The Board of Regents met in session at 9:00 a.m., Thursday, January 27, 2005, in the Louisiana Purchase Room, Claiborne Building in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Chair Roland Toups called the meeting to order. Executive Assistant to the Commissioner, Ms. Carolyn Blanchard, called the roll and a quorum was established.

Present for the meeting were: Absent for the meeting were:

Billy Blake Frances Henry, Vice Chair
Scott Brame Stanley Jacobs
Richard D’Aquin William Clifford Smith
Reggie Dupré Pat Strong, Secretary
Robert Levy Jeraul Mackey
W. Clinton Rasberry
Virgil Robinson
Harold Stokes
Artis Terrell
Roland Toups, Chair

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Toups noted that no written requests were received for public comments and inquired if the audience had any comments at this time. There were none.

MINUTES APPROVED

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 6, 2005

On motion of Regent Stokes, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of January 6, 2005, as circulated.

RATIFICATION OF COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS FOR 2005
On motion of Regent Rasberry, seconded by Regent D’Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to accept the new Committee assignments for 2005 as circulated.

PRESENTATION

A PRESENTATION ON RICE BREEDING AND GENETICS BY LSU AGRICULTURAL CENTER

Regent Toups introduced Dr. William Richardson, Chancellor of the LSU Agricultural Center. Dr. Richardson introduced Dr. Steve Linscombe, Regional Director of the LSU Agricultural Rice Research Center located in Crowley. Dr. Linscombe gave a presentation on the development and variety of genetics research taking place at the Rice Research Center. He noted that there are 17 rice research centers located in the State of Louisiana and that rice is grown on approximately 500,000 acres in Louisiana. There was a question and answer session after the presentation.

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

On behalf of Regent Dupré, Vice Chair of the Technology Committee, Mr. Donald Vandal, Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration, presented motions from the Technology Committee Report of January 26, 2005.

LONI PROGRESS UPDATE

On motion of Regent Dupré, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Technology Committee to approve the employment of a Senior Optical Network Engineer for LONI operations, utilizing an expedited recruitment and employment process.

ADOPTION OF THE TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF JANUARY 26, 2005

On motion of Regent Dupré, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Technology Committee Report of January 26, 2005, as presented. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

Regent Toups noted the importance of following all bid procedures for LONI along with employment regulations during the recruitment and employment process.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
On behalf of Regent Blake, Chair of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, Mr. Gerard Killebrew, Associate Commissioner for Academic Affairs, presented motions from the Academic and Student Affairs Committee Report of January 26, 2005.

PROPOSED ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

A. Fletcher Technical Community College

1. A.A.S. in Nautical Science

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent D’Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to grant conditional approval for the proposed Associate of Applied Science in Nautical Science program (CIP 49.0309) at L. E. Fletcher Technical Community College, to be implemented beginning January 2005, with these stipulations:

a. By March 15, 2005, and every six months thereafter until SACS/CoC action has been taken, the College shall inform the Commissioner of Higher Education of the status of its application to SACS/CoC for candidacy;

b. By September 1, 2005, the College shall submit a report to the Commissioner of Higher Education which documents the College’s progress in addressing the following:

i. Hiring one additional qualified full-time faculty for the program;

ii. Developing its library to meet SACS-COC standards;

iii. Acquiring needed equipment; and

iv. Establishing appropriate curricular relationships with UNO and LUMCON.

c. Upon receipt of the report required in “b” above, the Board of Regents shall consider whether additional progress reports will be needed.

2. A.A.S. in Technical Studies

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Brame, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to grant conditional approval of the proposed Associate of Applied Science in Technical Studies program (CIP 47.9999) at L. E. Fletcher
Technical Community College, to be implemented beginning January 2005, with the following stipulations:

a. By March 15, 2005, the College shall inform the Commissioner of Higher Education of the status of its application to SACS/CoC for institutional candidacy;

b. By September 1, 2005, the College shall submit a report to the Commissioner of Higher Education which documents the College’s progress toward hiring needed full-time general education faculty for the program and developing its library to meet SACS-CoC standards;

c. Upon receipt of the report required in “b” above, the Board of Regents shall consider whether additional progress reports will be needed.

