

June 26, 2013



Regents Recap

Regents Conducts GRAD Act Annual Review *All Institutions PASS*

Today, the Louisiana Board of Regents announced that all public colleges and universities were successful in meeting the required score for passage of the LA GRAD Act. "We are very proud of our institutions' performance this year under the GRAD Act," said Chairman Rasberry. "This shows that our systems are meeting the needs of our students and the communities which we serve."

Under the GRAD Act, which was approved by the Legislature in 2010, Regents enters into six-year agreements which set institution specific targets, including annual performance measures that result in educational improvements by the end of the timeline. Regents monitors the annual performance of each institution and submits a report to the legislature and the governor on the progress in meeting the performance objectives of the Act.

The GRAD Act includes four performance objectives—student success, articulation and transfer, workforce and economic development, and institutional efficiency and accountability. Because each institution has its own targets for progress, it is measured against its own improvement plan during the annual review process. However, each campus **MUST** achieve successful attainment of the student success objective in order to retain its tuition authority and autonomy eligibility.

"Overall I am very pleased with the progress that our campuses have made with the GRAD Act," said Commissioner Purcell. "We will continue working with our campuses in certain areas to provide guidance in identifying some specific strategies for growth."

For a complete listing of GRAD Act Annual Evaluation – Year 3 designation for institutions click [here](#).



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Brooksie Bonvillain

Student

James E. Purcell
*Commissioner of Higher
Education*

Regents Welcomes Brooksie Bonvillain

Brooksie Bonvillain, of the Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center, is the new student member on the Board of Regents. She is originally from Thibodaux and attended school in Lake Charles, where she graduated with honors from St. Louis Catholic High School. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in Mass Communication from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. As an undergraduate, Brooksie was Speaker of the Student Government Senate, Omicron Delta Kappa Circle President, and Kappa Delta Sorority Vice President of Operations.

Brooksie currently serves as the Student Bar Association President in the Law Center. She is also a Production Editor for the *Louisiana Law Review* and an active member of the Moot Court Board. Brooksie volunteers her time as a member of the Epsilon Chapter of Kappa Delta Chapter Advisory Board.



Student member Brooksie Bonvillain, with mother Donna Bonvillain, being sworn in during today's board meeting.

Regents Highlights

- ✓ The Board of Regents approved the items under the Planning, Research, and Performance Consent Agenda.
- ✓ The Board of Regents approved the Strategic Plan (2014/15 – 2018) as required by Act 1465 of 1997.
- ✓ The Board of Regents approved the GRAD Act 2012-13 institution annual designations for 2013-14 status, thereby allowing the institutions, as appropriate to their designations, to implement the tuition authority and pursue the operational autonomies outlined in the GRAD Act legislation, and authorized the Commissioner of Higher Education to report on GRAD Act to the Governor and Legislature by the July 15th deadline.
- ✓ The Board of Regents approved the new Academic Affairs 2.05A policy, Centers of Excellence.
- ✓ The Board of Regents conditionally approved the following programs at Baton Rouge Community College – Center for Workforce Excellence in Transportation Technology and an AAS in Helicopter Operations (CIP 47.0608).
- ✓ The Board of Regents approved the following programs – a Post Baccalaureate Certificate in Business Foundations (LA Tech), Graduate Certificate in Business Administration (McNeese), and a Graduate Certificate in Immersion Education (McNeese).
- ✓ The Board of Regents approved the proposed Academic Year 2013-14 Master Course Articulation Matrix and the Louisiana Common Course Catalog, and authorized staff to work with the colleges and universities to expand the Matrix and the Louisiana Common Course Catalog throughout the year.
- ✓ The Board of Regents approved the items under the Academic and Student Affairs Consent Agenda.
- ✓ The Board of Regents received the Legislative Committee report.
- ✓ The Board of Regents approved the Small Capital Projects Report as presented, and received an update on the FY 2013-2014 Capital Outlay Budget Request.
- ✓ The Board of Regents approved the FY 2013-14 Operating Budget Distribution, authorized the Commissioner to make any technical adjustments to the final distribution and allocation of the table of organization (T.O.), and authorized the Commissioner to request a seed appropriation to address potential cash flow issues resulting from collections flowing to the Overcollections Fund.
- ✓ The Board of Regents approved the LaSPACE consultants' report and funding recommendations in the amount of \$172,440 relative to the six LaSPACE Research Enhancement Awards (REA) projects recommended for funding, to be paid from Support Funds annually allocated to the LaSPACE Research Enhancement Awards program. Projects shall be funded in the amounts recommended in the consultants' report.
- ✓ The Board of Regents approved the nomination of Dr. Jacqueline Stephens, Director of Basic Science, Pennington Biomedical Research Center, to the EPSCoR Committee.

