

MINUTES  
BOARD OF REGENTS

February 17, 2014

The Board of Regents met as a Committee of the Whole at 2:35 on Monday, February 17, 2014, in Room CC 322 at the Pennington Biomedical Research Center, 6400 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Chair W. Clinton Rasberry, Jr. called the meeting to order. Executive Assistant Carolyn Blanchard called the roll and a quorum was established.

Present for the meeting were:

W. Clinton Rasberry, Jr., Chair  
William Fenstermaker, Vice Chair  
Albert Sam II  
Mark Abraham  
Charlotte Bollinger  
Brooksie Bonvillain  
Pamela Egan  
Joseph Farr  
Chris Gorman  
Robert Levy  
Richard Lipsey  
Roy Martin III

Absent from the meeting were:

Raymond Brandt  
Joel Dupré  
Edward Markle  
Joseph Wiley

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Rasberry noted that no written requests were received for public comments and asked whether the audience had any comments at the time. There were none.

Regent Rasberry thanked Dr. Uma Subramanian, Deputy Commissioner for Legal and External Affairs, Ms. Carolyn Blanchard, Executive Assistant to the Commissioner and the Board, and other staff for the success of the annual Trusteeship Conference held earlier in the day at the Pennington Biomedical Research Center in Baton Rouge.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 22, 2014

**On motion of Regent Fenstermaker, seconded by Regent Farr, the Board of Regents, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the minutes of January 22, 2014.**

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS AGENDA ITEMS*Letter of Intent: B.S. in Health Care Management (University of New Orleans)*

Dr. Jeannine Kahn, Assistant Commissioner for Academic Affairs, presented information on a Letter of Intent from the University of New Orleans to develop a proposal for a Bachelor of Science in Health Care Management. She discussed the need for such a program in the Greater New Orleans area and summarized the program concept.

**On motion of Regent Bollinger, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board of Regents, acting as a Committee of the Whole on behalf of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Senior Staff to grant approval for the Letter of Intent to develop a proposal for a B.S. in Health Care Management at the University of New Orleans.**

*Center of Excellence: Proposed Deepwater Center for Workforce Excellence (Fletcher Technical Community College)*

Dr. Karen Denby, Associate Commissioner for Academic Affairs, presented a request from Fletcher Technical Community College to create a Deepwater Center for Workforce Excellence. She explained the merits of the request, such as clear industry need, support and financial commitment, and workforce relevance.

**On motion of Regent Bollinger, seconded by Regent Egan, the Board of Regents, acting as a Committee of the Whole on behalf of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Senior Staff to grant conditional approval of the proposed Deepwater Center for Workforce Excellence at Fletcher Technical Community College.**

***Creation of an Advisory Council for Teacher and Leader Preparation Effectiveness***

Dr. Jeanne Burns, Associate Commissioner for Academic and Student Affairs for Teacher Education, provided background information on interest in creating a group to publicly discuss shifts occurring in PK-12 schools and ways in which PK-12 and higher education can work together to address such shifts. In response, the creation of an Advisory Council for Teacher and Leadership Preparation Effectiveness is proposed and Dr. Burns provided a description of the proposed council.

**On motion of Regent Fenstermaker, seconded by Regent Gorman, the Board of Regents, acting as a Committee of the Whole on behalf of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Senior Staff to create a Board of Regents' Advisory Council for Teacher and Leader Effectiveness.**

***Consent Agenda***

Dr. Denby presented the Consent Agenda which contained a request for the reauthorization of the Louisiana Vaccine Center at LSU Health Sciences Center in New Orleans with regular monthly updates to the Board.

**On motion of Regent Egan, seconded by Regent Bollinger, the Board of Regents, acting as a Committee of the Whole on behalf of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Senior Staff to receive and approve the items on the Consent Agenda.**

**FACILITIES AND PROPERTY AGENDA ITEMS*****Project Utilizing Alternative Means of Financing and Lease Request***

Mr. Chris Herring, Budget Analyst for Facilities and Planning, reported that the LSU System requested consideration of a lease for the construction of the LSU Foundation Building on the northwest corner of Nicholson and Skip Bertman Drives. The property will be leased to Foundation Office Building, LLC (FOB LLC), which will design, construct, furnish, equip,

operate, and maintain, at its sole expense, the newly constructed LSU Foundation Building and related improvements. The estimated cost of the project and improvements, including design and construction, is \$12,000,000, all of which will be paid by FOB LLC using private donations and financing. Up to \$4,000,000 will be financed via a ten-year conventional loan. If the project is approved by the Board of Regents, work is scheduled to commence by June 15, 2014 and is scheduled for completion no later than June 15, 2016. The new facility will consist of approximately 35,000 SF of office space and related improvements. The lease will be in effect for an initial term of 40 years, with two separate and successive options to renew the lease. The first such renewal term will be for a period of 30 years and the second renewal term for a period of 25 years, for a total of 95 years.

