D’Aquin the Board voted unanimously to:

PROGRAM/UNIT TERMINATION

Terminate the TD and related CTS in Collision Repair Technology (CIP Code 47.0603) and the TD and related CTS in Diesel Powered Equipment Technology (CIP Code 47.0605) programs at Louisiana Technical College - Gulf Area campus. These terminations shall be effective immediately.

Terminate the Robert E. Nims Center for Entertainment, Arts, and Multimedia Technology at the University of New Orleans, effective immediately.

PROGRESS REPORTS ON CONDITIONALLY APPROVED PROGRAMS

Receive the 2008 progress report from Louisiana State University-Shreveport relative to implementation/and accreditation of the Master of Health Administration program. Further, as all previous stipulations of conditional approval have been fulfilled, full program approval is recommended. No further progress reports are deemed necessary at this time.

Receive the 2008 progress report from Louisiana Tech University relative to implementation of the Doctor of Audiology program. As all prior stipulations of conditional approval have been fulfilled, the staff further recommends full program approval. No further progress reports are deemed necessary at this time.

Receive the interim progress report from Louisiana Tech University relative to implementation of the Ph.D. program in Industrial/Organizational Psychology and amends previous action/timelines for the hiring of additional faculty accordingly. A complete progress report for this program remains due on June 1, 2009.

Receive the 2008 progress reports from Southern University-New Orleans relative to implementation and accreditation of the B.S. and M.S. Programs in Management Information Systems. The next progress reports concerning these two programs shall be due December 1, 2009. If, however, prior to that time, the University alters its current plans for timely program accreditation, it is requested that SUNO shall arrange for a meeting with Regents' staff to consider all options before taking action.

Receive the 2008 progress report from Southern University-New Orleans relative to implementation and accreditation of the B.S. in Business Entrepreneurship. The next progress report concerning this program shall be due December 1, 2009. If, however, prior to that time, the University alters its current plans for timely program accreditation, SUNO shall arrange for a meeting with Regents' staff to consider all options before taking action.

Receive the 2008 progress report from Southern University-New Orleans relative to implementation and accreditation of the B.S. Program in Health Information Management. The University shall continue its aggressive pursuit of an appropriately-qualified Program Director. The program shall not be implemented until the program director is hired and approval granted by the Regents' staff. The next progress report relative to this program shall be due December 1, 2009.

Receive the 2009 progress report from the University of New Orleans relative to implementation of the B.S. Program in Entrepreneurship. A subsequent progress report addressing numbers of graduates and the placement of these graduates shall be due to the Associate Commissioner for Academic Affairs by January 15, 2011.

Receive the 2008 progress report from Baton Rouge Community College relative to accreditation of its A.S. Program in Nursing. Besides the next regularly scheduled progress report due January 1, 2010, an interim progress report which addresses application for NLNAC candidacy shall be due no later than June 1, 2009.

Receive the 2009 progress report from Louisiana Technical College-Ascension relative to implementation of the A.A.S. Program in Process Technology. A subsequent progress reports shall be due to the Associate Commissioner for Academic Affairs by March 1, 2010, addressing the following:

- 1. Number of enrollees, completers, and placement of completers (including specific job citations);**
- 2. Ratio of part-time to full-time students; and**
- 3. Progress toward NAIT accreditation.**

Receive the 2008 progress reports relative to the implementation of the Associate of Applied Science programs in Industrial Instrumentation Technology and Industrial Electronic Technology at the LTC-Delta Ouachita campus. Next progress reports, as previously stipulated, shall be due by January 1, 2010, addressing NAIT accreditation, numbers of enrollees and graduates as well as placement of graduates from both programs. Additionally, enhanced recruitment efforts for the diploma and associate-level programs in Industrial Electronic Technology should be discussed.

Receive the 2009 progress report from Nicholls State University relative to implementation of the B.S. Program in Athletic Training. To determine more definitely the need for additional resources to support this program adequately, the staff further recommends that the Committee and full Board await the

results of a pending CAATE accreditation visit before enforcing previous stipulations.

REAUTHORIZATION OF PREVIOUSLY APPROVED UNITS

Grant continued full approval for the Reilly Center for Media and Public Affairs at Louisiana State University and A&M College through March 31, 2014. If upon expiration of this term the University decides to continue Center operations, LSU shall submit a subsequent request for additional authorization. Should such a request not be received by the aforementioned date, the Board of Regents shall re-examine the need for this unit. Given the heavy reliance of the Center on State funding, LSU A&M shall submit an updated budget for this unit to the Associate Commissioner for Academic Affairs by August 1, 2009. Additional budget reports may be required in subsequent years, as need dictates. Lastly, the request to officially change the name from the “Center for Media and Public Affairs” to the “Reilly Center for Media and Public Affairs” should be approved.

