

MINUTES  
BOARD OF REGENTS

December 15, 2021

The Board of Regents met in session at 1:21 p.m. on Wednesday, December 15, 2021, in the Thomas Jefferson Room A & B (1-136), Claiborne Building, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Chair Blake David called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

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

Present for the meeting were:

Blake David, Chair  
T. Jay Seale III, Vice Chair  
Sonia Pérez, Secretary (present for Committee meetings)  
Stephanie Finley  
Cameron Jackson  
Phillip May, Jr.  
Charles McDonald  
Darren Mire  
Wilbert Pryor  
Gary Solomon, Jr.  
Terrie Sterling  
Collis Temple III  
Felix Weill  
Judy Williams-Brown

Absent from the meeting were:

Randy Ewing  
Robert Levy

Mgt. Board Representatives present:

Alterman “Chip” Jackson, LCTCS System  
Brad Stevens, UL System

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair David asked if there were any public comments. Ms. Brasseaux responded that there were none.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 20, 2021

**On motion of Regent Temple, seconded by Regent Finley, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2021 meeting.**

## CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Chair David made the following comments:

- He acknowledged student member Cameron Jackson and asked him to share his report. Regent Jackson provided updates on the task force, created by the Governor, of the Council of Student Body Presidents (COSBP).
  - The task force had its first meeting on November 15, 2021 and members wanted to refocus on assessment of the ongoing vaccination efforts, to develop more innovative peer-to-peer vaccination campaigns, to identify possible barriers to uptake and solutions, and to build awareness of the impacts of COVID-19 on the mental health of college students.
  - In the task force they discussed the Mask Up, Vax Up campaign occurring at Grambling State University and the student body presidents expressed interest in participating.
  - COSBP met on November 5, 2021. Led by Bruce Buggs, LSU, the Council discussed mental health. The next meeting will be held on March 4, 2022 but Regent Jackson will not be in attendance due to travel.
  - In January, COSBP will travel to Washington, D.C. to meet with Louisiana's Congressional Delegation.
  
- Chair David spoke about the LABI Business Roundtable and thanked Regent May, Regent Temple and Regent Sterling for participating in this event along with him. He thanked Commissioner Reed and Erin Cowser for organizing and attending the event. Various business leaders throughout the surrounding area attended the Roundtable to discuss how they are working with higher education and what can be improved. They agreed that further action is wanted and discussed the possibility of dividing into sectors to continue moving the work forward. Commissioner Reed and Chair David spoke about targeting small- and medium-sized businesses so they can align students with interest in various sectors and locations across the state.
  
- Chair David then announced the retirement of Terrence Ginn, Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration. Mr. Ginn's retirement date is January 1, 2022, after 20 years of service to the state of Louisiana, nine of which were at the LA Board of Regents.
  - Mr. Ginn spoke of the Regents as his "home agency" and acknowledged Commissioner Jim Purcell, who hired him, Commissioner Joe Rallo, who promoted him and Commissioner Reed, who constantly challenged him to be his very best. After his retirement, he will be starting a government relations firm.
  - Chair David presented three official commendations to Mr. Ginn from Governor John Bel Edwards, Speaker of the House Clay Schexnayder and Senate President Page Cortez, along with a retirement gift from the Board's Senior Staff.
  
- Chair David gave his farewell message as Chair and expressed his excitement for Regent Temple to take over the position. He noted the time commitment of this service, as all members have extensive work obligations, but stressed the importance of serving is to make this state better and help students succeed.

- Commissioner Reed presented Chair David with an honorary Regents gavel in recognition of his service and discussed Chair David's dedication to further the work for student success.

#### MASTER PLAN – Student Success Council Action Plan 2022-2025

Chair David introduced Dr. Susannah Craig, Ms. Mellynn Baker and Dr. Toya Barnes-Teamer (HCM Strategists) to present on the Student Success Council Action Plan 2022-2025. Dr. Craig stated that the purpose of the Student Success Council is to bring student-centered recommendations forward to support the Master Plan goal of doubling, within the next decade, the number of degrees and high-value credentials awarded annually. Dr. Craig spotlighted the definition of today's student, including students who are first in family, working parents in need of training, veterans, incarcerated/formerly incarcerated individuals, adults in rural areas, foster youth and traditional secondary-to-postsecondary individuals. To support the creation of the Council, BoR partnered with Dr. Toya Barnes-Teamer, HCM Strategists.