**On motion of Regent Lipsey, seconded by Regent Fenstermaker, the Board of Regents, acting as a Committee of the Whole on behalf of the Facilities and Property Committee, voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Senior Staff to approve an alternatively financed project and associated lease between the Louisiana State University System and the Foundation Office Building, LLC for the purpose of construction of the new LSU Foundation Building.**

#### *Major Repair Fund Re-Allocations*

Mr. Herring said that during the January meeting, the Board approved reallocation of Major Repair (MR) funds to new projects not currently authorized under Act 27 of 2006 [SUPP A7 2008]. Projects added to this appropriation require both Board and Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget (JLCB) approval. The Division of Administration, through the office of Facility Planning and Control (FP&C), is working with BoR Facilities staff to utilize funds from prior year MR appropriations by the end of the fiscal year. Due to time constraints in bringing projects to the Board, and subsequently the JLCB, staff requests that the Commissioner of Higher Education, or Chair of the Board, be authorized to submit future MR project additions

to Act 27 of 2006 [SUPP A7 2008] and bring such projects for ratification by the Board at the next Board meeting. All projects submitted to FP&C for JLCB consideration must qualify as MR projects, and FP&C must be in agreement with the proposed project addition. This will facilitate submission of project additions to the JLCB sufficiently in advance to get projects under contract by the end of the fiscal year.

**On motion of Regent Lipsey, seconded by Regent Martin, the Board of Regents, acting as a Committee of the Whole on behalf of the Facilities and Property Committee, voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Senior Staff to authorize the Commissioner of Higher Education or the Chair of the Board to submit future Major Repair project additions of Act 27 of 2006 [SUPP A7 2008] to Facility Planning and Control for approval by the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget prior to the end of the fiscal year and bring such projects for ratification by the Board at the next Board meeting.**

***Interim Emergency Board Request (LSU Agricultural Center)***

Mr. Herring said the LSU System submitted a request to petition the Interim Emergency Board for a project scope change on behalf of the LSU Agricultural Center's Livestock Education Facility project no. 19-607-11-01, Part I. The LSU Agricultural Center requests the location of the facility be changed from a new facility on Ben Hur Road to the existing John M. Parker Coliseum and connected livestock facilities. The scope change will allow for renovation and repurposing of the existing space in order to keep project cost within the available funding. Some new construction and expansion may be required.

**On motion of Regent Martin, seconded by Regent Lipsey, the Board of Regents, acting as a Committee of the Whole on behalf of the Facilities and Property Committee, voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Senior Staff to approve the Louisiana State University Agricultural Center's requests to petition the Interim Emergency Board for a scope change to the Livestock Education Facility Project to provide for a site relocation from a new facility on Ben Hur Road to the existing John M. Parker Coliseum and connected livestock facilities.**

SPONSORED PROGRAM AGENDA ITEMS*Funding Recommendations for Six NASA/BoRSF Research Projects*

Mr. Jim Gershey, Executive Director of Special Programs, reported on the Louisiana Space Consortium (LaSPACE), a grant program jointly supported by the Board of Regents and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). The Board has approved the provision of \$250,000 per year (FY 2010-11 through FY 2014-15) as a match for \$3,360,000 in funding to date from NASA for the continuation of the LaSPACE award. The LaSPACE program is administered by Louisiana State University on behalf of the State's higher education community.

Mr. Gershey reported that a total of twenty (20) Research Enhancement Awards (REA) proposals were submitted in response to a LaSPACE REA request for proposals. All proposals were evaluated by out-of-state experts. Mr. Gershey said six proposals were deemed "very meritorious" and recommended for funding.

