

## **MINUTES**

### **BOARD OF REGENTS**

**February 26, 2004**

The Board of Regents met in regular session at 10:35 a.m., Thursday, February 26, 2004, in the Louisiana Purchase Room of the Claiborne Building, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. In the absence of Chair Roland Toups, due to recent surgery, Vice Chair Frances Henry called the meeting to order. Executive Assistant to the Commissioner, Ms. Carolyn Blanchard, called the roll and a quorum was established.

**Present for the meeting were:**

Billy Blake  
Scott Brame  
Richard D' Aquin  
Frances Henry, Vice Chair  
Stanley J. Jacobs  
Robert Levy  
William Oliver  
W. Clinton Rasberry, Jr.  
Pat Strong, Secretary  
Adonis Ducreé, Student Member

**Absent:**

Reggie Dupré  
Virgil Robinson, Jr.  
Clifford Smith  
Artis Terrell, Jr.  
Roland Toups, Chair

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Vice Chair Henry noted that no written requests were received for public comments and inquired if the audience had any comments at this time. There were none.

**MINUTES APPROVED**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 22, 2004

**On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of January 22, 2004, as circulated.**

SPECIAL ACCELER8 PRESENTATION

Dr. Jimmy Clarke, Deputy Commissioner for Planning, Research and Performance, explained that the Regents was hosting a drawing for one \$500 Student Tuition Assistance Revenue Trust (START) college savings account to be created in the name of a lucky Louisiana eighth grader. He said that a name would be drawn from among entries received in response to a promotion in conjunction with the Regents-sponsored *Acceler8* magazine, a college-readiness guide provided to Louisiana eighth graders last fall. Dr. Clarke explained that the Regents solicited assistance from the Louisiana Education Loan Authority (LELA), a division of the Louisiana Public Facilities Authority (LPFA), to initiate the START account to develop interest in the eighth grade *Acceler8* insert.

At this time, Dr. Clarke introduced Mr. James Parks, President and CEO of the Louisiana Public Facilities Authority; Mr. Jack Guinn, Executive Director of the Office of Student Financial Assistance; Ms. Tricia Dubroc, Vice President of the Louisiana Education Loan Authority; Ms. Laura Ketteringham, Special Projects Sales Manager of the Greater Baton Rouge *Business Report*; and Tara Jeanise, Executive Assistant to the Publisher and Community Liaison, Baton Rouge *Business Report*.

Mr. Parks remarked that the LPFA Board of Trustees was pleased to participate in this endeavor and noted that LPFA's student loan program offered through LELA is the best in the country. LPFA has worked diligently with the Regents and the Office of Student Financial Assistance regarding the student loan program. He said he was pleased to be here today to award the \$500 scholarship.

Next, Mr. Guinn spoke about the START Program. He said it is the best college savings program available to help families with the future cost of their children's postsecondary education. He said that the START program is a 529 plan under the Internal Revenue Code. Mr. Guinn explained that the legislature has created several new accounts which will enable legal entities to donate monies to a child to assist in paying their college expenses.

He explained the process of opening an account and added that as an incentive for individuals to save, the State of Louisiana will match a portion of the deposits made to one's account, depending upon the amount deposited, adjusted gross income and the category of the account.

Ms. Dubroc of LELA brought to the attention of the Board the timeliness of this award since Governor Kathleen Blanco proclaimed the month of February as "Financial Aid Awareness Month."

Ms. Ketteringham of the Baton Rouge *Business Report* said she was glad that the *Business Report*, *Louisiana Graduates* and *Next* publications have made a difference for children to continue their higher education here in Louisiana.

A drawing was held, and the winner of the \$500 START account was Brookney Brooks from F.K. White Middle School in Lake Charles.

#### **FACILITIES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE**

FACILITIES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF FEBRUARY 26, 2004

On behalf of Regent Blake, Vice Chair of the Facilities and Property Committee, Mr. Marvin Roubique, Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Facilities, presented motions from the Facilities and Property Committee Report of February 26, 2004.

#### SMALL CAPITAL PROJECTS REPORT

**On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Strong, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Facilities and Property Committee to approve the small capital projects report as presented by staff.**

#### **University of Louisiana at Lafayette**

Athletic Office Building Renovations  
\$330,000 Other - Private Donations

#### **Southeastern Louisiana University**

North Campus "Tunnel Lot" Parking Improvements  
\$185,000 Other - Motor Vehicle Registration Fee

#### **Pennington - TEC Parking Improvements**

\$165,000 Other - Motor Vehicle Registration Fee

#### AMENDMENTS TO CAPITAL OUTLAY BUDGET RECOMMENDATION FOR FY 2004-2005

**On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Facilities and Property Committee to amend its FY 2004-2005 Capital Outlay Recommendation to include \$5,760,000 for the Repair/Replacement of Hot Water (Heating) Pipes at Southern University and A&M. The project would be added to the end of the Emergency Category.**

**On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Strong, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Facilities and Property Committee to amend its FY 2004-2005 Capital Outlay Recommendation to include \$9,436,575 for the major maintenance project for UNO. The project would be added to the end of the Self-Generated Category.**

**On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Facilities and Property Committee to amend its FY 2004-2005 Capital Outlay Recommendation to**

**increase the Residential College One project for Louisiana State University and A&M College from \$29,100,000 to \$42,000,000. The Committee recommended the project be inserted in its previous relative sequence in the Self-Generated Category.**

