

MINUTES
BOARD OF REGENTS
August 27, 1998

The Board of Regents met in regular session at 9:10 a.m., Thursday, August 27, 1998, in the Board of Regents' Auditorium, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Coordinator of Board Services, Ms. Helen Johnson, called the roll and a quorum was established.

Present for the meeting were:

Harold Callais, Chairman
Mary Ella Sanders, Vice Chairman
Richard D'Aquin, Secretary
E. Edwards Barham
Michael Dees
Frances Henry
George Luffey
Ron Roberts
Pat Strong
Roland Toups
Michael Reese, Student Member

Absent:

Reggie Dupré
John Georges
John Keller
Norbert Simmons

MINUTES APPROVED

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JUNE 25, 1998

On motion of Regent Luffey, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted to approve the minutes of June 25, 1998, as circulated.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

PERSONNEL COMMITTEEPERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF AUGUST 26, 1998

On behalf of Regent D'Aquin, Vice Chair of the Personnel Committee, Mr. Donald Vandal, Deputy Commissioner for Administration, presented motions from the Personnel Committee Meeting Report of August 26, 1998.

PERSONNEL ACTIONS

On motion of Regent D'Aquin, seconded by Regent Luffey, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Personnel Committee to approve the recommended personnel action to promote Mr. Marvin Roubique from Associate Commissioner of Finance and Facilities to Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Facilities effective August 27, 1998.

On motion of Regent D'Aquin, seconded by Regent Luffey, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Personnel Committee to approve the recommended personnel action to employ Mr. Rodney Braxton as Associate Commissioner for Governmental Relations effective October 1, 1998.

On motion of Regent D'Aquin, seconded by Regent Luffey, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Personnel Committee to approve the recommended personnel actions to employ: Ms. Wendy Simoneaux as Financial Specialist in the Administration Division effective September 8, 1998; Ms. Carmen Cain as Special Assistant to the Associate Commissioner for Sponsored Programs Development effective August 31, 1998; Mr. Dennis Herringshaw as Director of Research Initiatives in the Sponsored Programs Division effective August 31, 1998; and Ms. Nitra McClinton, Higher Education Auditor in the Finance Division, effective August 3, 1998.

COMMISSIONER'S ANNUAL EVALUATION

Mr. Vandal reported that the Personnel Committee had entered into Executive Session to discuss the Commissioner's annual evaluation.

On motion of Regent Dees, seconded by Regent Luffey, the Personnel Committee voted unanimously to enter into executive session at 9:20 a.m., in accordance with R.S. 42:6.1, to discuss the annual evaluation of Dr. E. Joseph Savoie, Commissioner of Higher Education.

A roll call vote was conducted.

Yes: Reggie Dupré, Chairman
(6) Richard D'Aquin, Vice Chairman
E. Edwards Barham
Michael Dees
George Luffey
Roland Toups

No: None
(0)

Absent: Norbert Simmons
(1)

Abstain: None
(0)

The Committee returned to regular session at 10:00 a.m. Chairman Dupré announced that no motions were made and no votes were taken during Executive Session.

On motion of Regent D'Aquin, seconded by Regent Dees, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Personnel Committee to accept the annual evaluation of Dr. E. Joseph Savoie, Commissioner of Higher Education, as exemplary.

On motion of Regent D'Aquin, seconded by Regent Luffey, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Personnel Committee to adjust the Commissioner's salary at a rate which is equal to the overall average adjustment scheduled for the staff, which is expected to be 3.5 percent for the current fiscal year of 1998-99.

On motion of Regent D'Aquin, seconded by Regent Dees, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Personnel Committee that, in accordance with Board policy, the Commissioner's fringe benefit package continue to be comparable to the average of the Louisiana system presidents.

REVIEW OF STAFF EVALUATION INSTRUMENT AND PROCEDURE

On motion of Regent D'Aquin, seconded by Regent Dees, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Personnel Committee to adopt

the “Performance-Based Merit Review Plan for Unclassified Staff” which is to consist of annual evaluations of unclassified staff.

On motion of Regent D’Aquin, seconded by Regent Toups, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Personnel Committee to adopt the recommended salary adjustment proposal which reflects an overall average rate of salary adjustment for the unclassified staff of 3.5 percent.