Regents' Programmatic Actions

- ✓ The Board of Regents approved the initial license for Simmons College and University of South Florida.
- ✓ The Board of Regents approved the license renewal for Lamar University.
- ✓ The Board of Regents approved the Board of Regents' Strategic Plan (2014/15-2018) as required by Act 1465 of 1997.
- ✓ The Board of Regents approved the GRAD Act 2012-2013 institution annual designations for 2013-14 status, thereby allowing the institutions (as appropriate to their designations) to implement the tuition authority and pursue the operational autonomies outlined in the GRAD Act legislation, and to authorize the Commissioner of Higher Education to report on GRAD Act to the governor and legislature by the July 15th deadline.

Regents Approves 2013-2014 Operating Budget Distribution

Today, the Louisiana Board of Regents approved the FY 2013-14 Operating Budget Distribution. The Fiscal Year '14 budget appropriates **\$2.6b** total means of financing for higher education. Below are the significant changes from FY12-13 to FY13-14.

\$332m	Decrease for hospital adjustments
\$22m	Decrease to annualize the FY 2013 mid-year budget reduction
\$11.2m	Decrease attributable to the preamble reduction in Act 14
\$4.4m	Decrease to adjust 8G and SELF Statutory Dedicated funds to anticipated revenues
\$45m	Increase in tobacco settlement funds to fully fund TOPS
\$15m	Increase for LSU System -- \$9m is directed to the system office for distribution; \$1m to Pennington; and \$5m to the Ag Center
\$17.5m	Increase for SU System - \$12m is directed to the system office; \$1.5m for each campus (BR, SUNO and SUSLA); and \$1m for the Ag Center
\$10m	Increase for UL System - To be directed to the system offices for distribution
\$10m	Increase for LCTC System - To be directed to the system offices for distribution
	Means of Financing Swap to remove State General Fund and replace with Self-Generated Revenue derived from LaGrad Act tuition increases for LSU, SU and UL Systems - \$75.3

A breakdown of the FY13-14 budget with the formula distribution may be accessed using the following link:
<http://regents.la.gov/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/FY-2013-2014-Operating-Budget-Distribution.pdf>

Regents Launches Geaux to College Campaign



Recognizing national and state trends related to access and completion in higher education, Regents has launched the Geaux to College Campaign. Geaux to College seeks to promote the importance of higher education by directing both students and parents to important resources that will help them to make good decisions during the college-going process. The campaign brings together multiple state agencies (e.g., Louisiana Board of Regents, Louisiana Workforce Commission, Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance, Louisiana Department of Education, etc.) that are providing support and assistance to help students experience success in college. Click [here](#) to find out more about the opportunities and resources that are available through the Geaux to College Campaign.

Proposed AY 13-14 Master Course Articulation Matrix & LA Common Course Catalog

Louisiana

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Today, the Regents approved the Academic Year 2013-14 Master Course Articulation Matrix and Common Course Catalog. With this approval, the staff was authorized to continue the work of expanding the Matrix and the Louisiana Common Course Catalog with the state's colleges and universities throughout the year. A total of 235 courses included on the Matrix and in the catalog, which includes 31 courses that have been added since last year.

The Master Course Articulation Matrix reflects course equivalencies among the public higher education institutions. Under the traditional review process, Articulation Officers would meet annually in the fall and then institutions would propose and vote on changes to the matrix. With the passage of ACT 356, the review process has been enhanced to implement a statewide common course numbering system "that facilitates program planning and the transfer of students and course credits between and among institutions." Under the new approach, faculty representatives from all public colleges and universities come together to participate in the initiative. The faculty agree on common fundamental content for each course included on the matrix to ensure that students who successfully complete a course at one institution should be prepared to succeed in the follow-on course at another.

The Matrix will be made available to the public via the Regents website for students to plan their class schedules for the 2013-14 academic year.



Regents Quick Pics



Commissioner Purcell talks about higher education successes and challenges during the Kiwanis meeting in Natchitoches



(L to R) Commissioner Purcell along with Curt Eysink, Executive Director, Louisiana Workforce Commission, and John White, Superintendent, Louisiana Department of Education during the joint meeting with BESE held on June 19th

About Regents

The Board of Regents, a state agency created by the 1974 Louisiana Constitution, coordinates all public higher education in Louisiana. The Board of Regents believes that a robust public postsecondary education system is critical in order to enhance Louisiana's social and economic environment. Through statewide academic planning and review, budgeting and performance funding, research, and accountability, Regents strives to ensure that all students have access to high-quality educational opportunities.

Regents Recap is produced by the Louisiana Board of Regents Office of Public Affairs
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