

MINUTES

BOARD OF REGENTS

February 23, 2022

The Board of Regents met in session at 11:48 a.m. on Wednesday, February 23, 2022, in the Louisiana Purchase Room, Claiborne Building, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Chair Collis Temple III called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

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

Present for the meeting were:

Collis Temple III, Chair
Gary Solomon, Jr., Vice Chair
Sonia Pérez, Secretary
Blake David
Randy Ewing
Stephanie Finley
Cameron Jackson (student member)
Robert Levy
Charles McDonald
Darren Mire
T. Jay Seale III
Terrie Sterling
Judy Williams-Brown

Absent from the meeting were:

Phillip May, Jr.
Wilbert Pryor
Felix Weill

Mgt. Board Representatives present:

Dr. Jimmy Clarke, UL System
Dr. Leon Tarver, SU System

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 6, 2022 MEETING

On motion of Regent Seale, seconded by Regent David, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2022 meeting.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Chair Temple made the following comments:

- He acknowledged the staff from Regents, LOSFA and LUMCON, with special recognition to Elizabeth Bourgeois, for accomplishing a clean audit for the second year in a row.
- He honored two former Regents who passed in the beginning of 2022: Richard D’Aquin and William Clifford Smith.
 - Regent Robert Levy, who served with both former Regents, was invited to speak on the remarkable lives of these two individuals who devoted themselves to public service.
- He expressed his regret on being unable to join the media tour in Washington, D.C., but was pleased to have joined virtually.
 - He referenced several national news outlets that he and the Commissioner were able to talk with, including *Politico Pro Q&A*, *Inside Higher Ed* and *The Chronicle of Higher Education*.
- He acknowledged student member Cameron Jackson and asked him to share his update.
 - Regent Jackson shared his experience on the COSBP Tour of Washington, D.C. and his meetings with Congressman Graves and Congresswoman Letlow to discuss higher education and broadband expansion, especially in north Louisiana.
 - Regent Jackson announced that there will be a COSBP meeting in the coming week and another in April. He will not be able to join the April meeting as he will be on a mission trip in Ghana, where he will be distributing computers and teaching computer literacy.
- He commended Commissioner Reed on her appointment by the Governor as the chair of the Louisiana Cybersecurity Commission.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Chair Temple inquired if any member of the Board wanted to take up any of the Committee reports separately before a motion was made to accept all reports. There were no requests.

On motion of Regent Mire, seconded by Regent David, the Board voted unanimously to approve all Committee recommendations from the February 23, 2022 Committee meetings.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

EXECUTIVE BUDGET OVERVIEW

Mr. Matthew LaBruyere, Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration presented on the executive budget. The overall increase of \$111 million is the largest budget increase for higher education since 2008.

2022 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Commissioner Kim Hunter Reed presented the Committee with a report of legislative instruments of interest involving the Board of Regents and higher education.

FACILITIES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Mr. Chris Herring, Associate Commissioner for Facilities Planning and Disaster Services, reported on the Consent Agenda, which contained the small capital and third-party projects staff had approved since the previous meeting:

CONSENT AGENDA

Approve the items on the Consent Agenda as presented.

A. Small Capital Projects

1. **BPCC – Sabine Valley Campus: Fume Hood Extraction System and Installation, Many, LA** – Bossier Parish Community College Sabine Valley Campus, HB 1 Funds \$191,764
2. **LSU-A: Ultraviolet Lighting Additions, Alexandria, LA** – Louisiana State University - Alexandria, CARES Act Funds \$426,500
3. **LSU A&M: Chemistry and Materials Building Room 144C Renovation, Baton Rouge, LA** – Louisiana State University and A&M College, Restricted Federal Grants and Contracts Funds \$286,000
4. **LSU A&M: Himes, Lockett, and Prescott Halls 1st Floor Restroom Modifications for ADA Compliance, Baton Rouge, LA** – Louisiana State University and A&M College, Facility Access Fee Revenues \$360,000
5. **LSU A&M: Life Sciences Building Rooms 512 and 515 Lab Renovations, Baton Rouge, LA** – Louisiana State University and A&M College, Operational Funds \$225,000
6. **LSU A&M: Life Sciences Building Rooms 613 Lab Renovation, Baton Rouge, LA** – Louisiana State University and A&M College, Operational Funds \$260,000
7. **LSU A&M: Tiger Stadium Level 3B Structural Repairs, Baton Rouge, LA** – Louisiana State University and A&M College, Auxiliary Revenues \$455,000
8. **LSU-E: Plumbing Fixture Upgrade, Eunice, LA** – Louisiana State University - Eunice, CARES Act/American Rescue Plan Funding \$268,920
9. **LSU-S: Science and Technology Center Buildings – Emergency Power System, Shreveport, LA** - Louisiana State University - Shreveport, Operational Funds \$305,000

B. Third-Party Projects

1. **La Tech: Sarah and A.L. Williams Champions Plaza, Ruston, LA** – Louisiana Tech University, Private Donations \$1,750,000