**On motion of Regent Egan, seconded by Regent Lipsey, the Board of Regents, acting as a Committee of the Whole on behalf of the Sponsored Programs Committee, voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Senior Staff to approve the LaSPACE consultants' report and funding recommendations relative to the six LaSPACE Research Enhancement Awards (REA) projects recommended for funding. Three projects, totaling \$99,186, will be contracted with Support Funds allocated to the LaSPACE program in FY 2013-14; the remaining three projects, totaling \$113,156, will be contracted with Support Funds allocated to the LaSPACE program in FY 2014-15, contingent upon the appropriation of sufficient funds by the Legislature. If the Legislature fails to appropriate sufficient monies to provide for these three projects, contracts shall not be issued. All projects shall be funded in the amounts recommended in the consultants' report.**

*Approval of Two System Nominees to the Board of Regents Support Fund Planning Committee*

Ms. Carrie Robison, Associate Commissioner for Sponsored Programs Administration, said the Board of Regents Support Fund (BoRSF) Planning Committee provides advice and

guidance to the Board of Regents and the Sponsored Programs Section relative to the management and operation of the BoRSF. Membership on the Planning Committee includes two representatives nominated by the president of each higher education system and the Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (LAICU).

Ms. Robison continued by stating that Dr. Sandra Woodley, President of the University of Louisiana System, has nominated Dr. Mark Zappi, Dean of the College of Engineering at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, to serve on the Planning Committee as a representative of the University of Louisiana System. Dr. Ronald Mason, President of the Southern University System, has nominated Dr. Patrick Mensah, Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering at Southern University and A&M College, as a representative of the Southern University System.

**On motion of Regent Farr, seconded by Regent Martin, the Board of Regents, acting as a Committee of the Whole on behalf of the Sponsored Programs Committee, voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Senior Staff to approve the nominations to the BoRSF Planning Committee of Dr. Mark Zappi (University of Louisiana at Lafayette), representing the University of Louisiana System, and Dr. Patrick Mensah (Southern University and A&M College), representing the Southern University System.**

#### PLANNING, RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE AGENDA ITEMS

Dr. Larry Tremblay, Deputy Commissioner for Planning, Research and Academic Affairs, presented the items on the Consent Agenda.

#### ***Consent Agenda***

1. R.S. 17:1808 (Initial License for the Chicago School of Professional Psychology, Drexel University, Lamar Institute of Technology, River City College for Online Studies, and Washington State University)
2. License Renewals for Frontier Nursing University, University of Cincinnati, and University of South Alabama

**On motion of Regent Fenstermaker, seconded by Regent Martin, the Board of Regents, acting as a Committee of the Whole on behalf of the Planning,**

**Research and Performance Committee, voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Senior Staff to approve the items on the Consent Agenda as noted above.**

#### LEGISLATIVE AGENDA ITEMS

Dr. Uma Subramanian gave a brief overview of the 2014 Regular Session of the Legislature. She noted that the session begins on Monday, March 10, 2014 and ends no later than Monday, June 2, 2014. Dr. Subramanian also discussed the filing deadlines.

Dr. Subramanian presented the Board of Regents' legislative proposals for the upcoming legislative session. The Board of Regents will propose amendments to licensure laws and Louisiana Systemic Initiatives Program (LaSIP) laws. See Attachment A of the minutes for the explanation of each proposal.

#### *Authorization for Legislative Session*

**On motion of Regent Fenstermaker, seconded by Regent Lipsey, the Board of Regents, acting as a Committee of the Whole on behalf of the Legislative Committee, voted unanimously to (1) authorize the Commissioner and staff to pursue the Board of Regents' Legislative Agenda during the upcoming 2014 Regular Session as necessary, with regular reports to the Board; and (2) authorize the Commissioner of Higher Education and the Chair of the Board to act on its behalf on legislative issues that may arise during the 2014 Regular Session.**

#### OTHER BUSINESS

#### *Authorization Concerning the Selection of a Search Firm for the Commissioner's Search*

Chair Rasberry said a number of proposals from search firms have been received for the Commissioner's Search from across the United States. Regent Rasberry said he has requested that Regent Robert Levy, Regent Albert Sam, Dr. Tom Layzell, Ms. Barbara Goodson and himself review and evaluate the various proposals. He mentioned that a recommendation based on a scoring process will be presented at the March meeting for consideration and approval.