Dr. Teamer discussed the mission of the Council, which is to advise the Board on student-centered work to reach Master Plan's talent development goals. Dr. Teamer discussed the Council's approach of diversity, equity and inclusion, noting a presentation by HCM Strategists in April 2021 on achieving student success through the equity lens and next steps to ensure the Council has a clear understanding of diversity, equity and inclusion concepts.

Ms. Baker then spoke of the composition of the 18-member Council, all of whom are students, faculty and staff at public and private postsecondary institutions across the state. The Council organized itself into three subcommittees: expanding access to and success in completing postsecondary education, continuing students and completers, and supporting adult students. These subcommittees worked to create specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and time-bound (S.M.A.R.T.) goals. Common themes were identified across committees including awareness of college affordability options, math pathways, best practices in advising and supporting adult students.

Ms. Baker briefly provided information on each of the goals and acknowledged that the action plan provides details on measurement of goals and the timeline.

The first theme was College Affordability, for which the Council identified two goals for such:

- *Develop a set of financial literacy concepts for incorporation into a statewide training for all institutions to be shared with students and faculty, and staff.*
- *Conduct a dual enrollment finances study exploring the feasibility of any adjustments to the current funding structure to promote equity and access within dual enrollment, a Master Plan initiative.*

The second theme, math pathways, has one goal:

- *Build on the Louisiana Math Forward developmental math reform initiative by establishing math pathways that better align college-level math with a student's intended area of study.*

For the third theme, best practices in advising, the Council identified one goal:

- *Establish statewide recommendations and best practices for secondary school counselors and postsecondary institutions to advise students on college and career pathways.*

The fourth theme, focused on supporting adult learners, included four goals:

- *Building on the work of the Governor's Education Workforce Sub-Cabinet, expand education and benefit alignment work with students to reduce barriers to enrollment.*
- *Review and provide statewide recommendations of completion strategies for adult including reverse transfer, prior learning assessment, WorkReadyU, and other opportunities that align with workforce demands.*
- *Research other state practices and provide recommendations for statewide work-based learning opportunities including internships and apprenticeships.*
- *Compile and research other states' practices for collecting pre- and post-graduate earnings.*

Ms. Baker discussed the Council's next steps, with the work shifting into the workgroups created around each one of the goal themes. Council meetings will occur on a quarterly basis and the group will continue to serve as a network of problem-solvers, centered around student success and support of the Master Plan.

Ms. Baker also acknowledged the contributions of Council members as well as staff to this work.

Chair David thanked Dr. Craig, Dr. Teamer and Ms. Baker for the Student Success Council report. He mentioned that work for the supporting adult learners goal came from Dr. René Cintrón, LCTCS, who passed away earlier this month. Commissioner Reed thanked Dr. Craig, Dr. Teamer and Ms. Baker for their work with this Council and mentioned the significance of collaboration of public and private postsecondary institutions in our state, which highlights the commitment to supporting student success in the state of Louisiana.

## **REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Chair David transitioned to consideration of Committee actions and asked if any Board member wished to discuss these reports and recommendations separately. Hearing no request to take up reports separately, Chair David asked for a motion to approve all Committee recommendations.

**On motion of Regent Temple, seconded by Regent Weill, the Board voted unanimously to approve all recommendations from the December 15, 2021 Committee meetings.**

## **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Mrs. Laura Soileau and Mrs. Kailey Armbruster from Postlethwaite & Netterville (P&N) presented an update to the Audit Committee on the progress of contract year 4. They explained there are three audits in the approved audit plan: Competitive Contracts & Endowments, LOSFA Louisiana GO Grants, and Information Technology Policy and Procedures. The LOSFA Louisiana GO Grants and Information Technology Policy and Procedures reviews have not yet been completed.