2. **NiSU: Enclosed Batting Facility at Softball Field, Thibodaux, LA** – Nicholls State University, Private Donations \$100,000
3. **NiSU: Stopher Gym Renovations, Thibodaux, LA** – Nicholls State University, Private Donations \$1,250,000
4. **SELU: Inn Renovations, Hammond, LA** – Southeastern Louisiana University, Private Donations \$600,000

ACT 959 PROJECT: UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA – LAFAYETTE NEW IBERIA RESEARCH CENTER PRIMATE HOUSING

The University of Louisiana System submitted an Act 959 project on behalf of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette (ULL) to construct two new indoor/outdoor primate housing facilities at the New Iberia Research Center (NIRC). The project scope involves construction of two new 11,000 square foot animal housing buildings consisting of 20 individual units complete with fenced cage containment. Each unit will be open to a contained outside area with animal perches and watering faucets. The facilities will be conditioned by heating units only and exhausted as required to maintain governing agency airflow requirements.

The NIRC secured a \$3.5M grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to build the new facilities. ULL and the NIRC will own and operate the buildings once they are complete and operational to further the scientific research conducted or sponsored by the NIH and other federal agencies, as well as for health-related programs and educational/research activities. There will be 20 years of federal oversight of the buildings once complete to confirm their use for approved biomedical research.

Approve the Act 959 project submitted by the University of Louisiana Board of Supervisors, on behalf of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, to construct two new primate housing facilities on the New Iberia Research Center campus.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Herring provided an update to the Board on the resiliency framework and needs assessment project currently underway with Emergent Method. The Board was informed that a full update will be provided during the March 2022 meeting, once the framework report is complete.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Dr. Tristan Denley, Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs and Innovation, presented the Consent Agenda consisting of routine items including Program Terminations, Staff Approvals, and Progress Reports for Conditionally Approved Programs, along with two proposals for new academic programs.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approve the items on the Consent Agenda as presented.

- A. Terminations**
- B. Progress Reports**
- C. Routine Staff Approvals**

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Approve the two program proposals as presented.

- A. Associate of Applied Science in Diagnostic Medical Sonography – Bossier Parish CC**
- B. Bachelor of Science in Hospitality & Food Industry Leadership – Southern Baton Rouge**

Regent Ewing asked for clarification on the procedure that institutions use when requesting to create a new program, in particular where the request comes from and whether there is research done on proposed programs. Dr. Denley explained the current process and advised the Board that the division is currently working on modifying the process to ensure that institutions bringing new degree programs forward have considered appropriate research questions during development. Regent Ewing then asked whether, when proposals are presented to the Board, members can feel comfortable that the necessary research on the proposed programs has been completed. Dr. Denley indicated that Board members can be assured that thorough research has been conducted prior to a request for Board action.

2020-2021 ARTICULATION AND TRANSFER REPORT

Dr. Denley presented the 2020-2021 Articulation and Transfer Report. This is an annual report that provides a status update on the transfer of credits and associate's degrees across public institutions in the state, including the numbers of majors and graduates in Louisiana Transfer associate's degrees, and a

number of community college transfers across the four-year institutions, both with and without an associate's degree. Dr. Denley noted that 12 years after the Board approved the Louisiana Transfer (LT) associate's degrees, 33% of the total awarded are LT degrees. Dr. Denley noted that the number of LT degrees awarded has flatlined after the program's initial growth phase but that, of those who do earn a LT degree and transfer to a four-year institution, the LT degree works as designed and the students are successful in earning a four-year degree.

Dr. Denley then described the next steps that the division plans to take to meet the Master Plan Goal of 60% higher educational attainment by 2030. He explained that the division is working on strengthening the state's transfer legislation and policy language to include the development of statewide transfer pathways, preparing a statewide Prior Learning Assessment Policy, and working to move the Statewide Articulation Matrix to an online, interactive, user-friendly platform.

Regent Seale asked Dr. Denley, based on his extensive experience, how Louisiana's articulation and transfer practices compare with other states. Dr. Denley answered that there are good elements and, based on course-by-course transfer, there is a strong foundation to ensure that when students earn college credit the course will count as the students intend at their new institutions. However, course-by-course transfer is not guaranteed as specific degree requirements at institutions may not allow acceptance of previous courses taken by students. By providing universal pathways, students can ensure that their courses will count towards their degree programs. Regent Seale asked if there are other states that are doing this perfectly. Dr. Denley replied that he does not think that there are states that are handling course transfer perfectly, but that some states have created more effective processes and the division is utilizing these processes to help create its own language and policy.

Accept the 2020-2021 Articulation and Transfer Report.

RESEARCH AND SPONSORED INITIATIVES COMMITTEE

CONSENT AGENDA

Approve the items on the Consent agenda as presented.