**On motion of Regent Fenstermaker, seconded by Regent Martin, the Board, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to authorize the**



**Chair of the Board W. Clinton Rasberry, Jr., Regent Robert Levy, Regent Albert Sam, Ms. Barbara Goodson, Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration at the Board of Regents, and Dr. Tom Layzell, Senior Advisor to the Board, to review and evaluate the various proposals received in order to select a search firm for the Commissioner's search. A recommendation based on a scoring process will be presented at the March meeting for Board consideration and approval.**

Chair Rasberry stated that the newly printed LOUIS brochure was in the Board members' folders. LOUIS allows for increased collaboration among academic libraries in Louisiana and provides initiatives to enhance library support of research, teaching, and learning in colleges and universities in the state. LOUIS is funded by the Louisiana Academic Libraries Information Network Consortium members and the Board of Regents.

Regent Rasberry thanked the Board members for their participation during this year's Trusteeship Conference. He said it was apparent that all participants and attendees have a shared commitment to the advancement of higher education in the State. Chair Rasberry mentioned that the sessions reinforced the important role that our colleges and universities play in the areas of workforce and economic development.

Chair Rasberry next had a special presentation for Commissioner Jim Purcell since he will be leaving the Board of Regents in March. He thanked Commissioner Purcell for his dedication to the Board of Regents for the past three years. Chair Rasberry noted that Commissioner Purcell always shared data-filled presentations and research-based recommendations to the Board to address many of the challenges in education. Commissioner Purcell thanked the Board and said he looks forward to working with them in the future.

Regent Levy congratulated the staff for a job well done organizing the Trusteeship Conference. He also thanked Commissioner Jim Purcell for his leadership and noted that he came at a difficult economic time and appreciated him "steadyng the ship." Regent Levy said

that despite a challenging five and one-half years, he was optimistic about the future of higher education.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

## Attachment A

### BOARD OF REGENTS' LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

#### 1. Proposed Amendment to Licensure Laws

Currently, states regulate higher education within their borders, with varying requirements for licensing out-of-state institutions who seek to offer distance education within their state. At present, there is no alternative to each institution separately pursuing any needed approvals (state authorization) in each state where it enrolls students. Consequently, institutions offering distance education are required to contact and work through as many as 54 states and territories, a costly and burdensome process for institutions which ultimately decreases access to high quality distance education throughout the country.

The State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) is a voluntary agreement among the four regional compacts (Southern Regional Education Board for the Southern states) and their member states that establishes comparable national standards for interstate offering of postsecondary distance education courses and programs. SARA's intent is to make it easier for students to take online courses offered by accredited degree-granting institutions based in another state, primarily by reducing the costs and administrative burden on institutions seeking authorization to offer distance education in various states.

SARA establishes a state-level reciprocity process, making state authorization more efficient and uniform. SARA shifts the principal oversight responsibilities for state authorization from the state in which the distance education is being received to the "home state" of the institution offering the instruction. Member states of SARA then agree to impose no additional (non-SARA) requirements on accredited institutions from other member states. Since under current law, the Board of Regents does not regulate totally online instruction, amending the legislation and participating in SARA will not entail the relaxation of the Board's current requirements for accredited academic degree-granting institutions.

In order for Louisiana to participate in SARA, R.S. 17:1808 (licensure of academic degree-granting institutions) and to a much lesser extent R.S. 17:3141 (the proprietary schools law) would need to be amended to allow the Board of Regents, on behalf of the state of Louisiana, to consider membership in SARA.

#### 2. Proposed Amendment to LaSIP Laws

The Louisiana Systemic Initiatives Program (LaSIP) was established in 1992 through a five-year \$10M NSF grant, matched with \$10 million in BESE/BoR LEQSF monies, divided equally between the two boards. The program was sustained beyond five years through competitive NSF and U.S. DoE grants, BESE/BoR dollars, and State appropriations, along with limited formula dollars which the U.S. DoE allocates annually to the Board of Regents. The purpose of the program has been statewide systemic reform of STEM education. Its signature initiative has been university-based year-long K-12 professional development for in-service teachers.

The broadly representative LaSIP Council, led by, yet separate from the Regents and BESE, was created by statute (R.S. 17:2751 through R.S. 17:2759) to reflect the collaborative and systemic purpose of the organization. All funding sources for expressly funding LaSIP have now ceased, the LaSIP staff has been terminated, and the LaSIP Council no longer functions. Under these circumstances it is appropriate that legislation authorizing the Council be repealed. The proposed bill will allow the Board of Regents, using the LaSIP title, to continue to administer the limited dollars for professional development which the U.S. DoE allocates annually to the BoR for teacher professional development.