

Gary N. Solomon, Jr.
Chair

T. Jay Seale III
Vice Chair

Darren G. Mire
Secretary

Kim Hunter Reed, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Higher Education



BOARD of REGENTS
STATE OF LOUISIANA

P. O. Box 3677
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-3677
Phone (225) 342-4253, FAX (225) 342-9318
www.laregents.edu

David J. Aubrey
Misti S. Cordell
Christian C. Creed
Blake R. David
Stephanie A. Finley
Robert W. Levy
Phillip R. May, Jr.
Wilbert D. Pryor
Terrie P. Sterling
Collis B. Temple III
Felix R. Weill
Judy A. Williams-Brown
Samuel T. Gil, Student Member

AGENDA
BOARD OF REGENTS*
Wednesday, June 12, 2024
12:45 p.m.

Claiborne Building, 1st Floor
Thomas Jefferson Rooms A&B 1-136
1201 North Third Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Public Comments
- IV. Approval of Minutes from April 24, 2024
- V. Chair's Comments
- VI. Update to Bylaws: Establishment of Artificial Intelligence Committee
- VII. Meauxmentum Moment – Louisiana Community and Technical College System
- VIII. LA First Presentation
- IX. Reports and Recommendations of Standing Committees
 - A. Audit
 - B. Finance
 - C. Legislative
 - D. Facilities and Property
 - E. Academic and Student Affairs
 - F. Planning, Research and Performance
- X. Reports and Recommendations by the Commissioner of Higher Education
- XI. Other Business
- XII. Adjournment

**Note: The Board of Regents reserves the right to enter into Executive Session, if needed, in accordance with R.S. 42:11 et seq*

DRAFT MINUTES

BOARD OF REGENTS

April 24, 2024

The Board of Regents met at 11:07 a.m. on Wednesday, April 24, 2024, in the Louisiana Purchase Room 1-100, Claiborne Building, 1201 N. Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Chair Gary Solomon, Jr. called the meeting to order.

OATHS OF OFFICE

Member to Serve on the Executive Committee

Ms. Brianna Golden, Policy Advisor for Strategic Planning and Student Success, swore in Regent Phillip May as a member of the 2024 Executive Committee.

ROLL CALL

Ms. Doreen Brasseaux called the roll, and a quorum was established.

Present for the meeting were:

Gary Solomon, Jr., Chair
T. Jay Seale III, Vice Chair
Darren Mire, Secretary
David Aubrey
Misti Cordell
Christian Creed
Blake David
Stephanie Finley
Samuel Gil, Student Member
Phillip May, Jr.
Wilbert Pryor
Terrie Sterling
Judy Williams-Brown

Mgt. Board Representatives present were:

Mary Werner, LSU System*
Stephen Smith, LCTC System*
Dr. Leon Tarver, SU System*

Absent from the meeting were:

Robert Levy
Collis Temple III
Felix Weill

Appendix A:

Guest List

* Present for Committees, absent for BoR Meeting

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Solomon asked if there were any public comments. There were none.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 27, 2024 MEETING

On motion of Regent Aubrey, seconded by Regent Seale, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the March 27, 2024 meeting.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Chair Solomon made the following comments:

- He noted that April is a busy month for high education, with LAICU, SU, UL, LCTCS and LSU celebrating days at the Capitol. During these days, the featured system or institution has an opportunity to showcase accomplishments. Chair Solomon noted that this day, April 24, is LSU day at the Capitol and that Regents have been invited to participate in the activities.
- He recognized that Regent Samuel Gil, student member, will be graduating from McNeese in May. Commissioner Reed presented a stole for Regent Gil to wear at graduation as well as a gift to commemorate his time on the Board. Regent Gil thanked the Regents and the staff for the opportunities he had while serving on the Board of Regents. He announced that he will be continuing his postsecondary education at the University of Texas at Austin, pursuing a Master's in Public Affairs. His goal is eventually to pursue a Juris Doctorate or PhD in Higher Education Policy.
- He noted that, as a follow-up to the letter that Regents received from Governor Landry concerning national anthem policies, he contacted chairs of each postsecondary system board since the Board of Regents does not set athletic policies. Each chair indicated that they would be undertaking a review of policies and that more information will be provided as it becomes available.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE INITIATIVES UPDATE

Chair Solomon stated that during the March meeting Regent Seale asked for a presentation on the state of artificial intelligence in higher education. Since that meeting, Dr. Tristan Denley, Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs and Innovation, has been named as a Louisiana representative on the SREB-AI Taskforce. Dr. Denley and Regent Seale attended the LSU-hosted John Breaux Symposium on AI in Mass Communication on April 16.

Dr. Denley then provided the first artificial intelligence initiatives update, presenting a summary of reports from the four higher education systems on the use of generative AI on their campuses. His summary included mention of using AI to provide customer service and to carry out some tasks (e.g., creating letter drafts, summarizing articles, conducting literature reviews, and creating quiz questions). He stated that each system is exploring ethical issues around AI and added that AI and machine learning techniques are being incorporated into existing computer science courses, as an instructional tool in other areas, and in research. LSU A&M is part of the “Teaching with AI” collaborative in the SEC. In addition to attending the Breaux Symposium, Dr. Denley attended the Annual Conference of Louisiana Colleges and Universities, whose keynote speaker, Ben Armstrong from MIT, reviewed current uses of AI in colleges and universities. The conference raised various practical and philosophical questions about the place of AI in our society.

Chair Solomon asked Regent Seale to share thoughts about his investigation of AI and its place in higher education. Regent Seale noted that a speaker at one of the conferences he attended spoke about AI having the capacity to triple the GDP of countries using it but also to triple the number of unemployed workers. He added that such staggering consequences will require the Board to account for providing opportunities to include AI in higher education. Regent Seale further suggested that the Board form a special committee chaired by Dr. Denley, which will report at each Board meeting. Chair Solomon asked Commissioner Reed to facilitate the establishment of the committee.

