

MINUTES
BOARD OF REGENTS

December 16, 2020

The Board of Regents met as a Committee of the Whole at 10:36 a.m., Wednesday, December 16, 2020, via video conference. Chair Marty Chabert called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

Board Secretary Christine Norton called the roll, and a quorum was established.

Present for the meeting were:

Marty Chabert, Chair
Collis Temple III, Vice Chair
Blake David, Secretary
Claudia Adley
Randy Ewing
Robert Levy
Phillip May, Jr.
Darren Mire
Sonia Pérez
Wilbert Pryor
T. Jay Seale III
Gary Solomon, Jr.
Gerald Theunissen
Chandler Vidrine, Student
Felix Weill

Mgt. Board Representatives present:

Willie Mount, LCTC System
Mary Werner, LSU System
Lola Dunahoe, UL System

Absent from the meeting was:

Charles McDonald

CERTIFICATION FOR VIRTUAL MEETING

Chair Chabert referenced the Board of Regents' certification of inability to operate due to the lack of an in-person quorum. The certification is available on the Board of Regents website and was included with the meeting materials. He indicated that all votes during the meeting would be done by roll call.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 21, 2020

On motion of Regent Temple, seconded by Regent David, the Board, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the minutes of October 21, 2020.

MASTER PLAN UPDATE – MASTER PLAN DASHBOARD

Dr. Randall Brumfield, Deputy Commissioner for Strategic Planning and Student Success, presented an overview and demonstration of the Master Plan dashboard on the Board of Regents website. He explained that the dashboard would provide the Board and the public greater transparency, and aid decision-makers in identifying areas of success and areas needing improvement across the state. Following his presentation, there were a number of questions from Board members. Regent Ewing asked if the dashboard provided data related to on-campus versus online enrollment. Dr. Brumfield and Dr. Reed explained that the purpose of the dashboard is to provide Master Plan enrollment and completion data and that the information that Regent Ewing requested would be provided but not reflected on the dashboard. Regent Seale asked if the data presented were readily comparable to SREB data. Ms. Kimberly Kirkpatrick, Associate Commissioner for Institutional Research and Performance Assessment Services, explained that the metrics reported to SREB do not include race/ethnicity or age, so there is no comparison group on those items. Regent May stated that the average-time-to-degree screen did not show PELL or GO Grant recipients. Ms. Kirkpatrick said that this information is available and would be added. Regent May noted that the extended average time to degree could be due to financial instability. Regent Ewing asked what percentage of student costs was covered by Pell and GO Grants and why there was a low completion rate among recipients of these grants. Ms. Kirkpatrick said that Pell Grants offered a flat award amount, though student costs vary by institution. Dr. Reed explained that many outside factors affected student completion rates including costs for housing, food, transportation and childcare. She said that there is discussion in Congress about doubling the amount of the Pell Grant given the declining purchasing power of Pell. Regent Ewing said that the cost of higher education is out of reach for so many students and while the grants help, they do not solve the problem. Dr. Reed agreed and noted that particularly for adult students, there is a financial aid gap and that we must support adults and offer

resources. Regent Pérez asked about our engagement with national associations to increase Pell and provide holistic education experiences. Dr. Reed said that we are engaged and would be happy to provide an update on those services to the Board at a future meeting. Regent Pryor asked if the ACT was mandatory for all students. Dr. Reed explained that the ACT was offered to all high school juniors and mandatory for TOPS, but not mandatory for admission to postsecondary institutions. Regent Pryor asked if a mandatory preparation class for ACT might be helpful. Dr. Reed said it would be and staff will share updates on future plans. Regent Seale commended the staff on the dashboard.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

AUDIT

Ms. Laura Soileau, Director at Postlethwaite & Netterville (P&N), provided an update of the internal audit of contract year three, which included an internal audit risk assessment, development of an initial internal audit plan, review of the internal audit charter, and a BOR IT security update. Ms. Soileau thanked the Regents IT team for its assistance in the audit. She said there are ongoing discussions regarding the proposed internal audit plan for the remainder of contract year three and updates will be provided when they are available. Chair Chabert thanked Ms. Soileau and Regent Seale for their efforts for the Audit Committee. Regent Seale said that he was impressed by the coordination, collaboration and collegiality of the working relationship between the P&N team and Ms. Elizabeth Bourgeois, Assistant Commissioner for Audit and Compliance, as well as Regents staff. He said that the current P&N contract would be complete in February 2021 and there would be discussion at the January meeting about renewing the contract.