Mrs. Laura Soileau discussed the results of the Competitive Contracts & Endowments process assessment, which focused on compliance and processes in the Board of Regents Support Fund endowment matching programs. Two moderate- and one low-risk observations were identified. Mrs. Soileau summarized the conditions, causes, and management action plans related to the two moderate-risk observations.

**Accept the report.**

## **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

### **DIVISION OF DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS, INNOVATION & STUDENT SUCCESS AND APPOINTMENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND INNOVATION POSITION**

Commissioner Reed provided background on the recent position consolidation and the need to create two deputy-level positions to support the work. She announced that Regents is now able to hire one of the most innovative postsecondary leaders in the country, Dr. Tristan Denley, as Deputy Commissioner

for Academic Affairs and Innovation. Dr. Denley currently serves as Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Chief Academic Officer at the University System of Georgia. Throughout his career, he has taken a hands-on approach to advancing systemic changes in higher education focused on math reform, academic momentum, and program alignment to meet immediate and emerging workforce needs. His most recent work has been to transform developmental education and advising at scale in multiple states and to create a new type of degree responsive to the needs of learners and employers in Georgia.

Commissioner Reed commented on the work accomplished by Dr. Susannah Craig and described the work she will undertake as Deputy Commissioner for Strategic Planning and Student Success.

**Approve the hiring of Dr. Tristan Denley as Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs and Innovation and appointment of Dr. Susannah Craig as Deputy Commissioner for Strategic Planning and Student Success.**

#### APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY COMMISSIONER FOR FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Commissioner Reed notified the Committee of the upcoming retirement of Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration Terrence Ginn, and the need to appoint Mr. Ginn's replacement. She noted Mr. Matthew LaBruyere, currently the Associate Commissioner for Finance and Administration, is recommended to serve in the Deputy role.

**Approve the appointment of Mr. Matthew LaBruyere as Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration.**

#### **FACILITIES & PROPERTY COMMITTEE**

#### ADDITIONS TO BoR FY 2022-23 CAPITAL OUTLAY BUDGET RECOMMENDATION

Mr. Herring presented five capital outlay projects submitted by the University of Louisiana System (ULS) for consideration after the BoR's approval of the capital outlay budget recommendation during its October meeting. Four projects were submitted on behalf of the University of Louisiana – Lafayette (ULL) and one on behalf of Grambling State University (GSU).

#### **GSU Project:**

**(1) Campus-Wide Protective Barrier**

**ULL Projects:**

- (1) New Iberia Research Center (NIRC) Bio-Safety Level (BSL) 3 Lab and Animal Housing**
- (2) NIRC Iberia Bio-Innovation Accelerator**
- (3) ULL/LSU Health Sciences Education Collaboration Building**
- (4) ULL Learning Lab**

**Approve the additions to the Board's FY 2022-23 Capital Outlay Budget Recommendation.**

**ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Dr. Susannah Craig, Deputy Commissioner for Strategic Planning and Student Success, presented the Consent Agenda and Academic Programs and Ms. Elizabeth Bourgeois, Assistant Commissioner for Audit and Compliance, presented the 2020 Admissions Audit.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Dr. Craig noted that the Consent Agenda consisted of routine staff approvals including several certificate programs, which the Board authorized staff to approve at the October meeting as part of the Academic Planning item.

**Approve the items on the Consent Agenda.**

**ACADEMIC PROGRAMS**

Dr. Craig presented five academic program proposals:

- 1. Associate of Arts in American Sign Language Studies – Baton Rouge Community College**
- 2. Associate of Applied Science in Heating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration – Nunez Community College**
- 3. Bachelor of Arts in Theatre – Southeastern Louisiana University**
- 4. Bachelor of Science in Occupational Therapy Assistance – University of Louisiana at Monroe**
- 5. Master of Science in Clinical Nutrition and Dietetics Leadership – Nicholls State University**

