

**POWER-BASED VIOLENCE REVIEW PANEL**

Friday, September 15, 2023

11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Governor’s Press Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Louisiana Capitol

<b>Members Present</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
<b>Senator Regina Ashford Barrow</b>	The Chair of the Louisiana Senate Select Committee on Women and Children or his designee.
<b>Monica Taylor</b>	The attorney general or his designee.
<b>Dr. Kim Hunter Reed</b>	The commissioner of higher education or his designee.
<b>Dr. Erica Calais</b>	The president of the UL System or his designee.
<b>Todd Manuel</b>	The president of the LSU System or his designee.
<b>Jeremiah Sams</b>	The president of the SU System or his designee.
<b>Dr. Amber Blair</b>	The president of the LCTC System or his designee.
<b>Lacey Johnson</b>	A student representative from each of the postsecondary management board appointed by the respective board’s president. (UL System)
<b>Elsie Hoffman</b>	A student representative from each of the postsecondary management board appointed by the respective board’s president. (LSU System)
<b>Taylor Curtis</b>	A student representative from each of the postsecondary management board appointed by the respective board’s president. (SU System)
<b>Lt. Colonel Treone Larvadain</b>	The superintendent of the Louisiana State Police or his designee.
<b>Amanda Brunson</b>	A member of the Domestic Violence Prevention Commission appointed by the secretary of the Department of Children and Family Services
<b>Sean Cassidy</b>	The executive director of the Louisiana Foundation Against Sexual Assault or his designee.
<b>Morgan Lamandre</b>	The president of Sexual Trauma Awareness and Response or his designee.
<b>Jacinta Massey</b>	A Title IX Coordinator representing the Louisiana Community and Technical College public postsecondary education system.
<b>Joshua Jones</b>	A Title IX Coordinator representing the Louisiana State University public postsecondary education system.
<b>Sheridan X. Cooper</b>	A Title IX Coordinator representing the Southern University public postsecondary education system.
<b>Teressa LeDay</b>	A Title IX Coordinator representing the University of Louisiana public postsecondary education system.
<b>Members Not Present</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
<b>Senator Beth Mizell</b>	President of the Louisiana Senate or his designee

<b>Representative Paula Davis</b>	Speaker of the Louisiana House of Representatives or his designee
<b>David Payne</b>	A student representative from each of the postsecondary management boards appointed by the respective board's president. (LCTC System)
<b>Bryan Zeringue</b>	The president of the Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police or his designee
<b>Dr. Douglas W. Walker</b>	A licensed psychologist with experience related to Power-Based Violence, appointed by the chair of the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists

OATHS OF OFFICE

Ms. Uma Subramanian administered the oaths of office for the new Panel members, Jeremiah Sams, Sheridan Cooper, Taylor Curtis, and Lacey Johnson. New Panel members who were absent will be sworn in at a later date.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Senator Barrow asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2022, meeting. On motion of Todd Manuel, seconded by Monica Taylor, the minutes were approved.

COUNCIL OF STUDENT BODY PRESIDENTS: POWER-BASED VIOLENCE FOCUS GROUP

Commissioner of Higher Education Dr. Kim Hunter Reed introduced Julia Hine to the members as the new Power-Based Violence Compliance Program Coordinator for the Louisiana Board of Regents.

Ms. Hine shared that in April 2023, the Board of Regents coordinated a focus group with the Council of Student Body Presidents (COSBP) to discuss their awareness and understanding of Power-Based Violence on their respective campuses. COSBP identified the need for more educational resources and opportunities to connect with the Title IX personnel at their institutions. Ms. Hine shared that her office, in coordination with the system offices, created a one-pager that lists the Title IX contact for each institution as a resource for COSBP students. She also recommended that coordinators from each university system set up introductory meetings between the COSBP members and their respective institutional Title IX Coordinators.

Dr. Reed elaborated on the importance of ensuring the COSBP members receive information about Power-Based Violence and Title IX. She thanked Ms. Hine for the update and the System Title IX Coordinators for their continued hard work to educate the students.

## OVERVIEW OF THE 2023 REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Dr. Reed invited Ms. Hine to provide an update on the 2023 Legislative Session. Ms. Hine shared that a Power-Based Violence bill had passed during the 2023 Legislative Session and thanked Senator Barrow for authoring the bill. The bill contained three major provisions: (1) a deadline for memorandum of understanding (MOU) execution with local law enforcement, (2) clarifying language on employee training, and (3) alignment of federal and statewide campus climate surveys. Ms. Hine indicated that while the bill ultimately passed, the provision that included survey alignment was amended out and the present provisions were retained in law.