On motion of Regent Adley, seconded by Regent Weill, the Board, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to receive the report presented by P&N.

FACILITIES AND PROPERTY

Mr. Chris Herring, Assistant Commissioner for Facilities and Planning, provided a brief overview of the ongoing recovery of campuses in the Lake Charles area following the hurricanes. He said that a stakeholder meeting was held last week on progress related to campus recovery at McNeese State

University and SOWELA Technical Community College. There is work going on at both campuses. McNeese has opened some dorms and plans to have the remaining dorms open by spring. They also plan to finish repairs to athletics buildings and farm areas. SOWELA is working to fix the Arts and Humanities building, one of the most important buildings to the institution, by fall 2021. The only major issue has been cash flow delays and projects yet to start will continue once the funds are received. Regent Chabert thanked Mr. Herring and all involved in this work.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

Dr. Susannah Craig, Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs and Innovation, presented the items for Academic and Student Affairs.

On motion of Regent David, seconded by Regent May, the Board, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve items as presented:

- 1. Consent Agenda**
 - a. Continued Authorization of Centers and Institutes**
 - i. Deepwater Center for Workforce Excellence – Fletcher**
 - ii. Neuroscience Center of Excellence – LSU HSC-NO**
 - iii. Stanley S. Scott Cancer Center of Excellence – LSU HSC-NO**
 - iv. Center of Excellence for Arthritis & Rheumatology – LSU HSC-S**
 - b. Progress Reports**
 - c. Routine Staff Approvals**
- 2. Academic Programs**
 - a. Letter of Intent**
 - i. BA Theatre – Southeastern**
 - b. Program Proposals**
 - i. AS Business Administration – CLTCC**
 - ii. AAS Practical Nursing – SLCC**
 - iii. AAS Systems Administration – RPCC**
- 3. Full Authorization of Conditionally Approved Center**
 - a. Center for Evidence-based Practice in Behavioral Health – LSU HSC-NO**
- 4. New Center of Excellence**
 - a. Center for Emerging Viral Threats – LSU HSC-S**

RESEARCH AND SPONSORED INITIATIVES

Ms. Carrie Robison, Deputy Commissioner for Sponsored Programs, presented the Consent Agenda item, which would allow LSU and A&M College to appoint an Endowed Chairholder without a national search. Ms. Robison noted that, as stipulated in Board policy, the Letter of Appointment must be submitted to the Board within 90 days of this approval. In addition, Ms. Robison provided a preview of the Board of Regents Support Fund (BoRSF) Plan and Budget Recommendations for FY 2021-22. This update was for information purposes only. The proposed budget will be brought for Board action at the January meeting. Regent Ewing asked how much was held in private funds for matching purposes. Ms. Robison said that the funds are held by the foundations and it was hard for staff to determine the exact amount. Regent Ewing then asked if we encouraged donors to use their money elsewhere if a match was not available. Ms. Robison explained that we typically do not engage directly with donors and that currently there are only six campuses holding unmatched endowment slots from previous years.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. **Appointment of Endowed Chairholder without National Search: LSU and A&M College**

On motion of Regent Temple, seconded by Regent Seale, the Board, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the item on the Consent Agenda.

STATEWIDE PROGRAMS

Dr. Sujuan Boutte, Executive Director of the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA), presented the Consent Agenda items. Dr. Boutte also presented figures on the cost of attendance after receiving Pell, GO Grants and TOPS, in response to Regent Ewing's question during the Master Plan presentation.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. **Approval of Final Rulemaking to Implement the Provisions of Acts from the 2020 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature**
- b. **Approval of TOPS Exceptions**

- c. **Approval of Rulemaking to Implement Additional Waivers/Exceptions for Hurricane Impacted Areas and Extension of ACT Testing Deadline for 2020 Graduates**

On motion of Regent Adley, seconded by Regent Mire, the Board, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the items on the Consent Agenda.

