MINUTES
BOARD OF REGENTS
SEPTEMBER 22, 2010

The Board of Regents met as a Committee of the Whole at 9:10 a.m., Wednesday September 22, 2010, in the Louisiana Purchase Room, Claiborne Building, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Chair Artis Terrell, Jr. called the meeting to order. Executive Assistant Carolyn Blanchard called the roll, and a quorum was established.

Present for the meeting were:

Artis Terrell, Jr., Chair
Robert Levy, Vice Chair
Charlotte Bollinger
Scott Brame
Robert Bruno
Richard D’Aquín
Maurice Durbin
Donna Klein
Ingrid Labat
W. Clinton Rasberry
Victor Stelly
Harold Stokes
Roland Toups
Joseph Wiley
Demetrius Sumner

Absent from the meeting was:

Mary Ellen Roy, Secretary

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Terrell noted that no written requests were received for public comments and asked whether the audience had any comments at the time. There were none.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 26, 2010

On motion of Regent Rasberry, seconded by Regent Stokes, the Board of Regents, meeting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the minutes of August 26, 2010.

RECOGNITION OF WENDY SIMONEAUX, FORMER ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER FOR FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
Chair Terrell recognized Mrs. Wendy Simoneaux, former Associate Commissioner for Finance and Administration. He said her last day at the Board of Regents was Friday, September 17, 2010, and now she has joined the staff at the Louisiana State University System office as Vice President for Budget and Finance and Controller. Regent Terrell noted that Mrs. Simoneaux has truly been an asset while serving the Board for the past 12 years. Chair Terrell presented Mrs. Simoneaux with a plaque recognizing her dedication and hard work for the Board of Regents.

Regent Brame stated that Mrs. Simoneaux was always one step ahead of him and thanked her for all her work at the Board of Regents. Regent Brame presented Mrs. Simoneaux with a bouquet of flowers.

Mrs. Simoneaux said she appreciated all the members of the Board of Regents but her work would not have been successful without her wonderful staff. She introduced them as follows: Mr. Harold Boutte, Ms. Lori Parker, Ms. Angela Mastainich, Ms. Deesi Kirkland, Mr. Chris Dalton, Ms. Marlene Freeman, Mr. John Gates, Ms. Aisha Griffin, and Mr. Bill Burch.

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

FINANCE COMMITTEE

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board, meeting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to accept the recommendations of the Finance Committee as follows:

CONSIDERATION OF BUDGET ADJUSTMENT (BA-7) REQUEST

To approve the BA-7 from the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA) for current fiscal year, FY 2010-2011, in the amount of $206,413 for a total amount of $224,191,820. The purpose of this BA-7 is to increase Interagency Transfer funds received from the Board of Regents at LOSFA in the amount of $206,413 for FY 2010-2011. These funds will be
used to administer the College Access Challenge Grant (CACG) which provides information on of postsecondary education benefits, opportunities, planning, and preparing for college and career.

**UPDATE ON FY 11-12 BUDGET REDUCTION PLANS**

Regent Levy discussed the need to plan for the anticipated budget cuts, rather than waiting to see what happens. He said that Regents have to confront the hard issues on behalf of the state, and he moved:

> To direct the staff to work in coordination with the four management systems to develop guiding principles and action plans to respond to the proposed budget cuts to postsecondary education.

Regent Klein seconded the motion, but Regent Sumner objected to the motion. He said this magnitude of budget cuts will ultimately hurt the students, and he encouraged the Regents to take a firmer stand and request that the Governor and the Division of Administration protect higher education from these cuts.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion.


(13)

Nay: Demetrius Sumner

(1)

Abstain: N/A

(0)

Absent: Robert Bruno, Mary Ellen Roy

(2)

The motion passed.
REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF FY 2010-11 OPERATING BUDGETS

To recommend that the Board accept the FY 2010-2011 system and institutional budgets as presented to the Finance Committee on September 20 and 21, 2010.

PERSONNEL UPDATE AND ACTION

To accept the appointment of Mr. Todd Barré, who is currently the Associate Vice President for Facilities, Budget and Finance at the University of Louisiana System, as Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration at the Board of Regents at an annual salary of $170,000.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

On motion of Regent Labat, seconded by Regent Klein, the Board, meeting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to accept the recommendations of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee as follows:

PROGRAM TERMINATIONS

Southeastern LA University – AA/Criminal Justice
To terminate the Associate of Arts (A.A.) in Criminal Justice (CIP Code 43.0107) at Southeastern Louisiana University, effective immediately.

Delgado Community College – AS/General Science

To terminate the Associate of Science (A.S.) in General Studies (CIP Code 24.0199) at Delgado Community College, effective immediately.