MASTER PLAN UPDATE – MEAUXMENTUM MOMENT

Dr. William Wainwright, President of Southeastern University, recognized the work of Dr. John Crain, his predecessor, in leading Southeastern Louisiana University as it emerged from the pandemic. He credited strategic enrollment management planning for three continuous semesters of enrollment increases. Southeastern's engagement at the Meauxmentum Summit led to a quality enhancement plan for the university.

Dr. Wainwright introduced Dr. Mary Ballard, Director of the Center for Faculty Excellence at Southeastern, and Dr. Tena Golding, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. Dr. Golding detailed how the Meauxmentum Summit helped shape plans for improving enrollment at Southeastern. She presented examples of how Southeastern's Strategic Enrollment Management Plan (QEP) aligns with the Meauxmentum framework, particularly the Pathways thread related to transfer students.

Dr. Golding introduced Dr. Ballard, chair of the QEP, who provided a timeline of milestones in the development of this program. This was followed by a deep dive into the literature about what transfer students need to be successful, QEP established goals, desired outcomes, and strategies.

Regent Seale noted Southeastern has had tremendous success in recruiting students with Latin American backgrounds and he asked Dr. Wainwright to speak to the involvement of Dr. Aristides Baraya in this success. Dr. Wainwright mentioned that Dr. Baraya, a professor in the College of Business, and Dr. Tará Lopez, Dean of the College of Business, have established a partnership with universities in Panama and other areas of Central America. In addition to programs on campus, Dr. Baraya is leading the way with outreach to Hispanic students in the communities surrounding the university.

Chair Solomon asked Dr. Wainwright about buy-in on campus for the transfer student programs. Dr. Wainwright credited his experience leading Northshore Technical Community College in helping him get to know the Southeastern faculty even before the appointment to his current position. He praised the faculty for their commitment to reaching out to more transfer students.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Chair Solomon inquired if any member of the Board wanted to take up any of the Committee reports separately before a motion was made to accept all reports.

On motion of Regent Sterling, seconded by Regent Creed, the Board voted unanimously to approve all Committee recommendations from the April 24, 2024 Committee meetings.

LEGISLATIVE

LEGISLATIVE STUDY REPORTS UPDATE

a. 2023 Health Works Commission Annual Report

Dr. Susannah Craig, Deputy Commissioner for Strategic Planning and Student Success, began the presentation by providing an overview of the Health Works Commission (HWC) and summarizing the two subgroups that live within this Commission: the Nursing Supply and Demand Council and the Simulation Medical Training and Education Council of Louisiana. She also provided an overview of the data from the Nursing Supply and Demand report, which forms a part of the 2023 HWC Annual Report. The data included snapshots of the current landscape of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN), Registered Nurses (RN), Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN), and Nurse Aides (NA).

Dr. Craig outlined the action items within the 2023 HWC recommendations and the authority to complete those action items. She also provided an overview on the status of House Bill 329, which would move the Healthcare Employment Reinvestment Opportunity (H.E.R.O.) Fund to the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH). She noted that BoR would maintain oversight of the Health Works Commission, the Nursing Supply and Demand Council, and the Simulation Council.

Regent Sterling stated the importance of adding transparency related to the HWC recommendation for matching denied nursing students to institutions with vacancies. She also noted the need to find a way to address nursing faculty salaries. Regent Creed made several inquiries about the stipend program. Dr. Craig responded that she would follow up with additional information. Regent Sterling asked about the rationale behind moving the H.E.R.O. Fund to LDH. Commissioner Reed provided her general understanding of the bill but indicated that she had not directly talked to the bill's author on this matter.

During the Academic and Student Affairs committee meeting, Regent Pryor asked to return to the HWC Report to ask a question about a Regional Healthcare Innovation Partnership Program that was listed in the report. He inquired as to why LSU Health Shreveport and Ochsner Lafayette General would be working together though they are not geographically near each other. Dr. Craig responded that LSU Health Shreveport is working collaboratively with Ochsner Lafayette General because the Lafayette area does not have an existing Doctor of Physical Therapy program. She stated that she would follow up with specific information related to this program. Regent Sterling noted that this addresses previous Board discussion on collaborating across institutions. Supervisor Werner stated that Ochsner Lafayette has been a tremendous partner with LSU Eunice in its allied health and nursing programs.

2024 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Ms. Brianna Golden, Policy Advisor for Strategic Planning and Student Success, provided an overview of the 2024 Legislative Priorities and other legislative items.

2024 BoR Legislative Priorities

- **Tuition and Fee Authority – HB 862, Rep. Hughes:** Provides public postsecondary management boards limited authority to establish tuition and mandatory fees.
- **Master Agreements – HB 884, Rep. Hughes:** Authorizes public postsecondary management boards to enter into master agreements for consulting services and social services on behalf of their institutions.
- **Deferred Maintenance – HB 940, Rep. Turner:** Authorizes the issuance of bonds to finance deferred maintenance projects included in the College and University Deferred Maintenance and Capital Improvement Program.
- **Workforce Solutions – SB 293, Sen. Edmonds:** Authorizes the Louisiana Workforce Commission (LWC) to coordinate the delivery of business workforce solutions in coordination with the various workforce and educational agencies of the state.
- **Career and Technical Education – SB 352, Sen. Mizell/HB 551, Rep. Brass:** Directs the Dual Enrollment Task Force to recommend options for expanding career and technical education and virtual instruction programs to increase the participation of dual enrollment course offerings in school districts across the state and expands Task Force membership.
- **Professional Service Contracts – HB 410, Rep. Brass:** Increases the threshold for postsecondary institutions and consortiums submitting projects to one of the three professional services selection boards (architect, engineering, and landscape) from \$500,000 to \$1M to mirror the authority granted to institutions and consortiums to manage projects with a budget of up to \$1M or less.
- **Power-Based Violence – SB 353, Sen. Barrow:** Revises current power-based violence laws to shift reporting dates for campus training.