**Approve the following proposed programs: AA American Sign Language Studies – Baton Rouge CC, AAS Heating, Air Conditioning & Refrigeration – Nunez CC, BA Theatre – Southeastern Louisiana University, BS Occupational Therapy Assistant – UL Monroe, and MS Clinical Nutrition & Dietetics Leadership – Nicholls State University.**

## 2020 ADMISSIONS AUDIT

Ms. Elizabeth Bourgeois presented the 2020 Admissions Audit findings and stated that the audit was conducted in accordance with the Admissions Audit Plan approved in August 2020. Due to changes in the admissions standards and approval of the emergency COVID-19 policy for placement scores, the audit was conducted with the objective of verifying the accuracy of admissions data reported during fall 2020 in the Statewide Student Profile System (SSPS). The scope was limited to reviewing data; therefore, no exceptions or admissions decisions were reviewed. Reviews included only those institutions which were not reviewed in prior audits: Louisiana State University of Alexandria, Louisiana Tech University, McNeese State University, Nicholls State University, Southeastern Louisiana University, and the University of Louisiana at Monroe. No site visits were performed, and meetings were conducted via Zoom.

Further discussion regarding audit findings included the next steps, intentions, and expectations. Ms. Bourgeois stated that the intention is not to conduct a full audit of corrective actions taken, but to review resubmissions to make sure the corrections have been made. Prior to the initiation of this audit, these fields were not audited, so the expectation is that the data mix-match issue identified will no longer exist once the changes have been enacted.

**Accept the 2020 Admissions audit.**

## **RESEARCH & SPONSORED INITIATIVES COMMITTEE**

Ms. Carrie Robison, Deputy Commissioner for Sponsored Programs, presented the Consent Agenda and FY 2022-23 Board of Regents Support Fund Plan and Budget.

## CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Carrie Robison noted that the Consent Agenda consisted of a request from LSU and A&M College to appoint an internal candidate, Dr. Oliver Garden, Dean of the School of Veterinary Medicine, to the Kenneth Burns Endowed Chair in Veterinary Medicine.



**Approve the item on the Consent Agenda.**

**FY 2022-23 BOARD OF REGENTS SUPPORT FUND PLAN AND BUDGET**

Ms. Robison provided an overview of the constitutionally designated Board of Regents Support Fund and the requirement to provide a budget to the Governor and the Legislature for the coming fiscal year for consideration during the 2022 Regular Session. She reviewed recent trends in revenue generation and summarized the process for identifying a base funding level for the next fiscal year.

Ms. Robison indicated that a base budget of \$20 million was recommended by staff and committees advisory to the Board. She explained that the recommended budget is greater than current revenue estimates because extremely low estimates threaten the viability of Support Fund programs, high levels of unexpended earnings were generated FY 2020-21, and opportunities are sufficient to adjust the approved budget based on contingencies.

Ms. Robison then provided a breakdown of the budget request by program and subprogram, acknowledging prior commitments, administrative costs, and funds for new projects, as well as contingency plans in the event that revenues in FY 2022-23 exceed or fail to meet the base budget level.

**Approve the FY 2022-23 Board of Regents Support Fund Plan and Budget, with contingencies, as presented.**

**STATEWIDE PROGRAMS COMMITTEE**

Dr. Sujuan Boutté, Executive Director of the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA), presented the Consent Agenda.

- A. Approval of Rulemaking extending the applicability of COVID-19 as an objective circumstance for which students may request an exception to the continuous enrollment, full time, and earned annual hours requirements for TOPS from the fall semester/winter quarter of 2021 through the summer of 2022.**

**B. Approval of Rulemaking to amend the Scholarship and Grants program rules to add Dual Enrollment African American History as a course that may be graded on a 5.0 scale.**

**C. Approval of TOPS Exception**

**Approve the Consent Agenda items.**

**PLANNING, RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE**

Dr. Susannah Craig presented the Consent Agenda items:

CONSENT AGENDA

**R.S. 17:1808 (Licensure)**

- 1. Initial Applications**
  - a. Rocky Vista University (RVU)
- 2. Renewal Applications**
  - a. California State University Sacramento (CSUS)
  - b. Lamar State College Orange (LSCO)
  - c. Liberty University (LU)
  - d. Teachers College, Columbia University (TC)
  - e. William Carey University

**State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA)**

- 1. Initial Applications**
  - a. Dillard University

**Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission**

- 1. Initial Applications**
  - a. Brow Design By Dina, Denham Springs
  - b. The Laser and Medical Aesthetic Academy at ACWH, Gonzales
- 2. Change of Ownership Applications**
  - a. SIHAF Career Institute, Shreveport
- 3. Renewal Applications**
  - a. Academy of Interactive Entertainment, Lafayette, LA (09/22/2010)
  - b. Acadiana Area Career College Lafayette, LA (09/28/2012)
  - c. Accelerated Dental Assisting Academy - Metairie, Metairie, LA (09/24/2015)
  - d. Accelerated Dental Assisting Academy - Houma, Houma, LA (09/24/2015)
  - e. Ayers Career College, Shreveport, LA (10/25/1990)
  - f. Becker Professional Education - New Orleans, New Orleans, LA (10/24/1996)
  - g. Coastal College - Baton Rouge, Baton Rouge, LA (09/28/2000)
  - h. Coastal Truck Driving School of New Orleans, Harvey, LA (09/25/2014)
  - i. Crescent City School of Gaming & Bartending, New Orleans, LA (09/14/1983)
  - j. Delta College Inc. - Slidell Branch, Slidell, LA (09/23/2004)
  - k. Delta College, Inc. - Covington, Covington, LA (10/26/1995)
  - l. Diesel Driving Academy - Shreveport, Shreveport, LA (10/06/1974)
  - m. Eastern College of Health Vocations, New Orleans, LA (09/23/1985)
  - n. iWeld Institute, Houma, LA (10/21/2020)
  - o. Joshua Career Institute of Louisiana, Shreveport, LA (09/25/2019)
  - p. Lafayette Dental Assistant School, Lafayette, LA (09/22/2016)
  - q. Mia's Medical Academy, Baton Rouge, LA (09/25/2014)

- r. National Aesthetic Laser Institute, Baton Rouge, LA (09/26/2018)**
- s. New Orleans Dental Assistant School, Terrytown, LA (09/22/2016)**
- t. Nursing Assistant Network Association (NANA), New Orleans, LA (10/27/1994)**
- u. Over Drive Truck Driving School of Louisiana, LLC, Deville, LA (09/27/2017)**
- v. Pelican Chapter, ABC - Baton Rouge Campus, Baton Rouge, LA (09/27/2012)**
- w. Pelican Chapter, ABC - Southwest Campus, Westlake, LA (09/27/2012)**
- x. Shreveport Dental Assistant School, Shreveport, LA (09/22/2016)**
- y. The Captain School, LLC, Marrero, LA (09/22/2011)**
- z. The Microblading Institute, Maurice, LA (10/21/2020)**
- aa. Thomas Training and Developmental Center, Inc., Franklin, LA (10/26/1995)**
- bb. Unitech Training Academy - Baton Rouge, Baton Rouge, LA (09/22/2016)**
- cc. Unitech Training Academy - West Monroe, West Monroe, LA (09/23/2004)**
- dd. United Training Academy, Metairie, LA (10/21/2020)**
- ee. Woodland Healthcare Training, LLC, Denham Springs, LA (09/27/2018)**

**Approve the items in the Consent Agenda.**

#### OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Craig shared two additional items for informational purposes only. First, she notified the Board that the M.J. Foster Promise Program Advisory Council met on November 18, 2021. Act 457 of the 2021 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature created this Council to identify programs in which a student may enroll to receive a Foster Promise award. The process included a review of current statewide and regional industry and occupational forecasts, input from economic development organizations, and a review of nationally recognized databases for industry and occupational projections. At its November meeting the Council approved the qualified programs for the M.J. Foster Promise Award, including programs within five high demand industry sectors: Construction, Health Care and Social Assistance, Information Technology, Manufacturing, and Transportation and Warehousing.

