



Regents Recap

AUGUST 24, 2011

Regents Adopt Master Plan

Board of Regents

Jim Purcell

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Higher Education*

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BATON ROUGE, La. – The Board of Regents adopted a Master Plan for Higher Education today outlining the long-term goals for the state’s colleges and universities through 2025. Article VIII of Louisiana’s Constitution authorizes Regents to develop a Master Plan which provides a broad vision and goals and contains, at a minimum, a funding formula as well as the role, scope and mission for each institution statewide. The new plan will be delivered to the Legislature no later than September 1, 2011 as referenced in HCR 121 of the 2011 Regular Session. The last Master Plan was adopted in 2001.

The goals of the new 2011 Master Plan include:

- Increasing the educational attainment of the State’s adult population to the Southern Regional Education Board average by 2025.
- Investing strategically in university research.
- Achieving greater efficiency and accountability in the postsecondary education enterprise.

The Plan outlines 18 objectives, 71 activities and 65 performance measures to achieve the above goals. Through these goals, related activities and measurable metrics, the plan assures that its implementation will be monitored, evaluated and reported throughout the duration.

“A tremendous amount of progress has been made in Louisiana since 2001 and we have more students achieving the dream of attending college than ever before, but today’s economy requires that students not only attend, they have to graduate,” said Board of Regents Chairman Bob Levy. “To reach the goal of increasing the educational attainment of our adult population to the SREB average of 42% the progress we’ve made must not only continue, it must accelerate.”

“These are very ambitious targets for our state,” said Commissioner of Higher Education Jim Purcell. “If each of our institutions meets its GRAD Act goals by 2015, we will still have to increase by 9% the number of associate degrees and by 5% the number of baccalaureate degrees produced through 2025. We have to continue to require our institutions to far exceed their performance to date, but I think they understand the urgency of this aspirational goal.”

The 2001 Master Plan focused primarily on improved access to college for Louisiana’s students and resulted in measurable progress through increased minimum admissions criteria and support for the state’s developing community and technical college system including:

- Increased graduation rates (36.3% in 2001 compared to 42.6% in 2010)
- More first-time freshman enrolled in two-year/technical institutions (21% in 2000, compared to 44% in 2010)
- More students completing the Regents’ Core Curriculum (56.5% in 2003 compared to 62.7% in 2010)
- Increased ACT scores for high school graduates (19.6 in 2001 compared to 21.1 in 2011)
- Fewer students requiring remedial coursework upon entering college (32.3% in 2001 compared to 20.8% in 2009)

Continued page 4

REGENTS HIGHLIGHTS

UPCOMING REGENTS MEETINGS:

September 21-22

October 26-27

The Board of Regents granted conditional approval for the following New Academic Programs:

- **University of Louisiana at Lafayette**-Graduate Certificate in Non-Public Schools: Administration
- **University of Louisiana at Lafayette**-Bachelor of Science in Health Services Administration
- **Northwestern State University**-Bachelor of Applied Science in Allied Health

The Board of Regents approved the following Initial Licenses:

- **Chamberlain College of Nursing**
- **South University**
- **Troy University**
- **University of the Rockies**
- **Western Governors University**
- **Accelerated Dental Assisting Academy**
- **Dominion Technical College, LLC**
- **Falck Alford Training Center-Houma**
- **Falck Alford Training Center-Maurice**
- **Houston Marine Training Services**
- **Spartan College of Aeronautics & Technology**

The Board of Regents approved the following License Renewals:

- **Graceland University**
- **Grand Canyon University**

The Board of Regents approved the following Change of Ownership:

- **N.O.D.C. School of Dental Assisting**

The Board of Regents approved the following Associate in Occupational Studies Degree:

- **Administrative Medical Assisting-Blue Cliff College-Alexandria, Houma, Lafayette, Metairie, Shreveport**

The Board of Regents approved a selective moratorium on divisions of Endowed Chair funds to establish Endowed Professorships except in cases where the Professorship will be endowed at a level of \$250,000 or more, pending reconsideration of Endowed Chairs and Professorships policies.



The Board of Regents swore in its new member, **Bill Fenstermaker** from Lafayette,



The Board of Regents honored long-time employee **Connie Koury** who is leaving the agency to work in the private sector.

