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## **Regents Chairman Announces Leadership Agenda**

BATON ROUGE, La – In recognition of the first regular meeting of Board of Regents for 2011, Chairman Bob Levy presented a list of priorities designed to guide Regents’ work in the coming year. Levy noted that the board has expressed with certainty that high-quality postsecondary education is absolutely necessary to improving both the social and economic environment in which Louisiana’s citizens live.

“To accomplish the goal of improving the educational attainment of our people we must focus on a set of beliefs that becomes our compass, our operating principles, our agenda,” said Levy.

The ten components of Chairman Levy’s “Leadership Agenda” include:

- Assisting four year regional universities in not only providing excellent general education, but also identifying a limited range of high-quality undergraduate degree programs in which to specialize.
- Encouraging our statewide universities to engage in targeted, innovative research.
- Supporting a flagship institution for Louisiana that is nationally competitive, respected and becomes a jewel in our crown.
- Enhancing our developing community and technical college system so that it meets the workforce needs identified by Louisiana’s employers and can provide trained workers for the jobs of today and tomorrow.
- Creating a more balanced enrollment mix between our two-year and four-year institutions through increases in the minimum admissions standards as scheduled in 2012 and expansion of articulation agreements such as the Statewide Transfer Degree that allows students seamless access to the full menu of postsecondary offerings.
- Maximizing creative partnerships among our institutions to streamline business models and develop new delivery systems through distance learning.
- Developing and supporting autonomies that allow colleges and universities to manage their costs and demonstrate reductions in administrative overhead while at the same time, striking a reasonable balance between state and student support.
- Prioritizing affordability so that appropriate financial aid measures can be provided for students so as not to diminish their access to postsecondary education.
- Advancing a performance-based funding formula that aligns with the GRAD Act and provides an equitable distribution model for the funding appropriated to higher education.
- Demonstrating improvement in student learning outcomes through measurable data and reporting that can be shared publicly and used to drive our decision making process.

“This list will be my compass,” Levy emphasized. “I will carry it with me and refer to it when I am engaged in making the tough choices I anticipate ahead of us. It will guide my thoughts and remind me of the items I identify as important. It is critical we communicate our vision and our priorities to the stakeholders that join with us and lend us their voices in calling for a robust educational focus in our state that will undoubtedly provide a necessary return on investment.”