The second informational item was an update on Act 147 of the 2021 Regular Legislative Session. This legislation requires an annual report on the work of the Dual Enrollment Task Force and a report was considered by the Board of Regents and BESE in June. The report will be transmitted to the legislature on behalf of the Board and will include the one-pager of dual enrollment tasks. The work of the Dual Enrollment Task Force on participation, performance, and equity at both school and institutional levels will continue to be reported annually.

## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

### NOMINATION OF BOARD OFFICERS FOR 2022 CHAIR, VICE CHAIR, AND SECRETARY

Nominating Committee Chair Regent Jay Seale requested approval of the nomination of the following Board Officers for 2022: Regent Collis Temple, III as Chair, Regent Gary Solomon, Jr. as Vice Chair, and Regent Sonia Pérez as Secretary.

**Approve Regent Collis Temple, III as Chair, Regent Gary Solomon, Jr. as Vice Chair, and Regent Sonia Pérez as Secretary.**

### NOMINATION OF FOUR NON-OFFICER MEMBERS TO SERVE ON THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 2022

Regent Seale requested approval of the following four non-officer members to serve on the Executive Committee for 2022: Regent T. Jay Seale, III, Regent Blake David, Regent Wilbert Pryor, and Regent Felix Weill.

**Approve the selection of Regent T. Jay Seale, III, Regent Blake David, Regent Wilbert Pryor, and Regent Felix Weill to serve on the Executive Committee for 2022.**

### REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS BY DR. KIM HUNTER REED, COMMISSIONER

Commissioner Reed highlighted recent activities in the agency and work being done as we start preparing for 2022.

- SHEEO (State Higher Education Executive Officers Association) recently conducted a site visit to discuss the work being done in Louisiana. SHEEO is visiting multiple states across the nation. As part of the visit, Dr. Rob Anderson, President of SHEEO, and Commissioner Reed co-lectured a Ph.D. class on higher education policy at LSU.
- Mr. Matthew LaBruyere and Commissioner Reed each participated in multiple panels at the 2021 SHEEO policy conference in Washington, D.C.
- The agency exceeded its fundraising goal through the State Combined Charitable Campaign (SCCC), with a total of \$11,000 in estimated contributions. Commissioner Reed acknowledged the work of BoR/LOSFA staff members Mighan Johnson, Deborah Paul and Laurie Blandino in leading the Regents' SCCC Committee.
- The agency's annual season of giving campaign, "Think Inside the Box", will assist students, faculty and staff at Fletcher Technical Community College and Nicholls State University who were affected by Hurricane Ida.
- Commissioner Reed spoke in memory of Dr. René Cintrón, who passed away earlier this month.

Dr. Cintrón was the Chief Academic & Talent Officer for LCTCS. She spoke of his leadership and the great work that he did in support of student success. A scholarship program, the Dr. René Cintrón Hispanic Student Scholarship, has been established in his honor by the LCTCS Foundation.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business to come before the Board.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, on motion of Regent Seale, seconded by Regent Temple, the meeting was adjourned at 2:59 p.m.

Appendix A

Board Meeting Guest List

Wednesday, December 15, 2021

<b>NAME</b>	<b>AFFILIATION</b>
Richard Baker	LSU
Michael Duarte	The Center for Literacy & Learning
Caroline Roemer	LA Association of Public Charter Schools
Aleen LeBoeuf	St. Bernard Parish Schools
Anna Bartel	LSU
Jackie Bach	LSU
JM Wolfe	LSU
Frank Neubrandner	LSU – Cain Center
Jeannine Kahn	UL System
Matt Lee	LSU
Marcus Thomas	LAE
Terrence Lockett	ERN
Gordan Ford	Lincoln Prep Schools
Brad Stevens	ULS
Bruce Boyet	CA
Kevin Englande	CA
Michelle Mastainich	CA
Alterman “Chip” Jackson	LCTCS
Toya Barnes – Teamer	HCM Strategists