**On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Strong, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Facilities and Property Committee to amend its FY 2004-2005 Capital Outlay Recommendation to include \$5,000,000 for the renovation of the Pete Maravich Assembly Center at the Louisiana State University and A&M College.**

#### PROJECTS UTILIZING ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF FINANCING

**On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Oliver, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Facilities and Property Committee to approve the project to construct new housing, renovate some existing housing, and demolish other existing housing at the University of Louisiana at Monroe at an estimated cost of \$63,500,000.**

#### FACILITY LEASE

**On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Oliver, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Facilities and Property Committee to approve the 99-year lease for the University Art Museum between the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and the University of Louisiana at Lafayette Foundation with an estimated lease cost of \$151,250 per year.**

#### PROJECTS PERFORMED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF ACT 959 OF 2003

**On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Strong, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Facilities and Property Committee to approve LSU System's request per provisions of Act 959 of 2003 to construct the West Nine Campus Parking Lot at Louisiana State University and A&M at a cost of \$625,000 utilizing parking auxiliary funds.**

ADOPTION OF THE FACILITIES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF FEBRUARY 26, 2004

**On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Facilities and Property Committee Meeting Report of February 26, 2004, as presented. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)**

**SPONSORED PROGRAMS COMMITTEE**

SPONSORED PROGRAMS COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF FEBRUARY 26, 2004

On behalf of Regent Brame, Chair of the Sponsored Programs Committee, Dr. Kerry Davidson, Deputy Commissioner for Sponsored Programs, presented motions from the Sponsored Programs Committee Meeting Report of February 26, 2004.

CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FOR MATCHING FUNDS FOR SUBMISSION OF A CENTER-SCALE PROPOSAL TO THE NSF CYBER TRUST PROGRAM

**On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Sponsored Programs Committee to approve a cash match from previously unspent monies in the Board of Regents' Support Fund for the Cyber Trust proposal entitled "Center of Excellence in Cyber Infrastructure Security" developed by Louisiana State University and Southern University. The amount of cash match provided annually shall be half of the 20% required cost sharing; i.e., for an NSF award of \$2 million per year, the maximum cash match will be \$200,000 per year, not to exceed a total of \$1 million for the five-year duration of the award. Matching funds are to be provided only if NSF Cyber Trust funding is received. The remainder of the required matching funds will be provided by the participating institutions.**

ADOPTION OF THE SPONSORED PROGRAMS COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF FEBRUARY 26, 2004

**On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Sponsored Programs Committee Meeting Report of February 26, 2004, as presented. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)**

## REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER

Commissioner of Higher Education E. Joseph Savoie provided updates to the Board on the following activities and upcoming events.

1. Congratulations to Regent William Oliver for being named the 2004 King of the Mystick Krewe of Louisianians at the Washington Mardi Gras;
2. Louisiana is one of five states (Louisiana, Hawaii, Idaho, Oklahoma, and Tennessee) chosen to participate in a Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) project entitled *The Changing Direction: Integrating Higher Education Financial Aid and Financing Policy*. This project is supported by a grant from Lumina Foundation. Deputy Commissioner of Administration Donald Vandal is the coordinator for the Louisiana team. The project's term is March 1, 2004 through Feb. 28, 2005, with the expectation that Louisiana will participate for a second year;
3. Recent dedication of Harold Callais Hall at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette;
4. Higher education briefing to Senate Education Committee this afternoon;
5. Upcoming Governor's Healthcare Summit scheduled for March 3 and 4, 2004, in New Orleans;
6. Annual Conference of Louisiana Colleges and Universities hosted by the University of New Orleans scheduled for March 18 and 19, 2004 in New Orleans;
7. Association of Governing Board Conference to be held in New Orleans on March 27-30, 2004;
8. An update on the Learning Center for Rapides Parish (LCRP);
  - Open house and a ribbon-cutting ceremony was held in November and attended by Regents Toups and Brame;
  - The appointment of a Financial Aid/Enrollment Management Consortium comprised of all LCRP partners offering undergraduate courses or programs which developed guidelines to streamline the process of obtaining financial aid;
  - The implementation of policies and procedures for the library;

- The establishment of a partnership with Louisiana Technical College – Region VI to conduct two of the needs assessments: the survey for potential students and residents of Region VI and the survey for employers;
  - Held meetings with the Regional Advisory Council and Instructional Advisory Council; and
  - Total enrollment (duplicated) for Spring 2004 is 668 with 90 courses being offered and 55% of these programs are offered by compressed video.
9. An update on the Louisiana Optical Network (LONI) concept, a high speed research network;
- Meetings have been held with key members of the Governor’s staff, the Division of Administration and the Department of Economic Development;
  - There was a consensus that the network had considerable promise and potential for university research and economic development, but State budgetary limitations and the cost of the network required the development of program options and a comprehensive business plan;
  - Opportunities will be forthcoming for system and institution representatives to participate in groups designated to work with telecommunications companies to develop alternate proposals for building a statewide network; identify specific grant opportunities; identify specific industries that could generate additional jobs; develop a governance model for the ownership and operation of the statewide network; and explore financial strategies to support the project.

#### ADJOURNMENT

**There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion of Regent Henry, seconded by Regent Strong, the meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.**