FINANCE

APPROPRIATIONS BILLS UPDATE

Mr. Matthew LaBruyere, Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration, began his presentation by stating that at this time, House Bills 1 (General Appropriations Bill) and 782 (Supplemental Appropriations Bill) passed favorably out of House Appropriations Committee on April 23rd and were scheduled for House Floor discussion and passage on Thursday, April 25th. Mr. LaBruyere explained that HB1 is the legislative adoption of the Governor's Executive Budget, which appropriates funds for Fiscal Year 2024–2025 and that HB782, the supplemental appropriations bill, appropriates additional funds for the current fiscal year, Fiscal Year 2023–2024. Mr. LaBruyere indicated that the information presented on House Bills 1 (General Appropriations Bill) and 782 (Supplemental Appropriations Bill) required no action.

OTHER BUSINESS

Vice Chair Mire asked if there was any other business to come before the committee and Mr. LaBruyere mentioned a few items of interest. First, he noted that the University of Louisiana System provided a response letter, included in the Board packet, to a previous Board of Regents' request. Second, Mr. LaBruyere provided an update of the work that Regents staff and the system chief financial officers are doing to improve the financial health reports with quarterly reports and revenue projections based on enrollment. Finally, Mr. LaBruyere informed the committee that he and Commissioner Reed testified at the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget meeting on Friday, April 19th regarding the expected FY26 revenue shortfall and how that could impact higher education.

FACILITIES AND PROPERTY

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Chris Herring, Associate Commissioner for Facilities Planning and Emergency Management, reported on the Consent Agenda Report containing the small capital projects approved by staff since the previous meeting:

A. Small Capital Projects

1. **LSU-A: Circle Driveway Arrival Plaza, Alexandria, LA** – Louisiana State University - Alexandria, Auxiliary Revenues \$201,250
2. **LSU A&M: Hatcher Hall Ramp Enclosure, Baton Rouge, LA** – Louisiana State University and A&M College, Operational Funds \$230,000
3. **LSU A&M: University Laboratory School Elementary Air Handler Replacement, Baton Rouge, LA** – Louisiana State University and A&M College, Auxiliary Revenues \$200,000
4. **LSU HSCNO: Medical Education Building First Floor Environmental Health and Safety Suite Relocation, New Orleans, LA** – Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center – New Orleans, Operational Funds \$350,000
5. **LSU HSCS: Executive Suite Renovations, Shreveport, LA** – Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center - Shreveport, Operational Funds \$240,000
6. **LSU-S: Baseball Outfield Regrading, Shreveport, LA** – Louisiana State University - Shreveport, Auxiliary Revenues \$180,888

B. Third-Party Projects

1. **La Tech: Aspire Plaza Improvements, Ruston, LA** – Louisiana Tech University, Private Donations \$125,000
2. **ULM: Softball Complex Improvements, Monroe, LA** – University of Louisiana at Monroe, Ouachita Parish Policy Jury Grant \$237,950

Approved the items on the Consent Agenda, including the small capital and third-party projects reports.

IV. Third-Party Project – Louisiana Tech University New Parking Facility

The ULS submitted a third-party project, on behalf of Louisiana Tech, for the purpose of constructing a new parking facility on campus. Louisiana Tech will enter into grounds and facilities leases with Innovative Student Facilities, Inc., a private 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation whose purpose is to promote, assist, and benefit the institution and who will be responsible for the project. The new parking facility will be multi-level with approximately three hundred spaces located off the West Mississippi lot. Students voted in April of 2023 to pay a fee of \$20 per full-time student per quarter to fund the cost of the parking structure. **The total cost of this project is estimated to be \$10M.**

Louisiana Tech, through Innovative Student Facilities, Inc., intends to use proceeds of a loan from the Louisiana Local Government Environmental Facilities and Community Development Authority (LCDA) to the corporation to finance the project, represented through one or more series of revenue bonds. Annual debt service will be secured and payable from lease payments paid by the ULS, on behalf of Louisiana Tech, to Innovative Student Facilities, Inc. The lease will remain in place until the debt service has been satisfied. Upon termination of the lease, the site will revert to Louisiana Tech. The debt will be secured by the fee approved by students in April 2023.

Approved the third-party project submitted by the University of Louisiana System, on behalf of Louisiana Tech University, for the purpose of constructing a new parking facility.

V. Act 959 Project Budget Increases: Southern University and A&M College

The Southern University System submitted a request to increase the project budgets for three previously approved Act 959 projects at Southern University and A&M College (SUBR). Act 959 projects may exceed the amount approved by BoR by up to 20% without having to request approval of any subsequent increase. However, all three of the SUBR projects are seeking approval to exceed the 20% threshold. These projects were originally approved under the provisions of Act 959 during the August 24, 2022, BoR meeting. Specifically, the request involves the following projects:

- Global Innovation and Welcome Center – Current approved budget \$5M; requested increase of \$3.4M for a total budget of \$8.4M
- Outdoor Classroom/Amphitheatre – Current approved budget \$2M; requested increase of \$500,000 for a total budget of \$2.5M
- Public Safety Building – Current approved budget \$2M; requested increase of \$695,000 for a total budget of \$2.695M

The Public Safety building and Global Innovation and Welcome Center projects have publicly bid, and all bids exceeded the funds available for construction. The Outdoor Classroom/Amphitheatre project is scheduled to bid on April 24, 2024. All three projects are funded with a combination of federal Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF) and Title III monies allocated to Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Projects using Title III funding must comply with the provisions of the Build America, Buy America Act (BABAA). The additional costs of complying with the BABAA as well as continued supply chain issues and escalating construction costs have contributed to the unexpected increase in construction estimates.

Approved the Act 959 project budget increases submitted by the Southern University System, on behalf of Southern University and A&M College, for the Global Innovation and Welcome Center, Outdoor Classroom/Amphitheatre, and Public Safety building projects.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Herring provided the Board with an update on progress of the capital outlay bill (House Bill 2) since the March 2024 meeting. He informed members that the bill passed in the House and now moves to the Senate for further consideration.

Regent Pryor inquired as to the status of the Grambling State University Library project. Mr. Herring informed him that the east, west, and south sides of the facility were complete, and the goal is to have the north side of the building complete in the fall of 2024.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Tristan Denley presented the Consent Agenda, consisting of routine items including Staff approvals.