Grant continued full approval for the Center for Rotating Machinery at Louisiana State University and A&M College through March 31, 2014. If upon expiration of this term the University decides to continue Center operations, LSU shall submit a subsequent request for additional authorization. Should such a request not be received by the aforementioned date, the Board of Regents shall re-examine the need for this unit.

Grant continued full approval for the Center for Internal Auditing at Louisiana State University and A&M College through March 31, 2014. If upon expiration of this term the University decides to continue Center operations, LSU shall submit a subsequent request for additional authorization. Should such a request not be received by the aforementioned date, the Board of Regents shall re-examine the need for this unit.

Grant continued full approval for the Institute for Human Services and Public Policy at Louisiana State University in Shreveport through March 31, 2014. If upon expiration of this term the University decides to continue institute operations, LSUS shall submit a subsequent request for additional authorization. Should such a request not be received by the aforementioned date, the Board of Regents shall re-examine the need for this unit.

PROPOSED ACADEMIC REORGANIZATION

Grant approval for the request from Nicholls State University to:

1. **Separate the Department of History and Social Sciences into Two Separate Departments: the Department of History and Geography and the Department of Government and Social Sciences; and**
2. **Separate the School of Fine Arts into Two Separate Departments: the Department of Art and the Department of Music**

In accordance with the University's request, these changes shall be effective July 1, 2009.

TEACHER EDUCATION INITIATIVES

Grant approval for the appointment of Dr. Vickie Gentry (College of Education Dean at Northwestern State University) to represent the Topic Specialist for Higher Education on the Blue Ribbon Commission for Educational Excellence.

Grant approval for the Associate of Science in Teaching Degree (Grades 1-5) (CIP Code 13.0101) at Louisiana Delta Community College.

ADOPTION OF THE ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT OF MARCH 25, 2009

On motion of Regent Roy, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Academic and Student Affairs Committee Report of March 25, 2009. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

SPONSORED PROGRAMS COMMITTEE REPORT

On behalf of Regent Levy, Chair of the Sponsored Programs Committee, Dr. Kerry Davidson, Deputy Commissioner for Sponsored Programs, moved to dispense with the reading of the report and approve the following motion.

On motion of Regent Levy, second by Regent D'Aquin the Board voted unanimously to:

CONSIDERATION OF TEMPORARY REVISION OF SECTIONS OF THE LOUISIANA BOARD OF REGENTS ENDOWED CHAIR, ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIP, AND ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT POLICY AND OBJECTIVES

Approve amending section B.2 "Spending Policy" of the Louisiana Board of

Regents Endowed Chair, Endowed Professorship, and Endowed Scholarship Programs Statement of Investment Policy and Objectives to allow for FY 2008-2009 and FY 2009-2010 annual spending of up to 5% of the market value of Program Assets averaged on a consistent basis for the 5 most recent fiscal trust fund years, provided that the market value of the Program Assets at the end of the most recent fiscal trust fund year exceeds the original corpus of the endowment by an amount at least equal to the amount to be spent in the next fiscal trust fund year for which a spending allocation is to be made.

Further, the Sponsored Programs Committee recommends that the Board approve moving the responsibility for the implementation of the policy and guidelines set forth in the Board of Regents Statement of Investment Policy and Objectives from the Sponsored Programs Committee to the Finance Committee.

ADOPTION OF THE SPONSORED PROGRAMS COMMITTEE REPORT OF MARCH 25, 2009

On motion of Regent Levy, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Sponsored Programs Committee Report of March 25, 2009. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

PRESENTATION ON THE STATEWIDE ARTICULATION INITIATIVE

Commissioner Clausen introduced Dr. Kim Hunter Reed, Chief of Staff, to deliver the presentation on the statewide articulation initiative.

Dr. Reed remarked that there has been outstanding support from the system presidents and their academic officers as the Regents move through this important initiative which will focus on assisting students to progress toward receiving their degrees. She identified the participants and the results from the Louisiana Articulation Summit 2009 held on March 2 and 3, 2009. Dr. Reed noted that the challenges for Louisiana's transfer system will be to: (1) provide a clear and direct path to a bachelor's degree; (2) reduce time/cost for students; and (3) save state funding associated with excess credits. The reason behind these efforts is the need for more graduates – 10,000 by 2015. Nationally, a majority of students enter postsecondary through the

community college route. Louisiana has too few students transferring from a community college to a four-year institution and graduating with a bachelor's degree.

Dr. Reed stated that the vision is to create a statewide pathway for students wishing to receive their associate degree successfully and then making it possible to transfer to a bachelor's degree program. The current approach is a bi-lateral one, with examples given of proximate campus agreements. But, she said, the new approach will be a statewide articulation policy.