ADOPTION OF THE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF AUGUST 26, 1998

On motion of Regent D’Aquin, seconded by Regent Dees, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Personnel Committee Meeting Report of August 26, 1998, as presented. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF AUGUST 26, 1998

On behalf of Chairman Callais, Mr. Donald Vandal presented motions from the Executive Committee Meeting Report of August 26, 1998.

UPDATE ON COMMUNITY COLLEGE/TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM

Mr. Vandal reported that Commissioner Savoie had noted that the constitutional amendment creating the Louisiana Community and Technical College System would be on the October 3, 1998, ballot for Louisiana voters to consider.

UPDATE ON THE BATON ROUGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Mr. Vandal reported that Dr. Marion Bonaparte, Chancellor of the Baton Rouge Community College (BRCC), announced that approximately 300 classes were being offered at

BRCC which opened for classes on August 20, 1998. As of yesterday, 1,830 students had enrolled with five or six students being added each day.

UPDATE ON DESEGREGATION SETTLEMENT

Mr. Vandal reported that at 11:35 a.m. Chairman Callais announced that the Executive Committee would enter into Executive Session.

On motion of Regent D'Aquin, seconded by Regent Sanders, the Executive Committee voted to enter into Executive Session in accordance with R.S. 42:6.1, 6.2, and 7A, to discuss litigation matters.

A roll call vote was taken.

Yes: Harold Callais, Chairman
(4) Mary Ella Sanders, Vice Chairman
Richard D'Aquin, Secretary
Ron Roberts

No: (0)

Abstain: (0)

Absent: Michael Dees
(3) John Georges
Norbert Simmons

The Committee returned to regular session at 12:21 p.m. Chairman Callais announced that no motions were made and no votes were taken during Executive Session.

ADOPTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF AUGUST 26, 1998

On motion of Chairman Callais, seconded by Regent Luffey, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Executive Committee Meeting Report of August 26, 1998, as presented. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

SPONSORED PROGRAMS COMMITTEESPONSORED PROGRAMS COMMITTEE REPORT OF AUGUST 26, 1998

On behalf of Regent Luffey, Vice Chair of the Sponsored Programs Committee, Dr. Kerry Davidson, Deputy Commissioner for Sponsored Programs, presented motions from the Sponsored Programs Committee Meeting Report of August 26, 1998.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS RELATIVE TO CONTRACTUAL MATTERS INVOLVING BOARD OF REGENTS' SUPPORT FUND AWARDS TO INSTITUTIONSA. Research Competitiveness Subprogram

1. Request from LSU-BR to amend a contract to provide one year's funding for a graduate student

On motion of Regent Luffey, seconded by Regent Toups, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Sponsored Programs Committee to approve LSU-BR's request to amend LEQSF(1998-00)-RD-A-05 to provide \$11,500 for one year's support of a graduate student essential to the project. Funds over and above the amount of \$11,500 shall be returned to the Board from LSU-BR within 30 days of the effective date of the amendment.

2. Request from LSU-BR to voluntarily terminate a contract

On motion of Regent Luffey, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Sponsored Programs Committee to approve LSU-BR's request to terminate LEQSF(1998-01)-RD-A-07. The \$23,800 already paid to LSU-BR shall be returned to the Board within 30 days of the effective date of the contract's termination.

B. Industrial Ties Research Subprogram

1. Request from LSU-BR to waive the third-year matching requirement for a contract

On motion of Regent Luffey, seconded by Regent Toups, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Sponsored Programs Committee to approve the request to waive the formal third-year matching requirement for LEQSF(1996-99)-RD-B-03. By June 30, 1999, LSU-BR shall apprise the Board of the outcome of its proposal to NPC Services, Inc., for additional support.

2. Request from Tulane University for a change in principal investigator

On motion of Regent Luffey, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Sponsored Programs Committee to approve Tulane University's request to designate Dr. Mark Fink as principal investigator for LEQSF(1996-99)-RD-B-08.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS RELATIVE TO THE PROVISION OF BOARD OF REGENTS' MATCHING FUNDS FOR THE EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAM TO STIMULATE COMPETITIVE TECHNOLOGY PROPOSAL

On motion of Regent Luffey, seconded by Regent Toups, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Sponsored Programs Committee to approve the provision of \$300,000 in FY 1999-2000 under the Federal Matching Grants Program as matching funds for the EPSCoT proposal. These monies are provided to satisfy the state matching requirement of the Department of Commerce, and are to be awarded only if the proposal is successful in the Federal competition.