Approved the items on the Consent Agenda.

a. Routine Staff Approvals

- 1. Louisiana Tech: Request to change the designation of the doctoral program in business from DBA to PhD to better reflect the program's curriculum and purpose.**
- 2. McNeese: Request to change the name of the Department of Radiologic and Medical Laboratory Sciences to the Department of Health Professions to more accurately represent the degree programs offered within the department.**

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Dr. Denley then presented for approval the Master of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis and the Master of Science in Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling at Louisiana State University Shreveport, the Master of Science in Interior Design at Louisiana State University and

A&M College, the Master of Social Work in Social Work at Northwestern State University, the Master of Social Work in Social Work at Southeastern Louisiana University, and the Doctor of Engineering and Technology Management in Engineering Technology Management at Louisiana Tech University.

Regent Aubrey expressed concern that duplicative programs within systems, particularly the programs in Social Work, are being added. He suggested strongly that Regents staff encourage institutions to collaborate on academic programs to ensure that they are sustainable, particularly at times of budgetary stress.

Conditionally approved the proposed Master of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis (CIP 42.2814) at Louisiana State University Shreveport with a progress report due October 1, 2025.

Conditionally approved the proposed MS in Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling (CIP 51.2310) at Louisiana State University Shreveport with a progress report due in October 1, 2025.

Conditionally approved the proposed Master of Science in Interior Design (CIP 04.0501) at Louisiana State University A&M, with a progress report due October 1, 2025.

Conditionally approved the proposed Master of Social Work (CIP 44.0701) at Northwestern State University of Louisiana, with a progress report due October 1, 2025.

Conditionally approved the proposed Master of Social Work (CIP 44.0701) at Southeastern Louisiana University, with a progress report due October 1, 2025.

Conditionally approved the proposed Doctor of Engineering and Technology Management (CIP 15.1501) at Louisiana Tech University, with a progress report due October 1, 2025.

PROPOSED TOPS TECH ACADEMIC PROGRAMS ELIGIBILITY LIST FOR ACADEMIC YEARS 2024–25, 2025–26, AND 2026–27

Dr. Denley presented the proposed list of academic programs eligible for the TOPS Tech award in academic years 2024–25, 2025–26, and 2026–27.

Approved the revised TOPS Tech Eligibility Program list, including the Universal Transfer Pathways for TOPS Tech for 2024-2027, which includes academic years 2024–25, 2025–26, and 2026–27, and authorize Regents’ staff to transmit the BOR-approved Program List to the WIC and LOSFA in accordance with the law.

RESEARCH AND SPONSORED INITIATIVES

CYBERSECURITY EDUCATION MANAGEMENT COUNCIL AND LOUISIANA CYBERSECURITY TALENT INITIATIVE FUND

Ms. Carrie Robison, Deputy Commissioner for Sponsored Programs, presented information on the background of both CEMC and the CTIF, then outlined the process and timeline for distributing funds available in FY 2023–24. She informed the Committee that seven (7) applications had been selected through the process set forth in the Request for Applications and recommended for funding by the CEMC.

Approved the recommendation that funding be provided from the Cybersecurity Talent Initiative Fund for the seven (7) applications selected by the Cybersecurity Education Management Council (CEMC) at its April 9th meeting.

FY 2023–24 BOARD OF REGENTS SUPPORT FUND AWARD RECOMMENDATIONS

Ms. Robison highlighted the process for developing external evaluations for proposals submitted to the constitutionally prescribed program components of the Board of Regents Support Fund (BoRSF) and specific award recommendations for FY 2023–24. She noted that the current Revenue Estimating Conference projection is insufficient to fund all projects recommended, but that due to earnings significantly higher than revenue estimates in previous years, sufficient funds

are available in the Support Fund to accommodate the budget as approved. She then specified the following nine (9) recommendations for FY 2023–24 across all BoRSF subprograms, to be funded with earnings distributed during the fiscal year along with up to \$3,062,644 in unspent earnings from previous years. Unspent earnings will offset reductions in Departmental Enhancement. By these recommendations, the Board was asked to authorize 195 awards, with contingencies, as follows:

I. Endowed Chairs for Eminent Scholars

Board action completes the endowments for proposals ranked 1–6 in the Consultants’ Report (i.e., proposals 007EC, 002EC, 008EC, 001EC, 004EC, and 005EC).

II. Enhancement of the Quality of Academic, Research, and Agricultural Departments and Units

Board action approves the following:

- A. Departmental Enhancement: Disbursement of the \$3,309,029 estimated to be available in Departmental Enhancement for FY 2023–24 to fund the first year of twenty-four (24) new proposals, ranked 1–24, at the funding levels, and with the funding stipulations recommended by consultants.
- B. BoR/SREB Doctoral Support Initiative: Funding for five (5) proposals, ranked 1–5, submitted in the FY 2023–24 cycle to the BoR/SREB Doctoral Support Initiative for the durations and at the levels recommended.
- C. Endowed Professorships: A total of \$1,980,000 from the Support Fund is approved to match new and prior-year requests at nineteen (19) campuses.
- D. Endowed Two-Year Student Workforce Scholarships: A total of \$1,000,000 from the Support Fund is approved to match twenty-six (26) applications at the levels recommended.

III. Targeted Research & Development

Board action approves disbursement of \$2,486,668 estimated to be available in FY 2023–24 to fund the first year of new RCS, ITRS, PoC/P, and ATLAS projects as follows:

- A. Research Competitiveness Subprogram: \$1,349,933
- B. Industrial Ties Research Subprogram: \$736,735
 - 1. Industrial Ties: \$576,750
 - 2. Proof-of-Concept/Prototyping Initiative: \$159,985
- C. Awards to Louisiana Artists and Scholars: \$400,000

Approved R&D proposals shall be funded at the levels and with the stipulations recommended by consultants; Support Fund money shall be awarded to fund at recommended levels the top thirty-two (32) RCS proposals, six (6) ITRS proposals, four (4) PoC/P proposals, and ten (10) ATLAS proposals. Should the amount of money ultimately available to fund first-year activities in all R&D projects be less than the \$2,486,668 disbursed herein, adherence to the following principles shall be uniformly enforced: R&D Priority I proposals shall be funded in rank order at the levels and the durations and with the stipulations recommended by consultants until the funds designated for each component have been exhausted.