B. Sowela Technical Community College - Associate of General Studies

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Robinson, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to grant conditional approval of the proposed Associate of General Studies program (CIP 24.0102) at Sowela Technical Community College, effective immediately, with three stipulations:

1. By March 15, 2005, the College shall inform the Commissioner of Higher Education of the status of its application to SACS/CoC for institutional candidacy;

2. By September 1, 2005, the College shall submit a report to the Commissioner of Higher Education which documents the College’s progress toward hiring four qualified full-time faculty for the program and developing its library to meet SACS-CoC standards;

3. Upon receipt of the report required in #2 above, the Board of Regents shall consider whether additional progress reports will be needed.

PROPOSED LETTER OF INTENT - LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY AND A&M COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS, AND SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY-BATON ROUGE - COLLABORATIVE PH.D. IN MATERIALS SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Robinson, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to grant conditional approval for the Letter of Intent for a Collaborative Ph.D. program in Materials Science and Engineering (CIP Code 14.3101) at Louisiana State University and A&M College, the University of New Orleans, and Southern University-Baton Rouge. Any forthcoming program proposal submitted as result of this Letter of Intent shall specifically address possible unnecessary program duplication between and among these three institutions. Thereafter, the final program proposal shall be reviewed by a team of appropriate out-of-state consultants who will render an opinion regarding the
aforementioned issue and, further, provide an in-depth analysis based on nationally-recognized indices of quality and need.

PROGRESS REPORT ON CONDITIONALLY-APPROVED PROGRAM - LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY - DOCTOR OF AUDIOLOGY

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent D’Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to receive the AY 2004-2005 Progress Report from Louisiana Tech University Relative to Implementation of the Doctor of Audiology Program. A subsequent progress report which addresses remaining staff/consultant concerns shall be sent to the Commissioner of Higher Education by January 15, 2006.

ADMINISTRATIVE REVISION AND TERMINATION

A. Southeastern Louisiana University - Reorganization of the College of Arts and Sciences

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Dupré, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to grant approval for the request from Southeastern Louisiana University to reorganize its College of Arts and Sciences as described in its proposal. As a result, new Colleges of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences and of Science and Technology shall be created, while the College of Business and Technology will be renamed the College of Business.

B. Louisiana State University Health Science Center, New Orleans - Request to Terminate the Loyd J. Rockhold Center for Child Development

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent D’Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to grant approval for the request from the Louisiana State University Health Science Center, New Orleans to terminate the Loyd J. Rockhold Center for Child Development, effective June 30, 2005.

TEACHER EDUCATION INITIATIVES

A. Education Week’s “Quality Counts 2000" Report

Mr. Killebrew noted that the recent report by Education Week has judged Louisiana to be #1 in the nation for its efforts to improve teacher quality. Regent Toups stressed that Dr. Jeanne Burns and her staff should receive high recognition for their hard work

B. Evaluation of Redesigned Teacher Preparation Programs

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Dupré, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to grant approval for the following programs at the University of Louisiana-Monroe: Vocal Music Education – Grades K-12 (CIP Code 13.1312); Instrumental Music Education – Grades K-12 (CIP Code
REPORT OF THE ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER

Mr. Killebrew said he reported on several items: (1) the statewide review of existing Licensed Practical Nursing programs, (2) the schedule of reviews for proposed programs, and (3) routine staff approval of academic requests.

ADOPTION OF THE ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF JANUARY 26, 2005

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent D’Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Academic and Student Affairs Committee report of January 26, 2005. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

FACILITIES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

On behalf of Regent Blake, Vice Chair of the Facilities and Property Committee, Mr. Rich Griswold, Associate Commissioner for Facilities, presented motions from the Facilities and Property Committee Report of January 26, 2005.

SMALL CAPITAL PROJECTS REPORT

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Robinson, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Facilities and Property Committee to approve the Small Capital Projects Report as listed below:

Elevator Replacement – McVoy Hall – Louisiana State University and A&M College $160,000 from Auxiliary Funds.

Malone Stadium Waterproofing – Lower Level – University of Louisiana at Monroe $200,000 from Auxiliary Funds.

Renovations to Pod “D” in Administration Building – Delgado Community College $320,000 from State Funds.

Tennis Courts (4 Total – Lighted) – Louisiana State University at Alexandria $250,000 from Auxiliary Funds.

Building Level One Renovation, School of Dentistry Clinic Administration – Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans $300,000 from Faculty Practice Funds.