AWARDING OF NSF/LaCEPT TEACHING SCHOLARSHIPS TO CAMPUSES

On motion of Regent Luffey, seconded by Regent Barham, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Sponsored Programs Committee to approve the funding schedule in Appendix B for the LaCEPT Teaching Scholars Program for FY 1998-99. Since the actual amounts of campus awards must be determined at the start of each semester or quarter and may vary slightly, the Sponsored Programs Committee further recommends that the Board authorize the staff to make minor adjustments in the final award amounts for each campus as needed, and reallocate scholarships to qualified applicants at other institutions should there be an insufficient number of qualified applicants at any institution.

NOMINEES FOR REPLACEMENT OF THREE BOARD OF REGENTS' SUPPORT FUND PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

On motion of Regent Luffey, seconded by Regent Toups, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Sponsored Programs Committee to approve, as members of the BoRSF Planning Committee, the LSU System's nominations of Dr. Shirley Laska, Vice Chancellor for Research, University of New Orleans, and Dr. Lynn Jelinski, Vice Chancellor for Research, Louisiana State University; and the Department of Economic Development's nomination of Mr. Vic Johnson, Acting Director of the Office of Policy, Planning and Technology.

ADOPTION OF THE SPONSORED PROGRAMS COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF AUGUST 26, 1998

On motion of Regent Luffey, seconded by Regent Dees, the Board voted to adopt the Sponsored Programs Committee Meeting Report of August 26, 1998, as presented. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF AUGUST 26, 1998

On behalf of Regent Sanders, Chair of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, Dr. Carolyn Hargrave, Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs, presented motions from the Academic and Student Affairs Committee Meeting Report of August 26, 1998.

I. Proposed New Academic Programs

A. Southern University-New Orleans - M.A. for Teaching in Urban Schools

On motion of Regent Sanders, seconded by Regent Strong, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to grant approval for the proposed M.A. program for Teaching in Urban Schools (CIP Code 13.9999) at Southern University-New Orleans, beginning Fall 1999. Beginning June 1, 1999, and on this date for every year thereafter during the life of the Settlement Agreement, SUNO shall submit a report to the Commissioner of Higher Education which updates efforts of the University to implement the program consistent with recommendations of external consultants.

B. Southern University-Baton Rouge - Ph.D. in Science and Mathematics Education

On motion of Regent Sanders, seconded by Regent Henry, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to grant approval for the proposed Ph.D. program in Science and Mathematics Education (CIP Code 13.1399) at Southern University-Baton Rouge, beginning Fall 1998, subject to the following:

- (1) One additional faculty member to support development and implementation of this program shall be hired by Spring 1999; and**

- (2) **Beginning June 1, 1999, and on this date for every year thereafter during the life of the Settlement Agreement, SUBR shall submit a report to the Commissioner of Higher Education updating efforts of the University to implement the program consistent with recommendations of external consultants and the University's timeline for program implementation.**

C. Louisiana Tech University

1. Ph.D. in Engineering

On motion of Regent Sanders, seconded by Regent Luffey, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to grant approval for the proposed Ph.D. program in Engineering (CIP Code 14.0101) at Louisiana Tech University, beginning Fall 1998, subject to the following:

- (1) **On June 1, 1999, Louisiana Tech University shall submit to the Commissioner of Higher Education a report which closely examines the continued need for the Doctor of Engineering program. If the University concludes that the DE program should be maintained, the Board of Regents shall engage the services of an external panel of consultants to determine if a continued need for this program exists and if the program can be adequately supported without endangering the successful implementation and development of the Ph.D. program in Engineering.**
- (2) **On June 1, 1999, and on that date thereafter until 2004, Louisiana Tech University shall submit to the Commissioner of Higher Education a report which updates efforts of the University to fully address all recommendations of the review committee which assessed the Ph.D. program in Engineering. The Board of Regents shall annually determine whether the University has taken adequate steps to address the consultants' recommendations, particularly as such recommendations pertain to the attainment of national prominence for this program.**

