



BOARD of REGENTS
STATE OF LOUISIANA

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

Misti S. Cordell
*Chair
At-Large*

Darren G. Mire
*Secretary
2nd Congressional District*

David J. Aubrey
At-Large

Christian C. Creed
5th Congressional District

Blake R. David
3rd Congressional District

Stephanie A. Finley
3rd Congressional District

Robert W. Levy
5th Congressional District

Phillip R. May Jr.
1st Congressional District

Kennedy M. Orr
Student Member

Wilbert D. Pryor
4th Congressional District

Gary N. Solomon Jr.
2nd Congressional District

Terrie P. Sterling
At-Large

Collis B. Temple III
6th Congressional District

Felix R. Weill
6th Congressional District

Judy A. Williams-Brown
4th Congressional District

Agenda

Personnel

Wednesday, December 11, 2024
1:45 PM

Claiborne Building, 1st Floor ▪ Thomas Jefferson Rooms A&B 1–136
1201 N. Third St. ▪ Baton Rouge, LA 70802

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Appointment of Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration Position
- IV. Other Business
- V. Adjournment

*NOTE: The Personnel Committee of the Board of Regents reserves the right to enter Executive Session, if needed, in accordance with R.S. 42:16 et seq., to discuss personnel matters.

Committee Members: Robert W. Levy, Chair; Terrie P. Sterling, Vice Chair; Blake R. David; Stephanie A. Finley; Gary N. Solomon Jr.; Collis Temple III; Judy Williams-Brown
Staff: Elizabeth Bentley-Smith, Interim Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration

AGENDA ITEM III.

Appointment of Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration

Board of Regents policy requires Board approval of positions hired at the level of Deputy Commissioner. The Commissioner of Higher Education recommends the appointment of Ms. Elizabeth Bentley-Smith to the position of Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration. Ms. Bentley-Smith currently serves as Interim Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration with responsibilities including information technology, budgeting and financial management, audit, human resources, facilities, and administrative services. She has worked in this role at the Board of Regents for three years. Prior to her time at the Board, Ms. Bentley-Smith worked at the Office of Planning and Budget within the Louisiana Division of Administration, where she was a State Budget Manager and Analyst overseeing the preparation of higher education's annual budget per executive and legislative direction, while interpreting the impact of federal, state, and local funding legislation on agency budget development. Ms. Bentley-Smith has also taught classes in American Government, with specific focus on domestic and foreign policymaking, federal budgeting, the development of arts and cultural policy in the U.S. and abroad at the University of Maryland in College Park and arts and cultural policy seminars emphasizing education and economic development, research and analysis, and community outreach at Drexel University in Philadelphia. She was a Research Consultant for the National Assembly for State Arts Agencies, where she reported on the current political/budgetary status and legislation relating to state cultural trusts, and percent-for-art programs, and was a Public Service Fellow for the Maryland State Arts Council, aiding in the design and development of the Council's 2008–12 federally mandated Strategic Plan for the National Endowment for the Arts. Ms. Bentley-Smith was also the Department Administrator for the Performing Arts at Drexel University, where she oversaw all departmental and grants accounting and budget development, managed human resources and personnel actions, and advised Music Industry and Business undergraduate students on program/graduation requirements. Throughout her career, Ms. Bentley-Smith has researched, analyzed, and presented on federal, state, and local budget development and policy.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior Staff recommends the appointment of Ms. Elizabeth Bentley-Smith to the position of Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration. Since this evaluation involves the discussion of a personnel matter, the Personnel Committee of the Board of Regents reserves the right to enter Executive Session, if needed, in accordance with R.S. 42:16 et seq.