Dr. Reed noted that 77% of Louisiana's first-time freshman are enrolled in four-year institutions with 23% enrolled in two-year colleges. Compared to SREB, Louisiana is not in step with the mix of two-year and four-year institutions. In addition in 2007, there were 6,007 students in two-year schools, but only 400 transferred (6.7%). The goal is to greatly strengthen those results.

Dr. Reed stated that the following recommendations emerged from the Articulation Summit.

1. The Board of Regents will coordinate a statewide articulation effort;
2. A final report on the Articulation Summit would be presented to the Board of Regents;
3. A Statewide Transfer Council would be established that would include Regents' staff and the chief academic officers from the four systems;
4. Standing and ad hoc committees would be named and membership identified;
5. A subgroup would have an initial meeting; and
6. A basic framework of an associate transfer degree program will be identified.

Dr. Reed said there was continued emphasis around the faculty and how critical they are to the success of this initiative. Second, this process needs to be focused on student success and support. She noted that Ms. Jane Wellman with the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education spoke from the cost containment side as to why this initiative is so important.

Dr. Reed said the Regents are pleased to have strong supporters of this initiative, that legislation is expected by Senator Nevers this session and that all realize that time is of the essence.

Commissioner Clausen asked Dr. John Lombardi, President, Louisiana State University System; Dr. Randy Moffett, President, to participate in this discussion along with Dr. Stacia Haynie, LSU Vice Provost for Academic Affairs; Dr. Kassie Freeman, Academic Affairs at Southern University System; and Dr. Bob Bell, Academic Affairs at LCTCS.

Dr. Clausen said the continued collaborative efforts of the system heads will be critical to the measure of our success. She said that Dr. Lombardi assisted her in choosing the state of Florida as the model to follow. California as well as Georgia, Mississippi and North Carolina have excellent transferability programs for its students.

Dr. John Lombardi said there are two lessons to learn from the work in Florida. He said it was successful because the state invested a significant amount of resources in developing community colleges with high powered academic programs that were capable of delivering students and course work that could compete. The second thing was the collaborative efforts of everyone involved to assign a common number for each course and that course be transferrable to every institution in the state. President Lombardi said it was important that community colleges are committed to developing the A.A. degree programs in an effective way.

Dr. Randy Moffett said there is commitment on behalf of all the systems to move the articulation process forward. He noted there will be challenges, but it is important for students to accomplish this initiative. He said the two-year schools are still developing, so much work is yet to be done.

Dr. Bob Bell mentioned that he had experience in California with the articulation

process. Since the community college system is new in Louisiana, he said our colleges can develop around it at the same time. Dr. Bell felt the outcomes are going to be positive for students, and this is where the focus must be.

Dr. Kassie Freeman told the Board that a focus on transfers has been imperative since her arrival at the Southern University System office a year and a half ago. She said the summit was important because it gave them an opportunity to hear from colleagues across systems. After the summit, Dr. Freeman said the Southern System is committed to establish a “one-stop shop” and hold faculty retreats to discuss issues. Within the system, she said they would like to establish common course numbering so that each campus will have a common numbering for the general education core. She read a statement that said, “Only 7.9 percent of African Americans and 15.4% of Hispanic students who start at community colleges complete at least an associate degree within six years. This was compared to 24% of Asian students and 17% of Caucasian students.” Dr. Freeman said she was happy we have moved away from the word “articulation” to “transfer” and look forward to working with the Regents on this effort.

Dr. Stacia Haynie said concerns of faculty have been articulated. She noted the importance of quality courses being available to students in community colleges because this is paramount for their success once they transfer to a 4-year institution. Dr. Haynie appreciates the assurance that there will be a sincere commitment to faculty for their input as this will be a critical component in moving forward. She declared that this is going to be a wonderful process for the students.

Dr. Lombardi said that we must track success in this type of initiative. The state of Florida measured the success of the student with an A.A. degree who transferred to 4-year

institution by how well they succeeded in the upper division and out. This was compared to the native student who enrolled originally in the 4-year institution and went through the institution's first two years and then went from two years and out. He said the Florida's higher education community found that transfer students from community colleges that had a 2-year degree had as high or higher success rates in the upper division than the native students who had come in through the basic university admission process. Once the faculty saw that the students were succeeding in the upper division, the confidence of the instruction in the community colleges went way up. Dr. Lombardi said it was having those kind of metrics that help you understand whether you are succeeding or not.

Commissioner Clausen said the initiation of the process will require both two-year and four-year faculty to have conversations about the rigor and discipline itself. That is the initial expectation that the faculty will have of us.