Dr. Reed shared her gratitude for Monica Taylor's help in addressing the MOU issue. She also indicated that the Board of Regents will be reaching out to the various law enforcement associations to make them aware of the new deadline for Power-Based Violence MOUs. Dr. Reed thanked Senator Barrow and the Senate Select Committee on Women and Children for their assistance in bringing attention to the MOU issue.

Ms. Taylor reminded Panel members to review their current law enforcement MOUs because 82 new chiefs of police have taken office since November 2022. Additionally, in October and November 2023, all the sheriffs will be up for reelection. She reminded the members that any sheriffs elected in this election period will not take office until July 1, 2024.

Dr. Reed thanked Ms. Taylor for providing that information and reinforced to the members that they need to review MOUs as new officials are elected.

## UPDATE ON THE CAMPUS CLIMATE SURVEY PROCESS

Ms. Hine shared an update on the campus climate survey process. At the December 6, 2022, meeting the Panel recommended alignment of the state and federal campus climate surveys. During the 2023 Regular Legislative Session, Senate Bill 202, which contained this recommendation, was amended to remove the provision. The Board of Regents will continue to work with the systems on the survey process. Senator Barrow expressed appreciation for the work of the Panel and thanked them for their ongoing commitment.

## OVERVIEW OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS' POWER-BASED VIOLENCE WEBSITE

Ms. Hine provided an overview of the Board of Regents' Power-Based Violence and Title IX website, which contains information on Power-Based Violence, Title IX, and sexual misconduct.

Morgan Lamandre inquired as to how Title IX Coordinator contact information for the institutions will be updated. Ms. Hine explained that the institutions will inform Regents of any personnel changes. Ms. Lamandre expressed that she feels the website is user-friendly for survivors and thanked Regents for taking initiative on its development.

Ms. Taylor inquired whether the administrative reporting templates available on the Coordinators page would be visible to potential victims. Brianna Golden clarified that these forms are available to use for administrative reporting by the institutions; these templates will not include individual reporting of potential incidents of Power-Based Violence or Title IX violations. She also stated that there are multiple administrative reports required by law, and those reports can be viewed on each institution's website.

Ms. Taylor suggested adding a resource to the Power-Based Violence website to include general incident report questions. Ms. Subramanian asked Ms. Taylor if such a resource would prolong the reporting process. Ms. Taylor clarified that she proposed only to offer a resource that contains sample incident report questions. Ms. Golden affirmed that Ms. Taylor was suggesting another resource to be added to the "Frequently Asked Questions" portion of the website and that a clear disclaimer would be provided to clarify that this is not a site for reporting individual incidents. Dr. Amber Blair offered to share with Ms. Hine the intake form used by LCTCS so Regents could work on creating the intake questions resource. Ms. Lamandre requested that a resource be provided for both complainants and respondents, to ensure equity and neutrality.

Dr. Reed requested that a disclaimer be added to the homepage and the institutional contacts tool to indicate that the website is not an incident-reporting site. She expressed that it should be made clear that incident reports must be directed to the Title IX Coordinator at the applicable institution.

Joshua Jones asked when the website would be made public and if the coordinators' reporting portion of the website would go into effect for the October 2023 reporting cycle. Ms. Hine responded that the website should be launched by the end of September.

Dr. Blair asked if there is a way for System Title IX Coordinators to see what Campus Title IX Coordinators have uploaded to the reporting portal. Ms. Hine responded that she would explore a mechanism for doing that.

Ms. Taylor shared that she will be sending Ms. Hine extra resources to add to the Power-Based Violence

website. Ms. Taylor highlighted the Louisiana Foundation Against Sexual Assault (LaFASA) real-time chat resource for victims and its importance. Sean Cassidy, attorney and victim advocate for LaFASA, shared hours of operation for the chat support. Ms. Golden expressed that LaFASA's contact information would also be available on the Power-Based Violence website.

Dr. Reed asked Mr. Cassidy to share additional information on the chat feature. Mr. Cassidy clarified the chat feature is a crisis support helpline on the LaFASA website that allows people to get real-time support from trauma-informed volunteers.