REGENTS TRACKS GRADUATES TO WORK



During its meeting today, the Board of Regents released its first report tracking Louisiana's higher education graduates into the workforce. The 2011 Employment Outlook Report analyzes employment data from the Louisiana Workforce Commission and the Board of Regents to determine the number of completers working in Louisiana six months and eighteen months after graduation.

"This report is a starting point that will eventually assist our colleges and universities in maximizing their success and improving Louisiana's economy," said Commissioner of Higher Education Jim Purcell. "We hope to have information from other agencies including the Department of Revenue by next year to allow us to draw an even more complete picture in the future."



The major findings of the report include:

- Eighteen months after graduation, 73% of associate degree completers were employed in Louisiana compared to 50% of bachelor's degree recipients.
- Nearly 2/3 of in-state bachelor degree recipients were employed in Louisiana eighteen months after graduation. Comparatively, just one out of every five non-resident bachelor's degree graduates were employed in the state.
- Of the 2008-09 bachelor's degree completers, the following fields of study had the highest employment rates after eighteen months.
 - Healthcare (70%)
 - Education (69%)
 - Engineering technologies (68%)
 - Family and consumer sciences (67%)
 - Public Administration (67%)
- Eighteen months after graduation, bachelor's degree completers earned an average salary of \$32,742, compared to \$35,544 for associate degree completers. Data from studies in other states affirm this pattern but indicate that, by the fifth year, bachelor's degree recipients will have a higher income.
- The following fields of study had the highest average calculated salaries:
 - Engineering (\$56,853)
 - Health professions (\$46,537)
 - Engineering technologies (\$43,787)
 - Education (\$37,639)
 - Computer & Information Sciences (\$34,238)

Continued page 4

Master Plan continued.....

Regents staff will be establishing updated role, scope and mission statements for institutions in the coming months using the guiding principles outlined in the Master Plan:

1. Role, scope and mission statements represent the essence of the campus, its core priorities.
2. Role, scope and mission is a policy tool to help ensure the State's institutions collectively have the capacity to meet the needs of citizens and employers in a cost effective manner.
3. Role, scope and mission statements of institutions must reflect how they interact with and serve the economic and educational needs of the region in which the institution resides.
4. The flagship institution is the premiere public research university.
5. Statewide institutions serve the entire State but in a specific and limited manner.
6. Regional institutions focus primarily on providing services to the local population and economy.
7. Community and technical colleges focus primarily on serving local communities.
8. Budget realities of Louisiana require that institutions rethink their fiscal structures, adopt greater efficiencies, and think more about educational consortium agreements that maximize the utilization of academic resources and programs.
9. Graduate and professional programs must be of superior quality, strategically placed, and be made more available through the use of educational technology. This will require the elimination of some existing graduate and professional programs.

Employment Outcomes continued.....

"This report clearly shows that if we better educate Louisiana's residents they will participate in this state's economy at a much higher rate," said Commissioner of Higher Education Jim Purcell. "To me, this is encouraging because it proves that we can raise our own economy by improving our success."

"There has been a mismatch with the kinds of graduates our state has been producing and the kinds of jobs that are available now and in the future," said Executive Director of the Workforce Commission Curt Eysink. "If we can fix that alignment, we can fix Louisiana for the long term."

Over the past several years the Board of Regents has participated in data sharing initiatives with other state agencies to address job readiness, employment and transition patterns of public postsecondary education students. In March 2010, the Board of Regents and the Louisiana Workforce Commission took a formal step in the data sharing process enabling LWC to share confidential information obtained through its Louisiana unemployment compensation system with the Regents. That information was used along with the Regents' Statewide Completers System to determine how many students are working in Louisiana from the graduating classes of 2006-07, 2007-08, and 2008-09.

It is important to note that this report's results are artificially low because it is based only on those employers that contribute to the Unemployment Insurance (UI) Wage Records System. The UI Wage System does not include those individuals who are self-employed, employed outside the state, employees of the federal government, or employed in occupations that do not participate in that wage system.

"In 2010, Georgetown University looked at labor reports and projected for each state what its workforce will look like in 2018. That report projected 51% of jobs in Louisiana will require some postsecondary credential," said Commissioner Purcell. "We are at a turning point. Louisiana must decide whether to do a better job at diversifying and expanding its economy by educating its people or serve as a conveniently located source for cheap labor."