Mr. Killebrew said the Regents have been successful in developing a comprehensive statewide articulation matrix, but it is a course by course arrangement. It has relevance in the general education requirements for students which is a significant part of any degree. In General Studies, there has been success in complete articulation being facilitated between certificate, associate and bachelor degrees. There are similar arrangements in A.S. in Teaching and the A.S. to B.S. programs in nursing. He said with the proper leadership in place, the articulation process can be done well.

Commissioner Clausen next introduced Mr. Jamey Arnette, student member of the Board of Regents. Regent Arnette said that the issues involved in transferring credits from one campus to another or from one system to another are important to students. He introduced Mr. Cedric

Hampton, Student Government Association President at the Baton Rouge Community College and Chairman of the Council of Student Body Presidents. He said that Mr. Hampton would share some comments that provide some insight as to why students support the initiative to create a statewide transfer and articulation plan

Ms. Connie Koury, General Counsel, Board of Regents, said that Mr. Hampton was recently selected in a national competition as a 2009 New Century Scholar and received a \$2,000 stipend by the Coca Cola Scholars Foundation.

Mr. Hampton first thanked the Board of Regents for their continued support of the Council of Student Body Presidents (COSBP). Through COSBP, students are given current information regarding issues impacting higher education and students. He noted that members of the Board of Regents' staff have given of their time to advise COSBP and provide them with a unique opportunity to participate at the highest level. He continued by saying that Commissioner Clausen recently sought their opinions on the new Performance Based Funding Formula.

SGA President Hampton expressed gratitude to the Board for its leadership on this very important issue – transfer and articulation. He said this will make it easier for students to transfer credits and degrees from one institution to another or from one system to another. It would mean spending less time and money to earn a degree.

He said he understands the challenges because he faced difficulties when he tried to transfer credits from the Louisiana Technical College to Baton Rouge Community College. Mr. Hampton noted that problems exist even when students transfer within a system. Creating a statewide plan that focuses on common course numbers, giving full course credit for certain

programs and associate degrees and providing counseling so that students will know, in advance, what courses will transfer and which courses will earn them credit toward a certain baccalaureate degree would eliminate so many problems for students. Such a plan would mean that students would not spend precious time or scarce resources taking courses that will not lead them to a degree. He said that in this time of budget crisis, saving money for both the student and the institutions should be a primary concern for all of us. He urged the higher education officials to stay the course until such a plan becomes a reality.

Dr. Sally Clausen remarked that she attended the luncheon when Mr. Hampton was honored. She said that he represented the students well and appreciated that he has the courage to speak out.

Regent Stelly commended everyone for participation in the Articulation Summit, and he encouraged everyone to do something about this important initiative.

Chair Terrell said that he and Regent Bollinger attended the summit, and a commitment was made to have a working document in place before they left the summit.

Regent Toups commended Mr. Colorado Robertson for his leadership and courage in coming before the Board. He would like to put these cuts in perspective. First of all, we are part of an international financial meltdown. The cut to higher education will be 15%. We have two courses of action – we can look at this responsibly with the four systems and pull together as the first line of defense to do it right. We can cut some fat or streamline the operation. We would be irresponsible if we told someone we can't cut at all. We do not want to cut to the bone, but cut the fat. Next, we have to talk to our elected leaders. They need our voice. We have the responsibility to question how our tax money is being spent. Should we have a constitutional

convention? Why are healthcare and education the only ones getting knocked? We have a rainy day fund of \$300 million or so. The Governors of Texas and Oklahoma faced severe budget cuts but they chose to protect and exempt higher education from the cuts. Those are bold steps. This board will take this call to action very seriously.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Commissioner Clausen commented on the following items:

- Louisiana has been cited as a national leader in online learning in *Education Week's Technology Counts 2009* report. It showed that more than one-million K-12 public school students took online courses nationwide during the 2007-08 school year and that is a 47% jump in one year; research has shown that the quality of these courses are equal to or better than that of traditional courses. Louisiana, along with five other SREB states earned a perfect score for use of technology. Everyone knows that online learning is a critical component for student success at all levels of education in this fast-changing world. It is gratifying to see Louisiana recognized as a leader in this area and to know that our Colleges of Education have done a great job in training teachers in the development and use of technology for their students.
- Congratulations to Louisiana Tech's Glenn Beer who was just honored by the Louisiana ACT Council with a "Best Practices" award. Professor Beer's outreach programs have helped administrators, teachers and counselors to better utilize data and numerous students to increase ACT scores. He also has developed an internet-based course to help educators use EPAS to improve instruction and student achievement.
- The Regents partnership with PK-12 continues as LaSIP prepares a pilot teacher development program to strengthen literacy, math and science education. Recently 33 schools were declared academically unacceptable by BESE. LaSIP will allocate up to \$450,000 for the multi-year program through a competitive grant program. Targeted schools will work closely with university faculty in developing long-term training that clearly reflects the instructional needs of students in mathematics, science, or literacy.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.