PLANNING, RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE

Dr. Brumfield and Dr. Craig presented the Consent Agenda items.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. **Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission**
 - i. **Initial Licenses**
 - (a) **Royal Angels Anointed Hands, LLC (Clinton, LA)**
 - ii. **Change of Ownership**
 - (a) **Compass Career College (Hammond, LA)**
 - iii. **Renewal Applications**
 - (a) **2136 - Academy of Interactive Entertainment - 9/22/2010**
 - (b) **2175 - Acadiana Area Career College - A Div of Blue Cliff College - 9/28/2012**
 - (c) **2230 - Accelerated Dental Assisting Academy - Metairie - 9/24/2015**
 - (d) **2228 - Accelerated Dental Assisting Academy - Houma - 9/24/2015**
 - (e) **828 - Ayers Career College - 10/25/1990**
 - (f) **976 - Becker Professional Education - New Orleans - 10/24/1996**
 - (g) **2161 - Captain School, LLC - 9/22/2011**
 - (h) **2019 - Coastal College - Baton Rouge - 9/28/2000**
 - (i) **2200 - Coastal Truck Driving School of New Orleans - 9/25/2014**
 - (j) **2066 - Delta College Inc. - Slidell Branch - 9/23/2004**
 - (k) **369 - Diesel Driving Academy - Shreveport - 10/6/1974**
 - (l) **947 - Delta College, Inc. - Covington - 10/26/1995**
 - (m) **2001 - Eastern College of Health Vocations - 9/23/1985**
 - (n) **2307 - Joshua Career Institute of Louisiana - 9/25/2019**
 - (o) **2251 - Lafayette Dental Assistant School - 9/22/2016**
 - (p) **2202 - Mia's Medical Academy - 9/25/2014**
 - (q) **2295 - National Aesthetic Laser Institute - 9/26/2018**
 - (r) **2252 - New Orleans Dental Assistant School - 9/22/2016**
 - (s) **920 - Nursing Assistant Network Association (NANA) - 10/27/1994**
 - (t) **2172 - Pelican Chapter, ABC, Inc. - 9/27/2012**
 - (u) **2173 - Pelican Chapter, ABC, Inc. - 9/27/2012**
 - (v) **2163 - Saint Agatha Career School, LLC - 9/22/2011**
 - (w) **2283 - Over Drive Truck Driving School of Louisiana, LLC - 9/27/2017**
 - (x) **2253 - Shreveport Dental Assistant School - 9/22/2016**
 - (y) **948 - Thomas Training and Developmental Center, Inc. - 10/26/1995**
 - (z) **2256 - Unitech Training Academy - Baton Rouge - 9/22/2016**
 - (aa) **2068 - Unitech Training Academy - West Monroe - 9/23/2004**
 - (bb) **2284 - Woodland Healthcare Training, LLC - 9/27/2018**
- b. **R.S. 17:1808 (Licensure)**
 - i. **Conditional License**
 - (a) **Daience University**

- ii. **Initial Applications**
 - (a) **Clarks Summit University**
 - (b) **Pepperdine University**
- iii. **Renewal Application**
 - (a) **Blue Cliff College**
- iv. **School Closure**
 - (a) **International Health Coach University**

On motion of Regent Temple, seconded by Regent May, the Board, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the items on the Consent Agenda.

CAEP ACCREDITATION

Dr. Craig explained that the Board of Regents and the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) currently have an agreement that outlines the process of accreditation for public institutions in Louisiana. She further stated that every five years the agreement must be renegotiated, and the current agreement is set to expire at the end of this year. BOR and CAEP staff have renegotiated the CAEP agreement with very few changes. Dr. Craig said that if the changes are approved, this partnership agreement will be in place until December 31, 2025, unless changes are requested by the BOR.

On motion of Regent David, seconded by Regent Seale, the Board, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the changes and grant approval to enter into another five-year agreement with CAEP.