Circuit 7 Change from 2,400 volts to 13.8 KV – Louisiana Tech University $198,000 from Building Use Fees
Renovate 7th Floor Rooms 7119 and 7147 – Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans $160,000 from Self-generated funds.

LEASES

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent D’Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Facilities and Property Committee to approve the request to enter into leases to exchange property for a term of ten years between the SOWELA Technical and Community College and Chennault International Airport Authority.

PROJECTS UTILIZING ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF FINANCING

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Robinson, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Facilities and Property Committee to approve the request for the Pennington Biomedical Research Center to enter into an agreement with the Pennington Medical Foundation to provide necessary facilities by (1) constructing a 14,400 GSF office building at a cost of approximately $3.8 million, (2) renovating 7,700 GSF of existing space from conference center utilization for use as seminar and office space at a cost of approximately $810,000, and (3) renovating 1,000 GSF of space to accommodate a new Magnetic Resonance Spectrometer at a cost of approximately $772,000, all utilizing alternative means of financing.

ADOPTION OF THE FACILITIES AND PROPERT COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF JANUARY 26, 2005

On motion of Regent Blake, Seconded by Regent Dupré, the Board voted unanimously to adopted the Facilities and Property Committee Report of January 26, 2005, as presented. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

FINANCE COMMITTEE

On behalf of Regent Robinson, Chair of the Finance Committee, Mr. Vandal presented motions from the Finance Committee Report of January 26, 2005.

REVIEW OF ADMINISTRATIVE SALARY ANALYSIS

Mr. Vandal noted that the Board had adopted an Administrative Salary Policy in response to Act 4 of the 2002 2nd Extraordinary Session. He said that the policy requires collection and analysis of administrative salary data and that comparisons be made as to the differential between administrative salaries and their benchmarks and the differential between faculty salaries and their benchmarks.

Mr. Vandal informed the Board that the analysis indicates that with one exception all institutions are in full compliance with the policy.

ADOPTION OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF JANUARY 26, 2005
On motion of Regent Robinson, seconded by Regent Dupré, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Finance Committee Report of January 26, 2005. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

PLANNING, RESEARCH, AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

On behalf of Regent Dupré, Vice Chair of the Planning, Research, and Performance Committee, Dr. Jimmy Clarke, Deputy Commissioner for Academic and Student Affairs, presented motions from the Planning, Research, and Performance Committee Report of January 26, 2005.

LICENSURE

On motion of Regent Dupré, seconded by Regent D’Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee to approve a two-year operating license for the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, Texas under the condition that the university’s only operations in Louisiana would be those necessary to allow the three students previously enrolled at Northwestern State University to complete their nurse practitioner degree with a specialty in pediatrics. The license fee will be waived.

On motion of Regent Dupré, seconded by Regent D’Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee to approve an initial operating license for Texas Christian University, located in Fort Worth, Texas.

On motion of Regent Dupré, seconded by Regent D’Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee to renew the licenses of the following institutions:

1. Baton Rouge College
2. Southern Arkansas University
3. Texas Wesleyan University

PROPRIETARY SCHOOLS

On motion of Regent Dupré, seconded by Regent Brame, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee to approve an initial operating license for Diesel Driving Academy, Lafayette Branch, located in Broussard, Louisiana.

On motion of Regent Dupré, seconded by Regent D’Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee to approve an initial operating license for the Louisiana Dental Assistant School, LLC, located in Zachary.

On motion of Regent Dupré, seconded by Regent D’Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee to renew the licenses of the following proprietary schools (initial license date in parentheses):
REPORT FROM THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

Dr. Clarke said he gave updates on several items: (1) Report of Adult Learning Task Force; (2) the Systemwide Strategic Enrollment Management Project - Phase V; (3) the newly constituted Division of Academic and Student Affairs’ one-day retreat; (4) the National Governor’s Association annual meeting; (5) the efficiency of the development of the Student Transcript System (STS); and (6) the evaluation of the Jefferson West Learning Center was underway and an on-site visit to the Center has been scheduled for February 14-16.

ADOPTION OF THE PLANNING, RESEARCH, AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

On motion of Regent Dupré, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Planning, Research, and Performance Committee Report of January 26, 2005.  (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

SPONSORED PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

On behalf of Regent Brame, Chair of the Sponsored Programs Committee, Dr. Kerry Davidson, Deputy Commissioner for Sponsored Programs, presented motions from the Sponsored Programs Committee Report of January 26, 2005.