IV. Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students

Board action approves disbursement of \$1,080,000 from the Support Fund to match twelve (12) applications, ranked 1–11, submitted in FY 2023–24 under the Endowed Superior Graduate Student Scholarships subprogram.

V. Contingency Plan for Budgetary Shortfall

Board action approved the following contingency plan for a budgetary shortfall: should the final FY 2023–24 Support Fund budget not achieve the amount cited herein, any shortfall shall be accommodated through a proportionate reduction in the amounts allocated for proposals in the competitive program components.

Approved the FY 2023–24 BoRSF funding recommendations, with contingencies, as presented.

BORSF MATCHING FOR STATEWIDE FEDERAL INITIATIVE: LOUISIANA BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH NETWORK

Ms. Robison presented information the Louisiana Biomedical Research Network, which has requested a cash match from the BoRSF for its renewal request to the National Institutes of

Health. She reviewed the structure and purpose of the LBRN as well as previous matching provided by the Support Fund, indicating that the project team had requested the same level of match (i.e., \$1,148,000) as provided to previous renewals.

Approved commitment a cash match of \$1,148,000 from previously unspent monies in the Board of Regents Support Fund for the Louisiana State University NIH Institutional Development Award (IDeA) continuation proposal entitled “Louisiana Biomedical Research Network”. The amount of cash match shall not exceed \$1,148,000 for the five-year duration of the award. Matching funds are to be provided only if NIH IDeA funding is received.

STATEWIDE PROGRAMS

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Final Rulemaking – Reinstates COVID-19 as an objective circumstance for which a student may request an exception.

Dr. Sujuan Boutté explained that at its September 30, 2023 meeting, the Board of Regents authorized publication of a Notice of Intent to reinstate COVID-19 as an objective circumstance for which a student may request an exception during the 2023–2024 academic year provided certain conditions are met. The LOSFA Advisory Board recommends that the Board of Regents authorize publication of the final rule.

B. TOPS Exceptions – TOPS provision that requires students to remain continuously enrolled and to earn the annual credit hours required during the academic year.

Dr. Boutté informed the Regents that eight requests for TOPS exceptions were reviewed and approved by the LOSFA Advisory Board at its April 17, 2024 meeting . Dr. Boutté explained that students who complete their undergraduate degree in less than eight semesters have remaining eligibility left that can be used toward a graduate or professional program. These students have

one year from the anniversary date of undergraduate graduation to enroll in a graduate or professional program. One of the students requesting an exception was unable to enroll in a graduate program by this deadline because the program had not yet received candidacy status. Without the exception, the student would be responsible for the TOPS amount at the university, and will owe the amount that the university credited them for TOPS. The LOSFA Advisory Board has recommended that the Board of Regents grant LOSFA the authority to approve TOPS exceptions for all students in this situation based on campus information. In addition, the LOSFA Advisory Board reports that the remaining students have presented facts and circumstances that justify the granting of an exception as an exceptional circumstance and the LOSFA Advisory Board recommends Board of Regents approval.

C. TOPS Home Study Exceptions – TOPS provision that requires a student to begin a home study program no later than the conclusion of the tenth grade.

Dr. Boutté informed the Regents that one request for an exception to the deadline to begin a home study program was reviewed and approved by the LOSFA Advisory Board at its April 17, 2024 meeting. The student has presented facts and documentation that the student believes justify the granting of an exception as an exceptional circumstance, and the LOSFA Advisory Board recommends Board of Regents approval.

Approved the Consent Agenda items *in globo*, including the authority to approve TOPS exceptions for students who were unable to begin postgraduate studies on time due to the lack of candidacy status of the program until after the deadline had passed.

PLANNING, RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Susannah Craig presented the Consent Agenda, which included three renewal applications from licensure of academic degree-granting institutions as well as three initial applications, one change of ownership application, and seventeen renewal applications from the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission.

Approved the items listed under the Consent Agenda.

A. R.S. 17:1808 (Licensure)

1. Renewal Applications

- a. Alliant International University**
- b. Rocky Vista University**
- c. The Chicago School**

B. Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission

1. Initial Applications

- a. Royal Angels Anointed Hands – Greensburg, LA**
- b. Persistent Medical Education – Breaux Bridge, LA**
- c. Premier Diagnostic Institute – Metairie, LA**

2. Change of Ownership Application

- a. Phlebotomy Training Specialists – Baton Rouge, LA**

3. Renewal Applications

- a. Baton Rouge School of Court Reporting – License #2083**
- b. Beso Beauty, Metairie, LA – License #2264**
- c. Carter’s Career Center, Monroe, LA – License #2286**
- d. Coastal College - Hammond – License #791**
- e. Hospitality Opportunity & Service Training (HOST) Program, Baton Rouge, LA – License #2312**
- f. ITI Technical College, Baton Rouge, LA – License #2007**
- g. LifeShare Phlebotomy School, Shreveport, LA – License #2313**
- h. Louisiana Dental Assistant School, Zachary, LA – License #2073**
- i. Louisiana Dental Institute, Monroe, LA – License #2287**
- j. Moore Career College, Baton Rouge, LA – License #2298**
- k. Next Level Educational Services, LaPlace, LA – License #2331**

- l. Rosebud Training Academy, Baker, LA – License #2369**
- m. The H.E.A.R.T. Academy, Baton Rouge, LA – License #2348**
- n. Tulsa Welding School – Jacksonville Campus – License #2123**
- o. United Dental Institute - Baton Rouge – License #2328**
- p. United Dental Institute - Lafayette – License #2329**
- q. United Dental Institute - New Orleans – License #2330**

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Commissioner Kim Hunter Reed presented several items to the Board:

- She noted the work of the Board staff at the Capitol and the collective work of higher education across the state to champion the power of education and workforce development.
- She shared highlights of the LUMCON Open House in Cocodrie, Louisiana, which she attended with Dr. Chris Yandle. This was the first open house at LUMCON since 2019. Scientists, educators, and families came together to learn more about coastal and marine work in the state.
- She announced that seven items submitted to the Public Relations Association of Louisiana’s (PRAL) Red Stick Awards competition were chosen for recognition. Regents garnered awards for Best Publication, Best Newsletter, and Best Special Events, among others. Dr. Chris Yandle was named Communicator of the Year by this same group.
- She recognized Regents’ Administrative Professionals as part of Administrative Professionals Day.

OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Solomon conveyed a message from Regent Aubrey to Commissioner Reed, the Board, and the staff, thanking them for the many expressions of sympathy upon the passing of his mother. Chair Solomon asked if there was any other business and no items were brought forward.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion of Regent David, seconded by Regent Mire, the meeting was adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

Appendix A
Board Meeting Guest List
Wednesday, April 24, 2024

NAME	AFFILIATION
Susan Campbell	NSU
Neeru Deep	NSU
Coleen Cicale	Southeastern
Katherine Wickstrom	LSU-Shreveport
Matt Kern	Jones Walker LLP
Lauren V. Tarver	Jones Walker LLP
Jackie Bach	LSU A&M
Sujuan Boutté	LOSFA/BoR
Jeannine O'Rourke	UL System
Brian Roberts	LUMCON/BoR
Helen Taylor	LSU-Shreveport
William Tulak	LCTCS
Robert Rene	SU System
Laura Barby Alello	ORB
Will Wainwright	Southeastern

Gary N. Solomon, Jr.
Chair

T. Jay Seale III
Vice Chair

Darren G. Mire
Secretary

Kim Hunter Reed, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Higher Education



BOARD of REGENTS
STATE OF LOUISIANA

P. O. Box 3677
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-3677
Phone (225) 342-4253, FAX (225) 342-9318
www.laregents.edu

David J. Aubrey
Misti S. Cordell
Christian C. Creed
Blake R. David
Robert W. Levy
Stephanie A. Finley
Phillip R. May, Jr.
Wilbert D. Pryor
Terrie P. Sterling
Collis B. Temple III
Felix R. Weill
Judy A. Williams-Brown
Samuel T. Gil, Student Member

AGENDA*

June 12, 2024

Claiborne Building, First Floor
Louisiana Purchase Room 1-100
1201 North Third Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Revision of the Bylaws for the Internal Operation and the Transaction of Business for the Board of Regents

A. Revision of the *Bylaws for the Internal Operation and the Transaction of Business for the Board of Regents*

Special Committees (*Article 5.3* on page 8 of Bylaws)

1. Add Artificial Intelligence Committee as a Special Committee

B. Membership of Artificial Intelligence Committee

1. Revision of the *Bylaws for the Internal Operation and the Transaction of Business for the Board of Regents*

While technology has long played a pivotal role in every aspect of higher education, recent developments in generative artificial intelligence (AI) have raised a wide variety of new issues and possibilities. Due to the profound and pervasive influence that AI will likely have on education, employment, and every aspect of modern life, the Board of Regents will create an ongoing Special Committee focused on this topic. The Committee will be responsible for:

- a) Providing regular updates to keep the Board apprised of developments in this field that affect instruction, research, and higher education operations; and
- b) Recommending policy to coordinate the role of artificial intelligence across the state's higher education sector.

Therefore, Article 5.3 of the Bylaws should be amended to add “Artificial Intelligence” as a Special Committee, whose membership shall be appointed by the Chair.

C. Membership of Artificial Intelligence Committee

The initial membership of the committee will be as follows:

- Regent Seale (Chair)
- Regent Aubrey
- Regent Cordell
- Regent David
- Regent May
- Regent Sterling
- Regent Orr

BYLAWS
FOR THE INTERNAL OPERATION AND THE
TRANSACTION OF BUSINESS FOR THE BOARD OF REGENTS
FOR THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

ARTICLE I
CREATION AND MEMBERS

1.1 Creation and Functions. The Board of Regents is created as a body corporate under the 1974 Louisiana Constitution (Const. Article VIII, Section 5 A) and under La. R.S. 17:3121 A. It shall plan, coordinate, and have budgetary responsibility for all public postsecondary education and shall have other powers, duties, and responsibilities as provided in the Constitution or by law (Const. Article VIII, Section 5 A).

1.2 Board Members. The Board of Regents shall be composed as provided by law (Const. Article VIII, Section 5 B, C; Section 8 B; R.S. 17:3121 B)).

1.3 Ethics. All members of the Board are appointed public officials of the State of Louisiana. As such, they are subject to the laws of the State as defined by the 1974 Louisiana State Constitution and the laws of the State, specifically the Louisiana State Code of Ethics.

ARTICLE II
DOMICILE

2.1 Domicile. The domicile of the Board of Regents, a body corporate, shall be in the City of Baton Rouge, East Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana (R.S. 17:3123 A).

ARTICLE III

MEETINGS

3.1 Regular Meetings. The Regents shall meet on or before the second Monday in January of each year, and at other times as fixed by the Board, or upon call of the Chairman (R.S. 17:3123 E). The Regents shall meet twice yearly on mutually agreed upon dates with the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (Const. Article VIII, Section 5 D).

3.2 Special and Emergency Meetings.

- a. Special Meetings may be called at any time by the Chairman in consultation with the Commissioner of Higher Education, or upon written request signed by the majority of members specifying the purpose of the desired meeting. Written or electronic notification along with the purpose of the meeting shall be sent to each member in a timely manner.
- b. Emergency Meetings may be called at any time by the Chairman in consultation with the Commissioner of Higher Education. Written or electronic notification along with the purpose of the meeting shall be sent to each member in a timely manner that is reasonable under the circumstances.