Northwest LA Technical College

1. AAS/Business Office Administration
2. AAS/Drafting and Design Technology

To terminate the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree programs in Business Office Administration (CIP Code 52.0401) and Drafting and Design Technology (CIP Code 15.1301) at Northwest Louisiana Technical College, Shreveport Bossier Campus, effective immediately.
TEACHER EDUCATION INITIATIVES – TEACHER PREPARATION AND CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS

To grant approval of the following:

1. Master of Teaching (M.A.T.) degrees - Nicholls State University
   a) Master of Arts in Teaching in Elementary Education & Special Education Mild/Moderate ED Grades 1-5 (CIP Code: 13.1202)
   b) Master of Arts in Teaching in Middle School Education & SPEC ED M/MOD Grades 4-8 (English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies) (CIP Code: 13.1203)

2. Post-Masters Academic Certificate (P.M.C.) - Louisiana State University-Shreveport -- School Turnaround Specialist (CIP Code: 13.0401)

3. Post-Baccalaureate Academic Certificates (P.B.C.):
   A) McNeese State University
      1) Certification-Only Alternate Program:
         a) Early Childhood Grades PK-3 (CIP Code: 13.1210)
         b) Elementary Education (Grades 1-5) (CIP Code: 13.1202)
         c) Middle School Education (Grades 4-8) (CIP Code: 13.1203)
         d) Secondary Education (Grades 6-12) (CIP Code 13.1205)
         e) Multiple Levels (Grades K-12) (CIP Code: 13.1206)
      2) Add-on Certification:
         a) Mild/Moderate Special Education (Grades 1-5) (CIP Code: 13.1001)
         b) Mild/Moderate Special Education (Grades 6-12) (CIP Code: 13.1001)
         c) Counselor (Grades K-12) (CIP Code: 13.1101)
         d) School Librarian (CIP Code: 13.1334)
B) Nicholls State University

1) Add-on Certification -- Early Interventionist (Birth to Five) (CIP Code: 13.1015)

C) Southeastern Louisiana University

1) Add-on Certification
   a) Gifted Education (CIP Code: 13.1004)
   b) Early Childhood Education (Grades PK-3) (CIP Code: 13.1210)
   c) Reading Specialist (CIP Code: 13.1315)

PROPOSED REINSTATMENT OF THE MORATORIUM

To grant approval for the Moratorium on the Consideration of Proposed New Academic Programs and Research Units, effective immediately (Attachment A).

SPONSORED PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

On motion of Regent Levy, seconded by Regent D’Aquin, the Board, meeting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to accept the recommendations of the Sponsored Programs Committee as follows:

POLICY FOR NON-COMPLIANCE: BoRSF EVALUATION DATA REQUEST

To approve the Policy for Non-Compliance.

NOMINATION FROM THE LOUISIANA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF DR. JOHN ZACHARY, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS, TO REPLACE MR. JASON EL KOUBI ON THE BoRSF PLANNING COMMITTEE AND THE EPSCoR SUBCOMMITTEE

To replace Mr. Jason El Koubi with Dr. John Zachary, Assistant Director of State Economic Competitiveness, on the BoRSF Planning Committee and the EPSCoR Subcommittee.

SEARCH COMMITTEE

On motion of Regent Durbin, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board, meeting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to accept the recommendations of the Search Committee as follows:
UPDATE REGARDING THE RFP FOR EXECUTIVE SEARCH SERVICES

To approve the staff’s recommendation to award the Executive Search Services contract to Greenwood/Asher & Associates.

To authorize the staff, in consultation with Chair Durbin, to negotiate and execute the actual contract with Greenwood/Asher & Associates search firm.

To have the flexibility to adjust the timeline for the search process, if that becomes necessary, and that such changes be reported to the full Board.

PLANNING, RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

On motion of Regent Stokes, seconded by Regent Bollinger, the Board, meeting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to accept the recommendations of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee as follows:

LICENSURE

To approve the request for an initial operating license for the University of Southern California, located in Los Angeles, California, and the request for license renewals for Remington College – Lafayette, located in Lafayette, Louisiana and Vanderbilt University, located in Nashville, Tennessee.