RECOMMENDATIONS RELATIVE TO THE BoRSF FY 2005-06 PLAN AND BUDGET
A. Recommendations of the BoRSF Planning and Advisory Committees

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Sponsored Programs Committee to approve the FY 2005-06 Board of Regents Support Fund Plan and Budget as recommended by the Planning and Advisory Committees.

B. Staff Recommendations in Light of Projected Additional Revenue

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Sponsored Programs Committee to approve appropriation of an additional $1.7 million for the Enhancement Program in the FY 2005-06 BoRSF Plan and Budget over and above the amount recommended by the BoRSF Planning and Advisory Committees. The Planning Committee will study avenues for restructuring the Endowed Professorships Program as well as the idea of establishing a scholarship program for deserving but economically disadvantaged students. Specific recommendations for funding either or both of these initiatives will be presented to the Board for its consideration in the summer or fall of 2005.

FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE RESEARCH ENHANCEMENT AWARDS (REA) PROGRAM COMPONENT OF THE JOINTLY SPONSORED (REGENTS/NASA) LaSPACE PROGRAM

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Sponsored Programs Committee to approval of the LaSPACE consultants’ report and funding recommendations in the amount of $146,748 relative to the five top-ranked LaSPACE Research Enhancement Award (REA) projects recommended for funding, to be paid from FY 2005-06 Support Funds allocated to the LaSPACE Research Enhancement Awards program, and unexpended funds from previous competitions as necessary. Projects shall be funded in the order, amounts, and with any stipulations recommended in the consultants’ report. If an award is declined, that award shall be offered to the alternate proposals in the order indicated in the report.

FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS RELATIVE TO THE EPSCoR PILOT FUNDING FOR NEW RESEARCH (Pfund) PROGRAM

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Sponsored Programs Committee to approve funding of the thirty-two proposals ranked highest and at the level of funding indicated, using NSF EPSCoR program funds in the amount of $193,670 and previously unspent Support Fund money in the amount of $180,000.

CONSIDERATION OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS SUPPORT FUND (BoRSF) INVESTMENT POLICY FOR ENDOWMENTS

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Sponsored Programs Committee to change the language contained under “Section G. Monitoring of Objectives and Results” of the Louisiana Board of Regents Eminent Scholars and Endowed Professorships Program Statement of Investment Policy and Objectives.
UPDATE ON THE JANUARY 12, 2005 WORKSHOP: “K-12 UNDERPERFORMING SCHOOLS”

Dr. Davidson said an update was given on the “K-12 Underperforming Schools” workshop that was held on January 12, 2005 in Baton Rouge. He noted that the staff is preparing a draft RFP to be sent to campuses and key stakeholders for their response.

ADOPTION OF THE SPONSORED PROGRAMS COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF JANUARY 26, 2005

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Sponsored Programs Committee Report of January 26, 2005. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

On behalf of Regent Toups, Chair of the Executive Committee, Mr. Vandal, presented motions from the Executive Committee Report of January 26, 2005.

UPDATE ON DESEGREGATION SETTLEMENT AND CONTRACT EXTENSION FOR THE COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Regent Toups noted that the Executive Committee entered into Executive Session to discuss desegregation issues and personnel issues. He noted that no votes or action were taken while in executive session.

On motion of Regent Dupré, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Executive Committee to authorize the Chair, in consultation with the Executive Committee, to execute an amendment to the employment contract with the Commissioner clarifying the procedure for implementing extensions of the contract, making technical corrections to the contract wording, and providing for an implementation schedule of the Board’s salary policy.

ADOPTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF JANUARY 26, 2005

On motion of Regent Dupré, seconded by Regent Blake, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Executive Committee Report of January 26, 2005. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER

Dr. Savoie reported on the following items:

- The Adult Learning Task Force report will be submitted to the Governor by January 31, 2005;
• Bossier Parish Community College will hold a ribbon cutting and open house for its new campus February 1, 2005;
• The Quality Teaching Matters Symposium will be held at the Marriott on February 1, 2005. Also, the Board of Regents is a co-sponsor of the meeting along with the Governor’s Office, BESE, and the University of Louisiana System.
• The next Blue Ribbon meeting will take place on February 10; and
• The next Committee and Board meetings will be on February 23 and 24.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion of Regent Levy, seconded by Regent D’Aquin, the meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.