D. Baton Rouge Community College

1. A.S. in General Business

On motion of Regent Sanders, seconded by Regent Strong, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to grant approval for the proposed A.S. program in General Business (CIP Code 52.0201) at Baton Rouge Community College, beginning Fall 1998, subject to the following:

- (1) The program shall be housed in the Department of Business and Technology.
- (2) On June 1, 1999, the College shall submit a report to the Commissioner of Higher Education which shall address the following:
 - a. the adequacy of faculty resources to offer business coursework needed to fulfill requirements of this curriculum; and
 - b. the progress of negotiations among BRCC, SUBR, and LSU regarding the transferability of business coursework from BRCC to either SUBR or LSU.

2. Associate in General Studies

On motion of Regent Sanders, seconded by Regent Henry, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to grant approval for the proposed Associate program in General Studies (CIP Code 24.0102) at Baton Rouge Community College, beginning Fall 1998, subject to the following:

- (1) Only concentrations in Liberal Arts and Business Technology may be implemented at this time. The College may request additional concentrations as additional degree programs are approved and instituted.
- (2) On June 1, 1999, the College shall submit a report to the Commissioner of Higher Education which indicates numbers of students enrolled in the program and provides revised projections for numbers of enrollees and graduates in future years. This report shall also address the adequacy of faculty resources to offer coursework needed to fulfill requirements of this and related curricula.

II. Proposed Letters of Intent - University of New Orleans

- A. B.S. in Urban Studies and Planning
- B. M.S. in Environmental Engineering

On motion of Regent Sanders, seconded by Regent Luffey, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to grant approval for the Letter of Intent from the University of New

Orleans for a projected B.S. program in Urban Studies and Planning (CIP Code 45.1201).

On motion of Regent Sanders, seconded by Regent Henry, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to grant approval for the Letter of Intent from the University of New Orleans for a projected M.S. program in Environmental Engineering (CIP Code 14.1401).

III. Proposed Administrative and Curricular Revisions - Louisiana State University

A. Request for Proposed Changes in Music and Dramatic Arts

1. Request to Merge the School of Music and the Department of Theatre into a New College of Music and Dramatic Arts
2. Request to Reestablish the B.A. Program in Music

On motion of Regent Sanders, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to grant approval for the requests from Louisiana State University for the following:

- (1) **To merge the School of Music and the Department of Theatre into a new College of Music and Dramatic Arts; and**
- (1) **To reestablish the B.A. program in Music within the new College of Music and Dramatic Arts.**

The University shall submit to the Commissioner of Higher Education by June 1, 1999, a follow-up report which updates University efforts to implement this new College and program.

The Option in Music within the B.A. program in Liberal Arts at Louisiana State University is hereby terminated.

B. Request to Offer the B.S. Program in Elementary Education at Louisiana State University-Eunice

Dr. Hargrave reported that the committee agreed that this request was premature, and that the staff should meet with representatives from LSU, LSU-E, USL, and McNeese to discuss the most effective and efficient manner to address the need for another B.S. degree program in Elementary Education in southwestern Louisiana, if indeed such a need exists.

IV. Progress Reports for Conditionally Approved Programs

A. Southern University-New Orleans - M.S. in Computer Information Systems

On motion of Regent Sanders, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to receive reports from Southern University-New Orleans dated May 7 and August 12, 1998, relative to fulfillment of stipulations for implementation of the M.S. program in Computer Information Systems. Based on the contents of these reports, the Regents conclude that the program is making adequate progress toward projected program implementation in Fall, 1999. The next progress report relative to this program shall be due May 1, 1999.

B. Southern University-Baton Rouge - M.S. in Urban Forestry

On motion of Regent Sanders, seconded by Regent Luffey, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to receive the report from Southern University-Baton Rouge dated May 1, 1998, relative to fulfillment of stipulations for implementation of the M.S. program in Urban Forestry. Based on the contents of this report and supplementary information provided by SUBR, the Regents authorize implementation of this program, beginning Fall 1998. The next progress report relative to this program shall be due September 1, 1999.