PROPRIETARY SCHOOLS

To approve the recommendations of the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission following its meeting on September 14, 2010, as follows:

Approve initial operating licenses for (1) Academy of Interactive Entertainment, LLC, located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, (2) Alden’s School of Massage, LLC, located in Baker, Louisiana, and (3) New Orleans Culinary Institute, located in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Renew the licenses of the following proprietary schools (initial license date in parentheses):

Art Instruction School (09/21/74)
Baton Rouge School of Computers (08/28/97)
Camelot College (08/28/86)
Coastal College--Alexandria (08/28/97)
Crescent City Career Institute (08/28/03)
Crescent City School of Gaming & Bartending (09/14/83)
Healthcare Training Institute (08/27/08)
Julian Certified Nursing Assistant Training School (08/27/08)
Medical Training College (08/22/96)
River Cities School of Dental Assisting, Inc. (08/24/06)
Unitech Training Academy--Lake Charles (08/27/09)
Yoga School, LLC (08/27/08)

GRAD ACT

To extend the deadline for completion and presentation of GRAD Act agreements from September 30, 2010, to October 31, 2010; tuition collected by campuses as a result of the GRAD Act will continue to be held in escrow until final agreements are approved by the Regents.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

Chair Terrell stressed that this has been a very busy month with important meetings which will lay the foundation for the Regents’ activities over the next several months. He said meetings have been held with Commissioner of Administration Paul Rainwater concerning the projected cuts to higher education next year. In addition, he noted that they had met with Speaker Tucker concerning the implementation of the GRAD Act. This meeting, he said, led to a follow-up meeting with several legislative leaders including Representative Badon, Chair of the House Education Committee, Senator Nevers, Chair of the Senate Education Committee and Senator Joel Chaisson, Senate President, regarding the GRAD Act.

Chair Terrell also noted that meetings with the chairs and vice chairs of the four management boards were held on September 14th and 16th. He said the informal meetings gave them an opportunity to know one another on a personal level. Chair Terrell noted additional meetings would be held.

Chair Terrell appointed Regent Charlotte Bollinger to head a Trusteeship Conference for all higher education boards to be held in the coming months. He noted that a Trusteeship Conference will give the Regents a chance to interact with the members of the management
boards on issues such as regionalization, formula funding, access and financial aid policies. Regent Terrell noted that during this budgetary crisis we must look for common ground, we must work together, and we must collectively understand how all contribute to the state’s higher education enterprise. Regent Terrell mentioned that Regent Bollinger could seek a board member from each management board to help coordinate the conference.

Regent Terrell also informed everyone that Dr. Larry Tremblay, Associate Commissioner for Planning and Research, was representing Louisiana today in a national policy dialogue centered on enhancing the efficiency and collaboration among the states related to institutional approval and licensure. He said this group, which has representatives from twenty-two (22) states, will be trying to identify a template for institutional review, including process and content. Regent Terrell noted that Dr. Tremblay’s travel had been paid by the Presidents Forum and that he looks forward to receiving a full report.

Regent Stelly called to the attention of the Board two items: (1) an article from John Maginnis’ Fax Weekly on Tuesday, September 21, 2010, regarding college experiences taking a turn for the worse (Attachment B), and (2) a Letter to Editor from Mr. John Landry who stated that education in Louisiana is working (Attachment C).

Regent Bruno reminded the Board that he had asked the Board become involved with the alternative energy program. He informed the Board that Southeastern Louisiana University has agreed to pilot the program. Regent Bruno stated that the goal is to replicate the alternative energy program in all Louisiana colleges and universities.
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.
Attachment A

**Board of Regents**

**Moratorium on the Consideration of**

**New Academic Programs and Research Units**

The Board of Regents continues the moratorium on the consideration of proposed new academic/research programs and units at Louisiana’s public colleges and universities, effective immediately (22 September 2010). This moratorium applies to all existing and anticipated proposals for new programs and units. It will remain in effect until it is lifted by Board action.

**Exceptions.**

Exceptions to the moratorium will be considered when the program or unit is deemed essential for the wellbeing of the state, region, or academy. For example:

1) It is critical to completing program development required for institutional accreditation.
2) It directly contributes to immediate and long-term economic development, e.g., with a clear and well-established connection with existing or emerging industry.
3) It is a technical/workforce program with evidence or an indication of regional demand, primarily to be offered at a two-year or community/technical college.
4) It is a program that is directly related to current or evolving needs within the state or region.

Considerable and definitive evidence will be required when an institution requests review of a proposed new program/unit, to include a written statement by the campus head with an endorsement by the relevant management system addressing how the new program is essential to the institution, particularly in light of severe fiscal reductions. It must include a commitment to provision of required funding, given higher education’s current and anticipated budget cuts.

In cases of requested exemptions, the affected campus head and associated faculty/staff (with approval of the relevant management system) must be prepared to appear before the Board of Regents to present a detailed explanation of potential beneficial economic impact and an accompanying commitment to provision of required funding to build and sustain the program.

Letters of Intent.