Dr. Erica Calais commended the website for its resources and for being user-friendly, noting that it will be a great resource for Title IX campus coordinators. Commissioner Reed encouraged the panel to continue to provide feedback to Regents about the website once it is launched.

#### TITLE IX AND POWER-BASED VIOLENCE IMPLEMENTATION UPDATES

Dr. Reed requested system updates.

##### *LCTC System*

Dr. Blair shared that the Louisiana Technical and Community College System (LCTCS) has a 74% completion rate for the responsible employee training for 2023. LCTCS has invested a large portion of the funding they received to engage in increased training. Since January 2023, LCTCS partnered with ATIXA (Association of Title IX Administrators) to engage in a comprehensive four-part training series and successfully trained about 300 employees. Additionally, LCTCS has implemented a robust confidential advisor recruitment program, and currently the System has 63 trained confidential advisors. LCTCS has worked closely with Ms. Taylor from the Attorney General's Office in collaborating with law enforcement to execute MOU agreements.

##### *LSU System*

Todd Manuel introduced Elsie Huffman, a senior from Louisiana State University and A&M College and President of the student organization Tigers Against Sexual Assault, who will serve on the Panel as a student representative for the LSU System. Mr. Manuel shared that the LSU System is working on creating trauma-informed spaces throughout their campus Title IX offices and actively expanding personnel in those offices. Additionally, the System has implemented "Title IX On the Geaux" as an effort to connect Title IX personnel with the various college deans within the system to promote education and obtain feedback. Since Fall 2020, the LSU System has trained over 750 students and employees through bystander training and

over 6,600 incoming students have participated in Power-Based Violence and Title IX training this semester.

### *UL System*

Dr. Calais shared that the University of Louisiana System has begun work on the fall reporting cycle. She noted that the System currently has 72 confidential advisors and is working to expand their placement across a broader range of campus locations. Dr. Calais introduced the new student representative for the UL System, Lacey Johnson, and shared that this past summer the System partnered with Ms. Taylor from the Attorney General's Office to provide additional training to their institutions. Additionally, the Sexual Trauma Awareness and Response (STAR) team performed a cultural policy assessment of the campuses to address potential roadblocks to reporting incidents of Power-Based Violence. The System also plans to host a Title IX summit in November to provide further training and increase compliance across all its campuses.

### *Southern University System*

Jeremiah Sams shared that he would serve as the Southern University System President's designee on the Panel. He also shared that Sheridan Cooper, the Title IX Coordinator from Southern University at New Orleans, and Taylor Curtis, a student from Southern University A&M, would be joining the Panel as the Southern System's campus Title IX Coordinator representative and student representative, respectively.

Additionally, Mr. Sams reported that the Southern System and its institutions are actively engaged in policy revision with the goal of creating uniform policies and practices for all campuses. The Southern System is also developing a centralized record management system, updating its website, and working to strengthen relationships with the campus Title IX Coordinators and campus student body presidents.

## UPDATE ON THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING ON TITLE IX

Ms. Hine provided a brief update on the Federal Title IX rulemaking process. In June 2022 and March 2023, the United States Department of Education released proposed rulemaking on Title IX, which received over 400,000 public comments. She indicated that the Department is anticipated to release the final rule as early as October 2023.

## AGENCY UPDATES

Ms. Lamandre, President and CEO of STAR, shared that the organization recently received a \$900,000 grant

for their legal program from the Office on Violence Against Women, which was the largest grant awarded by the Office. Additionally, Autumn White was introduced as the new legal advocate for STAR. Ms. Lamandre requested an update on future meetings of the panel, to which Dr. Reed responded that the Panel is established in law and will continue to meet in accordance with the law. Additionally, Elsie Huffman President of Tigers Against Sexual Assault, was highlighted and thanked for her work with STAR.

Ms. Taylor from the Attorney General's Office shared that she would continue to coordinate with law enforcement to ensure a solid working relationship between law enforcement and campus Title IX offices. She also informed the members that she will be transitioning out of her role at the Attorney General's office in the new year.

Mr. Cassidy, attorney for LaFASA acting as proxy for Rafael de Castro, shared that he is excited and encouraged by the work of the Panel. He shared that he has had good experiences working with members and thanked the Panel for their work.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dr. Reed asked if there were any public comments, and Julia Hine informed her that there were none.

#### NEXT STEPS & ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Reed asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. On motion of Todd Manuel, seconded by Jeremiah Sams, the meeting was adjourned at 12:51 p.m.