3.3 Orientation for New Board Members and Board Member Professional Development. The Board shall provide for the orientation and continued professional development for members of the Board of Regents. Training will focus on assisting members to become more informed and active participants in shaping postsecondary education in the State (BPP 3.3 [a]). No formal business will be conducted during these sessions.

3.4 Location of Meetings. The Board of Regents may hold meetings at any location in the state.

3.5 Notice of Meetings. Written or printed notice stating the dates, times, places and proposed agenda of Board and/or committee meetings shall be executed in accordance with State law (R.S. 42:19 et seq). The Board will require that Notice be transmitted as soon as feasible (BPP 3.5 [a]).

3.6 Quorum. Eight members of the Board shall constitute a quorum and no action may be taken without a favorable vote of a majority of the members of the Board (R.S. 17:3123 C).

3.7 Proxies. Any manner of proxy voting or secret balloting shall be prohibited (R.S. 42:14 B).

3.8 Rules of Order. When not in conflict with any of the provisions of these Bylaws or any policies of the Board, meetings shall be conducted in accordance with *Robert's Rules of Order*.

3.9 Order of Business. The order of business of the Board shall be as follows:

- a. Call to Order.
- b. Roll Call.
- c. Public Comments (BPP 3.9.c [a]).
- d. Correction and approval of the minutes of the preceding Regular Meeting and all Special and Emergency Meetings.
- e. Reports and recommendations of standing committees.
- f. Reports and recommendations of special committees.
- g. Reports and recommendations of the Commissioner of Higher Education.
- h. Resolutions for Board action.
- i. Other business.
- j. Adjournment.

If the meeting is a special meeting or a joint meeting with the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, then the Order of Business on the Agenda shall be set forth in the call.

3.10 Agenda. When feasible, at least ten days prior to each regular meeting, the Commissioner of Higher Education shall prepare and forward to the Chairman a tentative agenda for the meeting. The Commissioner shall place on the agenda any item requested in writing by at least four (4) members of the Board. The approved Agenda shall be posted on the website in accordance with Bylaws 3.5.

In accordance with R.S. 42:19 A, any item may be acted on even though not listed on the published agenda with unanimous approval of the members present. Any such item shall be identified in a motion with reasonable specificity, including the purpose for the addition to the

agenda, and entered into the minutes of the meeting. Prior to any vote on the motion to take up an item not on the agenda by the Board, there shall be an opportunity for public comment on any such motion in accordance with R.S. 42:14 D.

3.11 Minutes. As a public body, the Board of Regents will keep written minutes of its open meetings (R.S. 42:20 A). The minutes of all meetings shall include official actions of the Board. In all cases when the action is not by a unanimous vote, the yeas, nays, and abstentions of the individual members shall be recorded. As a public body, the Board of Regents will comply with State public records laws (R.S. 44:1 et seq) (BPP 3.11 [a]).

Copies of said minutes shall be transmitted to each member of the Board prior to the next scheduled meeting. The minutes shall be considered as tentative until approved by the Board at its next regular meeting. Following approval by the Board, the minutes shall be posted on the website.

ARTICLE IV

OFFICERS

4.1 Officers. The members of the Board shall elect a Chairman and Vice Chairman (R.S. 17:3123 B) and Secretary. These officers shall be elected by the Board at its meeting in December of each year and shall serve for a period of one year. Nominations are made in accordance with Bylaws policy BPP 4.1 (a). A nominee must be a Regent member whose service is not contingent upon reappointment for the year for which he or she is elected to serve as an officer.

Vacancies occurring in an office shall be filled by election by the Board for the remainder of the unexpired term of said office. An officer of the Board shall not succeed himself more than one time unless he has been elected to fill less than one-half of an unexpired term or in extraordinary circumstances as described below.

The Board may allow an officer to succeed himself more than one time if the State has suffered an extraordinary event and the Board believes that it is in the best interest of postsecondary education to have one or more of its officers remain in office. The candidate who

will be succeeding himself more than one time must be elected by a favorable vote of two-thirds of the members of the Board.

4.2 Chairman of the Board. It shall be the duty of the Chairman of the Board to preside over all meetings of the Board; to appoint, subject to approval of the Board, the members and officers of all standing and special committees, except those management board members serving on standing committees; and to expand any standing committee in accordance with the provisions of the Bylaws. The Chairman shall perform any duties assigned to him in these Bylaws.

The Chairman and the Commissioner of Higher Education are designated spokespersons and representatives for the Board.

4.3 Vice Chairman of the Board. In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman shall preside over the meetings of the Board and perform any other duties as requested by the Chairman or by a vote of the Board.

4.4 Secretary of the Board. It shall be the responsibility of the Secretary to see to the filing, indexing and preservation of all minutes, papers, and documents pertaining to the business and proceedings of the Board and its committees, and shall be the custodian of the seal of the Board.

A Coordinator of Board Services shall be appointed by the Board upon recommendation of the Commissioner of Higher Education. Such Coordinator of Board Services, under the supervision and control of the Secretary of the Board, shall retain the actual custody of the Board's seal and records. The Coordinator shall be the custodian of public records (R.S. 44:1 et seq).

ARTICLE V COMMITTEES

5.1 Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall consider such matters as are referred to it by the Board. It shall execute such orders and resolutions as shall be assigned to it at any meeting of the Board. It shall also take such action as is necessary when an

emergency requiring immediate action arises during an interim between Board meetings. All acts of the Executive Committee shall be submitted to the board for ratification at its next scheduled meeting except in matters where the Board shall have delegated to the Executive Committee full power to act.

Each member of the Executive Committee may serve as an ex-officio member of each standing committee.

5.1.1 Membership. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman, the Secretary and four (4) members elected by the Board from its membership.

5.1.2 Officers. The Chairman of the Board will be the Chairman of the Executive Committee, and the Vice Chairman of the Board will be the Vice Chairman of the Committee. The Vice Chairman will preside in the Chairman's absence.

5.1.3 Quorum. A majority of the members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. A favorable vote of a majority shall be necessary to take affirmative action. A quorum, once obtained, shall not thereafter be lost during the meeting. The absence of a quorum negates further action by the Committee but does not require adjournment of the meeting.