Previously approved Letters of Intent currently on file will remain current for three years after the moratorium has been lifted. Institutions may continue to submit proposed Letters of Intent with the understanding that approved Letters of Intent will not become active until after the moratorium has been lifted, after which they will remain current for three years. Program proposals that do not meet the exemptions will be held, but may have to be updated or resubmitted for Board consideration.

Approved: Board of Regents, 22 SEP 2010
SEPTEMBER 21, 2010  POLITICS / JOHN MAGINNIS

College Experience Taking Turn for Worse

Despite the looming financial crisis facing higher education in Louisiana, the school year begins with booming university enrollments, pushed by record-sized freshman classes. The surge of new students, with their energy, optimism and tuition dollars, should mark the best of times on college campuses. And well these may be, compared to what's ahead next year, when higher education, with the rest of state government, goes off the budgetary "cliff."

The best this year's big freshman class can offer is reprieves to some faculty members--236 at LSU alone--whose layoff notices effective in January were extended to June to cover the student load.

College leaders, under orders from the state Division of Administration, are submitting budget "exercises" to outline how their schools would handle losing one-third of state funding next year, a possible $437 million reduction on top of $270 million that was cut over the last two years.

LSU's doomsday exercise includes almost 700 layoffs and 8,000 fewer students to cover $62 million in projected cuts system-wide. The other college systems are due to release their reduction reports soon, which should induce further dread.

The increased stress level at the top was a contributing factor, though probably not direct reason why LSU President John Lombardi fired University of New Orleans Chancellor Tim Ryan last week. For months, Ryan's days were said to be numbered, according to the rumor mill at the state Capitol. The two frequently clashed, which is not unusual or beneficial for those dealing with the blunt, authoritarian Lombardi, who has said it is not his job to get people to agree with him.

Also, Ryan had undercut his own support on campus and among alumni by his decision, of the head more than the heart, to take down the athletic program from Division I to Division III.

The fiscal problems, though, helped to bring Ryan's situation to a head. In a letter to the president, the chancellor offered to step aside if the LSU system did not provide more support to UNO. He seemed surprised when Lombardi immediately took him up on it.

A bad situation gets worse for the New Orleans school, which is still struggling with lower enrollment since Hurricane Katrina. Ryan's departure, with seven years experience dealing with financial challenges, puts UNO at a further disadvantage in the coming funding competition at the Legislature next year.
In projecting massive layoffs and forced enrollment decline, Lombardi could be taking the Chicken Little approach, in hopes of inciting LSU alumni and supporters to press state leaders to find more money. He might be overstating the case, but recent experience shows that austerity budgets have been followed by mid-year cuts.

Yet, no matter how scary a picture is painted, it likely won't make legislators overcome their fear of raising taxes, which the governor has promised to veto if they do. There is some support in the state Senate to raise revenue by suspending some tax exemptions, which would still require two-thirds votes of both houses but which the governor could not veto. But opposition to such a move remains strong in the House, where suspending exemptions, even temporarily, is called raising taxes.

Besides, lawmakers say they last year gave the college boards the flexibility to raise tuition 10 per cent per year for the next six years, which feels like a tax increase for parents paying the way or students with college loans. College administrators argue that the tuition hikes are mostly eaten up by increases in insurance, retirement and other rising costs.

Perhaps the biggest problem to overcome for college officials asking for money at the Capitol is their own salary packages, which have escalated in recent years compared to that of other public employees, such as legislators.

The budget constriction in higher education is made all the more painful by how quickly it came about. When today's juniors and seniors started out a few years ago, state funding for colleges reached peak levels and learning opportunities expanded. Now many of those students worry about being able to get into crowded classes they need for graduation. It could be worse for today's freshmen, who have to wonder how much of a college experience will be left for them.
I respectfully submit that former LSU Chancellor James Wharton (letter, Sept. 10) is using partial information to create negative impressions regarding higher education in Louisiana.

For decades, Louisiana’s colleges and universities were open admissions, meaning anyone with a high school degree could enroll. While this led to poor graduation rates, it also provided access and opportunity to first-generation college students, many of whom did graduate and become leaders in their communities and successful business people.

Louisiana’s approach to access changed under Gov. Mike Foster’s administration with the establishment of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System. These two-year campuses became the open admissions pathway to higher education. All universities implemented admissions criteria in 2005. This will improve graduation rates statewide. LSU, Louisiana Tech and UL-Lafayette adopted admission criteria earlier, and that is why their graduation rates are higher than the others.

According to the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education, during the past decade Louisiana’s public four-year colleges had the fourth-best improvement in graduation rates in the nation. The system is working. Criticizing, before the process has had time to take root, is divisive and destructive. That’s the whole truth.

John T. Landry, past president
University of Louisiana-Lafayette
Alumni Board of Governors
Abbeville