

MINUTES

BOARD OF REGENTS

March 25, 2004

The Board of Regents met in regular session at 9:08 a.m., Thursday, March 25, 2004, in the Louisiana Purchase Room of the Claiborne Building, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Chair Roland Toups 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
Reggie Dupré
Frances Henry, Vice Chair
Stanley J. Jacobs
Robert Levy
William Oliver
W. Clinton Rasberry, Jr.
Pat Strong, Secretary
Artis Terrell, Jr.
Roland Toups, Chair

Absent:

Virgil Robinson, Jr.
Clifford Smith
Adonis Ducre, Student Member

Chair Toups began the meeting by introducing Mr. Coty Dupré, the father of Regent Reggie Dupré.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Toups 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 FEBRUARY 26, 2004

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Oliver, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of February 26, 2004, as circulated.

FACILITIES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

FACILITIES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF MARCH 24, 2004

On behalf of Regent Henry, 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 March 24, 2004.

SMALL CAPITAL PROJECTS REPORT

On motion of Regent Henry, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, 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.

**LSU Health Sciences Center
in New Orleans**

Renovation of the 4th Floor Clinical Sciences
Research Building
\$195,000 State Funds

Northwestern State University

Wellness, Recreation, and Activity Center
(WRAC) Parking Lot
\$200,000 Auxiliary Funds

Louisiana State University at Eunice

Science Building Auditorium Renovation
\$300,000 State Funds

Modular Classroom Space (Building)
\$300,000 State Funds

Science Building Corridor Renovation
\$240,000 State Funds

Science Building Restroom and Stairwell
Renovation
\$213,000 State Funds

AMENDMENTS TO CAPITAL OUTLAY BUDGET RECOMMENDATION FOR FY 2004-2005

On motion of Regent Henry, 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 \$3,000,000 to construct the University Lab School Classroom Addition at Louisiana State University and A&M. The project, to be funded with Revenue Bonds, would be added to the end of the Self-Generated Category.

On motion of Regent Henry, seconded by Regent Dupré, 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 \$24,375,000 for major renovation and addition of the Laville housing facilities to be used by the Honors College. The project would be added to the end of the Self-Generated Category.

On motion of Regent Henry, 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 \$465,000 in General Obligation Bonds for repairs to the Business Education Building at LSU Shreveport. The Committee recommended that the project be inserted at the end of the Emergency Category.

On motion of Regent Henry, seconded by Regent Blake, 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 \$296,644 to address water damage repairs and mold remediation at the Bolton Library at LSU at Alexandria. The Committee recommended that the project be added to the Emergency Category.

On motion of Regent Henry, seconded by Regent Oliver, 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 \$5,275,000 for the renovation of the Student Recreation Sports Complex at LSU A&M. The project would be included in the Self-Generated Category in the same relative position as previously in the Regents' Recommendation.

ADOPTION OF THE FACILITIES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF
MARCH 24, 2004

On motion of Regent Henry, seconded by Regent Rasberry, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Facilities and Property Committee Meeting Report of March 24, 2004, as presented. (*Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.*)

At this time, Chair Toups recognized Deputy Commissioner Roubique, who is retiring after 33 years of service in state government, and presented a plaque to him. Mr. Toups mentioned that Mr. Roubique has worked 18 years at the Board of Regents. Mr. Roubique thanked the Board for having the privilege of working with them and for having such a great and supportive staff.

Regent Henry mentioned that Mr. Roubique has worked diligently on the Regents' policy on Facilities and will leave behind a significant legacy for his efforts.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF MARCH 24,
2004

On behalf of Regent Blake, Chair of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, Mr. Gerard Killebrew, Associate Commissioner for Academic Affairs, presented motions from the Academic and Student Affairs Committee Meeting Report of March 24, 2004.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS RELATIVE TO THE 2004 REVIEW OF LOW-COMPLETER
PROGRAMS - PHASE I

2004 Low-Completer Programs

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Dupré, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to grant approval for the list of 2004 Low-Completer Programs - AYs 1998-99 Through 2002-03. (*Charts I and I A are on file in the Office of Academic Affairs.*)

Maintenance of Select 2004 Low-Completer Programs, Based on Previously Accepted Rationales

1. Programs Which Were Approved After June 30, 1998

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Henry, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to direct affected Louisiana public institutions of higher education to maintain and strengthen the 287 Low-Completer Programs that were approved or substantially changed after June 30, 1998. (Chart II B is on file in the Office of Academic Affairs.) These universities and colleges shall carefully monitor these programs as they continue to develop to ensure that each is sustained by appropriate numbers of enrollees and produce adequate numbers of completers.

2. Core Undergraduate Programs

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Oliver, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to direct affected Louisiana public institutions of higher education to maintain and strengthen the 135 Low-Completer Programs that have been determined to be essential core undergraduate programs. (Chart III B is on file in the Office of Academic Affairs.)

3. Programs Provided by the Desegregation Settlement Agreement

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Strong, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to direct affected Louisiana public institutions of higher education to maintain and strengthen the 5 Low-Completer Programs that have been determined to be part of the Desegregation Settlement Agreement. (Chart IV B is on file in the Office of Academic Affairs.)

4. Master-Level Programs Which Are Already Under Review

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Oliver, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to direct affected Louisiana public institutions of higher education to maintain and strengthen the 19 Low-Completer Programs that have been determined to be master-level programs already under review by the Board of Regents, pending the results of these reviews. (Chart V B is on file in the Office of Academic Affairs.)