ADOPTION OF THE ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF AUGUST 26, 1998

On motion of Regent Sanders, seconded by Regent Strong, the Board voted to adopt the Academic and Student Affairs Committee Meeting Report of August 26, 1998, as presented. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

FACILITIES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEEFACILITIES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF AUGUST 26, 1998

On behalf of Regent Roberts, Chairman of the Facilities and Property Committee, Mr. Marvin Roubique, Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Facilities, presented motions from the Facilities and Property Committee Meeting Report of August 26, 1998.

CAPITAL PROJECTS COSTING LESS THAN \$300,000

LSU-Baton Rouge

Food Service Building - Modification and Addition for Mechanical & Industrial Engineering
\$280,000 State Funds

Johnston Hall Basement Floor Renovation for University Dining Administration
\$187,200 Auxiliary Funds

Efferson Hall Parking Lot
\$140,800 Auxiliary Funds

Hatcher Hall 2nd Floor Renovation
\$201,000 State Funds

Louisiana Tech University
Dormitory Technology Network Infrastructure
\$250,000 Student Technology Fee

Nicholls State University
Culinary Institute (Additional Kitchen and Demonstration Room)
\$165,150 Other - Building Use Fee

On motion of Regent Roberts, seconded by Regent Luffey, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Facilities and Property Committee to approve the projects.

SITE FEASIBILITY STUDY - BOSSIER PARISH COMMUNITY COLLEGE

On motion of Regent Roberts, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Facilities and Property Committee to proceed with the contractual agreement with the city of Bossier for the relocation of the Bossier Parish Community College to the recommended site as outlined in the study by Mr. Li Shih.

LSU-ALEXANDRIA - CONSTRUCTION OF CHILD CARE CENTER

On motion of Regent Roberts, seconded by Regent Luffey, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Facilities and Property Committee to approve the project to construct a child care center using alternative means of financing at LSU-Alexandria.

ADOPTION OF THE FACILITIES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF AUGUST 26, 1998

On motion of Regent Roberts, seconded by Regent Luffey, the Board voted to adopt the Facilities and Property Committee Meeting Report of August 26, 1998, as presented. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

PLANNING, RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

PLANNING, RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF
AUGUST 26, 1998

On behalf of Regent Toups, Chairman of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee, Dr. Wayne Brown, Deputy Commissioner for Planning, Research and Performance, presented motions from the Planning, Research and Performance Committee Meeting Report of August 26, 1998.

ACT 129 OF 1991 (LICENSURE)

On motion of Regent Toups, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee to approve an operating license for Southern Illinois University to offer a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Technology degree program at Barksdale Air Force Base.

On motion of Regent Toups, seconded by Regent Henry, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee to approve the transfer of the operating license of Remington College to Education America Incorporated with the stipulations that 1) the programs and operations in Lafayette remain unchanged, and 2) the institution provide written confirmation of continued accreditation by the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS).

On motion of Regent Toups, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee to exempt Christian Bible College of Greater St. Tammany under the religious institution exemption provided for by Act 129 of 1991.

Dr. Brown explained that the Planning, Research and Performance Committee had deferred until September action on the license request from Louisiana Baptist University.

Dr. Brown informed the Board that institutions operating under the 501(c)(3) IRS tax status are exempt from Regents' licensure oversight. He further stated that legal loopholes in Act 129 of 1991 have allowed institutions to operate without regulatory oversight in Louisiana.

On motion of Regent Toups, seconded by Regent Sanders, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following resolution:

Whereas, under Act 129 of 1991, the Board of Regents is authorized to register all postsecondary, academic degree-granting institutions operating in the State of Louisiana, and to license those institutions that are not otherwise exempt from licensure, and

Whereas, Act 129 exempts from Regents' licensure oversight those institutions granted a 501(c)(3) non-profit tax exemption under the federal Internal Revenue Code, and

Whereas, the exemption from licensure allows institutions of questionable quality and integrity to operate in Louisiana free of Regents' oversight, and

Whereas, the Board of Regents is entrusted under the Constitution of the State of Louisiana to ensure that a quality education is available to the citizens of the state, and

Whereas, the Attorney General's Office has taken forceful action to protect the integrity of higher education offered in the State of Louisiana by seeking injunctive relief against unscrupulous institutions operating outside the authority of the Board of Regents, and

Whereas, the staff and the members of the Board of Regents have cooperated fully in supporting the actions of the Attorney General,

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Board of Regents wholeheartedly endorses and supports the recent and ongoing actions of the Attorney General's Office against Columbia State University and Cambridge State University.