Ms. Carrie Robison, Deputy Commissioner for Sponsored Programs, presented the Consent Agenda, consisting of a request from LSU and A&M College to appoint an internal candidate, Dr. Thomas Greckhamer, to the William W. Rucks, IV Endowed Chair and Professorship of Management.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Robison provided an informational update on the external study of BoRSF endowment programs, conducted by consultants and coordinated by the National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO). Ms. Robison indicated that the study had begun in January, with substantial information provided to the consultants; interviews of stakeholders started in mid-February. The consultants' report is expected to be completed in April, with presentation of findings and recommendations to the Board in June.

STATEWIDE PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Approve the items on the Consent Agenda as presented.

- A. Approval of Final Rulemaking to implement the provisions of Act 334 and Act 95 of the 2021 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature**
- B. TOPS Exceptions**

TOPS FUNDING UPDATE

Dr. Sujuan Boutte presented the TOPS Mid-Year Update report and responded to questions from Board members.

PLANNING, RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

Dr. Susannah Craig presented the Consent Agenda items.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approve the items on the Consent Agenda as presented.

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

1. **Renewal Application**
 - a. **California State University – Northridge (CSUN)**
- B. Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission**
 1. **Initial Applications**
 - a. **The H.E.A.R.T. Academy, Baton Rouge**
 - b. **TruCare Medical Training Center, Gonzales**
 2. **Renewal Applications**
 - a. **Academy of Acadiana-Lake Charles – License #: 2139**
 - b. **Accelerated Dental Assisting Academy - Hammond – License #: 2235**
 - c. **Accelerated Dental Assisting Academy - Lake Charles – License #: 2308**
 - d. **Advanced Welding School – License #: 2285**
 - e. **Compass Career College – License #: 2327**
 - f. **Gonzales Medical Assistant School – License #: 2164**
 - g. **Infinity College, Inc. – License #: 2140**
 - h. **Learning Bridge Career Institute – License #: 2141**
 - i. **Melba Beauty – License #: 2311**
 - j. **National Driving Academy, Inc. – License #: 978**
 - k. **New Orleans Culinary & Hospitality Institute (NOCHI) – License #: 2237**
 - l. **Southeastern Louisiana Technical College – License #: 2310**
 - m. **Southern Security School – License #: 2260**
 - n. **Tulsa Welding School - Tulsa Campus – License #: 2096**
 - o. **Unitech Training Academy - Alexandria – License #: 2116**
 - p. **Unitech Training Academy - New Orleans – License #: 2166**

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Commissioner Reed provided the following information:

- The Dual Enrollment Portal launched during the Jump Start Convention, where Chair Temple provided an interview for the local news station on the importance of this new tool. She thanked Chair Temple, Superintendent Brumley and the staff who were there to talk about the portal. She also acknowledged Ms. Mellynn Baker, who led a workshop to train high school counselors on site. This workshop was standing room only.
- The annual LaSTEM Summit was held in the River Center and Senator Hewitt, who began the LaSTEM movement in Louisiana, was in attendance. Commissioner Reed applauded the students present and their robotics teams and emphasized the importance of the statewide efforts to advance STEM and Cyber in Louisiana. She acknowledged Dr. Clint Coleman, and his staff, who worked tirelessly to host this event.
- Southern University and A&M College rose in the Carnegie classifications to a high-activity research (R2) status, and was one of two HBCUs receiving the classification this year.
- Louisiana’s Got Talent, a higher education podcast hosted by Commissioner Reed, was launched last month and she acknowledged the Communications team in their great work putting this together. Last month, the podcast kicked off with Chair Collis Temple and the coming second episode will feature President Rick Gallot of Grambling State University, who will discuss

cybersecurity and computer science and the diversification of these fields. This episode will debut on March 1st.

- Two important social media campaigns were highlighted this month. The first was #RegentsBHM, which focused on Black History Month through the lens of higher education in Louisiana. The second, #LoveTeaching Week (February 14-20), focused on elevating the voices of educators and future teachers and continuing to lift up the profession. Commissioner Reed added that Chair Temple was able to share his favorite teacher and how she impacted his life.

OTHER BUSINESS

Regent Mire commented that he attended his first Louisiana Cancer Research Board Meeting this last month and that they are thankful for the support of the Regents. He also noted the regional cooperation that he sees between universities in Louisiana. The band of Grambling State University was asked to perform in New Orleans for Mardi Gras and had difficulties finding lodging. The chancellor of Southern University at New Orleans graciously offered for the GSU band to stay in the dormitories on campus. They did not end up using the dormitories, but Regent Mire wanted to note how grateful he was to SUNO for its willingness to help a fellow Louisiana university.

Chair Temple noted that the next scheduled Board of Regents meeting will be Tuesday and Wednesday, March 22 and 23, 2022 in the Claiborne Building, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion of Regent McDonald, seconded by Regent Pérez, the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Appendix A

Board Meeting Guest List

Wednesday, February 23, 2022

NAME	AFFILIATION
Anna Bartel	LSU
Jackie Bach	LSU
Jeannine Kahn	UL System
Robert René	SU System
Derrick Angeloz	LSU Facility and Property Oversight