5.2 Standing Committees. The standing committees of the Board, including those in statute, shall be as follows:

- a. Finance.*
- b. Academic and Student Affairs.*
- c. Legislative.*
- d. Facilities and Property.*
- e. Planning and Research* and Performance.
- f. Personnel.
- g. Sponsored Programs.
- h. Nominating Committee. (BBP 4.1 [a])
- i. Statewide Programs.
- j. Audit Committee

* Committee required by R.S. 17:3399.5 A, B.

5.2.1 Membership. All standing committees shall consist of no less than five voting members unless and until otherwise decided by the vote of a majority of the membership of the Board.

Each standing committee designated by law in subsection A of R.S. 17:3399.5 (i.e., Finance, Academic and Student Affairs, Legislative, and Facilities and Property) shall include as a member, a member of each of the postsecondary education management boards as designated by each board. If the management board member on any Regents' committee is unable to attend any meeting, an alternate management board member previously designated by that board may attend and vote on his behalf.

If a Regents' Board member on a standing committee is absent from any meeting, a member of the Executive Committee may serve as an alternate and shall thereafter be entitled to vote, regardless of the arrival of additional standing committee members.

Upon written notice, the Chairman of the Board may expand a standing committee to include the entire Board to meet as a Committee of the Whole, for a specified time. At meetings thereof, the officers of said committee shall continue to serve in their respective capacities.

5.2.2 Officers. The Chairman, Vice Chairman, and members of all standing committees shall be appointed by the Board Chairman following the first January meeting of each year. The Chairman shall present these appointments for ratification by the Board at a duly scheduled Board meeting in January. Committee appointees shall serve at the pleasure of the Chairman of the Board.

The Chairman of each committee will call and preside over necessary meetings. The Chairman will conduct meetings according to the provisions of Bylaws Article IV, Section 4.10.

5.2.3 Quorum. A majority in number of the specified appointed members to each committee shall constitute a quorum. A favorable vote of a majority shall be necessary to take affirmative action. A quorum, once obtained, shall not thereafter be lost during the meeting. The absence of a quorum negates further action by the Committee but does not require adjournment of the meeting.

5.3 Special Committees. As the need arises, the Board or the Chairman of the Board may create special committees for temporary periods with such functions, powers and authority as may be determined. The term of a special committee shall be prescribed at the time of its appointment but shall not exceed the term of the Chairman. Unless otherwise provided in the action creating such a committee, the Chairman of the Board shall designate the number of its members and the Chairman and Vice Chairman thereof. The Chairman may also appoint ad hoc committees for special assignments for specified periods of existence not to exceed the completion of the assigned task.

5.3.1 Special Committees. The special committees of the Board, shall contain the following:

a. Artificial Intelligence

5.3.2 Officers. The committees shall each have a Chairman, who shall be the presiding officer, and a Vice Chairman to preside in the Chairman's absence. Both shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Board, subject to the Board's approval.

5.3.3 Quorum. A majority in number of the specified appointed members to each committee shall constitute a quorum. A favorable vote of a majority shall be necessary to take affirmative action. A quorum, once obtained, shall not thereafter be lost during the meeting. The absence of a quorum negates further action by the Committee but does not require adjournment of the meeting.

ARTICLE VI

STAFF

6.1 Commissioner of Higher Education. The Board shall employ a Chief Administrative Officer whose title shall be Commissioner of Higher Education for the State of Louisiana. The duties and responsibilities of the Commissioner of Higher Education shall be prescribed by the Board (BPP 6.1 [a]). The Commissioner of Higher Education shall be

appointed in accordance with state law (R.S. 17:3123.1) and his performance and competence shall be evaluated annually by the Board.

6.2 Other Staff. The Board, through the Commissioner of Higher Education, will hire additional employees as it may deem necessary for the performance of its functions and in accordance with policies and procedures in the *Board Internal Operations Policies and Procedures Manual*. Internal policies pertaining to Board approval for hiring and firing of certain level employees and retirees cannot be amended without Board approval.

ARTICLE VII OPERATING BUDGET

7.1 Budget. The Board shall annually adopt an internal operating budget covering the period from July 1 to June 30 of each fiscal year.

7.2 Obligations. Once the budget is adopted and funds have been appropriated, the obligations therein reflected may be incurred by the Board.

ARTICLE VIII ADOPTION OF BYLAWS, PUBLICATIONS AND AMENDMENTS

8.1 Adoption of Bylaws. The original rules for the Board of Regents were presented to and adopted by the Board of Regents in the State of Louisiana on the 9th day of January 1975.

8.2 Amendments. New bylaws may be adopted and may be amended or repealed by a majority vote at any meeting of the board, but no such action shall be taken unless notice of such proposed adoption, amendment, or repeal shall have been given at a previous meeting or notice in writing of the proposed change shall have been served upon each member of the Board at least thirty (30) days in advance of the final vote upon such change. However, the requirements of the 30-day notice may be waived at any time by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the entire membership of the Board.

All amendments or additions to the Bylaws shall become effective on the 10th day after

Board adoption unless otherwise stated.

8.3 Repealing Clause. All rules, regulations, orders or resolutions heretofore enacted by the Board which are in conflict with these Bylaws, are hereby repealed.

8.4 Publications. All publications of the Board of Regents will be handled and transmitted in accordance with State law (R.S. 44:1 et seq).

Adopted: January 9, 1975

Amended: February 27, 1975

Amended: February 23, 1978

Amended: March 27, 1986

Amended: November 14, 1989

Amended: May 27, 1993

Amended: January 29, 1998

Amended: March 19, 1998

Amended: September 24, 1998

Amended: April 24, 2003

Amended: May 27, 2004

Amended: January 5, 2006

Adopted: March 23, 2011

Adopted: September 25, 2014 (Revised BPP 6.1 (a))

Adopted: June 22, 2016

[Once the Board adopts these proposed amendments, add “Adopted: September 26, 2017”
(Revised Section 5.2 of Bylaws)]