Be it further resolved, that the Board of Regents pledges its full support in working with the Attorney General and Governor's Office in seeking amendments to Act 129 during the 1999 Legislative Session aimed at closing the legal loopholes that have allowed institutions such as Columbia State University to operate without regulatory oversight in the State of Louisiana.

On motion of Regent Toups, seconded by Regent Henry, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee to authorize the Commissioner of Higher Education to enter into consultant contracts consistent with all applicable laws, rules and regulations of the State of Louisiana with 1) Brenda Albright, and 2) The National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (with NCHEMS president Dennis Jones as lead consultant). The consultants will work with and advise the Board of Regents and its staff on two projects; fiscal matters and certain statewide/regional studies. The fiscal matters will include developing funding rationale for the LSU Agricultural Center, the LSU Medical Center, and the campuses of the Louisiana Technical College, as well as the completion of revisions to the funding formula for the community colleges and the universities. The statewide/regional studies relate to the Regents' constitutional duties to maintain a Master Plan for the postsecondary educational system, as well as to related requirements imposed by Act 151 of the 1998 First Extraordinary Session of the Louisiana Legislature. Act 151 requires the Board of Regents to identify postsecondary regions of the state and develop plans for the delivery of postsecondary services within each region, including revisions to institutional role, scope and mission statements, if necessary. The consultants will work with the Regents and its staff in responding to these Act 151 matters, concentrating initially in the Alexandria/ Central Louisiana and the Houma/Thibodaux/Bayou Parishes regions of Louisiana.

BOARD OF REGENTS' MANDATORY GUIDELINES FOR THE CONDUCT OF OFF-CAMPUS ACTIVITIES

On motion of Regent Toups, seconded by Regent Henry, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee to designate for one additional year (1998-99) the Port Sulphur Learning Center of Nunez Community College as a new site under its Mandatory Guidelines for the Conduct of Off-Campus Activities, allowing the institution to offer courses with enrollments below fifteen.

BOARD OF REGENTS' FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

On motion of Regent Toups, seconded by Regent Henry, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee to authorize the Commissioner of Higher Education to make any necessary revisions to the Board of Regents' Five-Year Strategic Plan and submit the plan to the Division of Administration by the September 15, 1998, deadline.

STAFF UPDATES

On motion of Regent Toups, seconded by Regent Henry, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee to authorize the Commissioner of Higher Education to submit to the Council on Occupational Education on behalf of the Board a clear statement that between now and July 1, 1999, the Board of Regents will take no action that in any way could jeopardize Louisiana Technical College-Teche Area Campus's accreditation with the Council on Occupational Education.

ADOPTION OF THE PLANNING, RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF AUGUST 26, 1998

On motion of Regent Toups, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Planning, Research and Performance Committee Meeting Report of August 26, 1998, as presented. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER

Commissioner Savoie informed the Board that members of the staff participated in a one-day retreat on July 1 to prioritize activities for the coming year. Commissioner Savoie said he had attended the State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO) meeting in Florida in July. Five issues were identified as the emerging issues in higher education; Louisiana is involved in all five initiatives. He continued by stating that Louisiana is beginning to be considered as a progressive state among the higher education community.

Dr. Savoie reminded Board members that Regents' Support Fund checks for Endowed Chairs and Professorships were still being presented and encouraged Regents to attend as many of the remaining presentations as possible. He further stated that the Review Committee for Endowed Chairs will be available to brief Board members on September 1 between 4:45 p.m.-5:30 p.m. at the University of New Orleans.

OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Callais announced that he was forming an *ad hoc* committee for Board Development. This committee will be charged with looking at the internal functions of the Board, including the review of Board policies and procedures. Committee members will be named at the September meeting.

Chairman Callais then recognized Regent Michael Reese and his parents. He presented Regent Reese with a plaque for his outstanding contribution as the student member of the Board of Regents during 1997-1998.

Chairman Callais reminded Board members of the Capital Outlay onsite visit to the LSU A&M campus at 11:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Callais declared the meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.