NOMINATING

NOMINATION OF BOARD OFFICERS FOR 2021 CHAIR, VICE CHAIR AND SECRETARY

Nominating Committee Chair Regent Seale requested approval of the nomination of the following Board Officers for 2021: Regent Blake David as Chair, Regent T. Jay Seale III as Vice Chair, and Regent Sonia Pérez as Secretary.

NOMINATION OF FOUR NON-OFFICER MEMBERS TO SERVE ON THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 2021

The nominating committee requested approval of the following four non-officer members to serve on the Executive Committee for 2021: Regent Marty Chabert, Regent Darren Mire, Regent Wilbert Pryor, and Regent Gary Solomon, Jr.

On motion of Regent Ewing, seconded by Regent Temple, the Board, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve:

- a) **the following Board Officers for 2021: Regent Blake David as Chair, Regent T. Jay Seale III as Vice Chair, and Regent Sonia Pérez as Secretary; and**
- b) **the following four non-officer members to serve on the Executive Committee for 2021: Regent Marty Chabert, Regent Darren Mire, Regent Wilbert Pryor, and Regent Gary Solomon, Jr.**

PERSONNEL

EVALUATION OF THE COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Personnel Committee Chair Regent Pryor informed the Board that the Personnel Committee conducted an evaluation of Commissioner Reed. He thanked the Personnel Committee, senior staff and Commissioner Reed for their input in accordance with the policy adopted last year. He acknowledged Commissioner Reed's selection as the recipient of the State Higher Education Officers Association's (SHEEO's) 2020 Exceptional Leader Award and he said that there was nothing but magnanimous comments from Board and staff, that she has done an outstanding job, and that she is a credit to the state. Chair Chabert thanked Regent Pryor and the Personnel Committee. He said that Dr. Reed is well respected by the Governor's Office and Legislature, as well as a rock star nationally, and that we are fortunate to have her as our Commissioner of Higher Education. Chair-elect David said that we must negotiate to extend Dr. Reed's contract as soon as possible. Dr. Reed said that she appreciates the work of the Board and staff to meet and exceed her passion and vision for higher education in Louisiana. She is grateful to have the opportunity to work with this Board and this team to keep moving forward.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Chair Chabert noted the following:

- He acknowledged student member Chandler Vidrine as an asset to the Board and asked him to share his report. Regent Vidrine provided updates on some of the SGA activities around the state including:
 - COSBP has postponed its annual trip to Washington, DC due to COVID-19;
 - Student body presidents have been working diligently with their administrations in preparing for the Spring semester; and
 - Some campuses have sent surveys to students regarding how each campus has responded to COVID-19 in terms of protocols, policies, procedures, campus life and academics. Campuses will use the information provided to make changes to necessary resources to help students deal with COVID, including moving forward with hybrid and virtual events to ensure campuses are putting the safety of their students first.
- He recognized outgoing Board members Regent Claudia Adley and Regent Gerald Theunissen.
 - Regent Adley said it was a pleasure and joy to serve on the Board. She said that she was grateful to know that the students of Louisiana were entrusted to those serving on the

Board. She would continue to watch higher education progress through the great leadership of this Board. She thanked Dr. Reed and the staff and wished everyone a merry Christmas and happy 2021.

- Regent Theunissen said it was an honor and a pleasure to work with everyone. He acknowledged Dr. Neil Aspinwall of SOWELA and Dr. Daryl Burckel of McNeese as their campuses recover from the 2020 hurricanes. He said that dealing with a pandemic and five hurricanes this year was difficult, thanking everyone for their hard work and wishing happy holidays and hopes for a better 2021 to all.
- As this was Regent Chabert's last meeting as Chair, the staff prepared a video of SGA presidents, past and present, thanking him for his leadership and wishing him the best for the future. He reiterated his motto, that "it's all about the students!" He acknowledged each member of the Board and staff by name. He thanked all of the system management board members, system presidents, and Dr. Reed. Dr. Reed said that she was very appreciative of Chair Chabert, particularly his commitment to the students and his big heart.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.