5. Programs Which Meet Requirements of Productivity Through Aggregation With Other, Closely-Related Programs

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Brame, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to direct Louisiana public institutions of higher education to maintain and strengthen the 31 Low-Completer Programs that have been determined to be productive through aggregation with other, closely-related programs. (Chart VI B is on file in the Office of Academic Affairs.)

Review Process for Remaining Low-Completer Programs

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Oliver, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to grant approval for the submission and content of institutional requests for maintenance, reconfiguration, consolidation, or termination of the remaining 150 low-completer programs as outlined in Section E of the staff summary. (Charts VI and VI A are on file in the Office of Academic Affairs.)

PROPOSED LETTER OF INTENT - UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT MONROE - MASTER OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Henry, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to grant approval for the proposed Letter of Intent for the projected Master program in Occupational Therapy (CIP Code 51.2306) at the University of Louisiana at Monroe.

PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGE - LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER SHREVEPORT - REQUEST TO SEPARATE THE SCHOOLS OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS FROM THE NEW ORLEANS CAMPUS OF THE LSUHSC

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Strong, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to grant approval for the request from the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center-Shreveport to establish Schools of Graduate Studies and Allied Health Professions, separate and distinct from those at the LSUHSC-NO, effective immediately. As indicated in the staff summary, any and all costs associated with this change will be covered through existing resources; no additional State funds will be required.

UPDATE ON CONDITIONALLY APPROVED PROGRAMS

Southern University-Baton Rouge - Master of Engineering

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Henry, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to receive the 2003-2004 Progress Report from Southern University-Baton Rouge Relative to Implementation of the Master of Engineering program. The next progress report shall be due April 1, 2005.

University of Louisiana at Lafayette - Master of Architecture and B.S. in Architectural Studies

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Strong, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to receive the 2003-2004 Progress Report from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette Relative to Implementation of the Master of Architecture/B.S. in Architectural Studies Programs. The next progress report shall be due December 1, 2005.

Louisiana State University and A&M College - B.A. in Women's and Gender Studies

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Brame, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to receive the 2003-2004 Progress Report from Louisiana State University and A&M College Relative to Implementation of the B.A. Program in Women's and Gender Studies. The next progress report shall be due December 1, 2005.

UPDATE ON CONDITIONALLY APPROVED CENTER/INSTITUTE – PAUL M. HEBERT
LAW CENTER OF LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY – GEORGE AND JEAN PUGH
INSTITUTE FOR JUSTICE

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to grant an additional one-year, conditional approval for the George and Jean Pugh Institute for Justice at the Paul M. Hebert Law Center of Louisiana State University, effective immediately. As required by Board of Regents Academic Affairs Guidelines: Proposed New Centers, Institutes, and Other Academic/Research Units, the Law Center shall submit to the Commissioner of Higher Education a proposal for full approval of the Institute by April 1, 2005. If a proposal is not forthcoming by this date, the Board of Regents shall automatically reexamine the need for this Institute.

TEACHER EDUCATION INITIATIVES

Report on Activities of the Blue Ribbon Commission for Educational Excellence

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to grant approval for appointment of the following individuals to the Blue Ribbon Commission for Educational Excellence:

- **Dr. Jeanne Daboval, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, McNeese State University;**
- **Dr. Ivory Toldson, Dean of the College of Education, Southern University and A&M College;**
- **Dr. Joe Aguiard, Dean of the College of Education, Louisiana College; and**
- **Dr. Frank Cartledge, College of Arts and Sciences, Louisiana State University.**

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Strong, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to grant approval for addition of a representative from the Louisiana Community and Technical College System to the Blue Ribbon Commission on Educational Excellence. Sean E. Reilly, a member of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System Board of Supervisors, shall be appointed to serve as this representative for 2004.

Teacher Preparation Accountability System

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Henry, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to grant approval for a change in the Teacher Preparation Program Accountability System when calculating the quantity baseline for Louisiana State University and A&M College. The quantity baseline for Louisiana State University at Alexandria shall be the number of 2003-2004 program completers at the institution. The quantity baseline for Louisiana State University and A&M College shall be its current baseline minus the total number of 2003-2004 program completers at Louisiana State University at Alexandria.

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Henry, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to grant approval for integration of the mentor survey data into the Teacher Preparation Accountability System during April 2005 instead of April 2004.

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to grant approval for elimination of the teacher survey data for alternate certification program completers as an indicator in the Teacher Preparation Accountability System.

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to approve a change to the ETS 3-Year Follow-Up Passage Rate Reports to indicate that a program completer will be a "PASS" if they pass the state required 0014 or 0046 PRAXIS examinations to replace old 0011 and 0012 PRAXIS examinations that had been previously taken and not passed.

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Henry, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to allow two different universities to count a program completer in the Teacher Preparation Accountability System if a student completed an undergraduate teacher preparation program at one university (with an inability to pass all PRAXIS examinations) and later completed an alternate certification program at another university (with an ability to pass all PRAXIS examinations). However, only the second university should be allowed to count the program completer as a "PASS" on the 3-Year Follow-Up Passage Rate Reports.

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Strong, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to approve the creation of a formal process for institutions that wish to appeal the assignment of "At-Risk" or "Low-Performing" labels based upon their Teacher Preparation Performance Scores. A Teacher Preparation Accountability Appeals Committee will be formed and composed of the Commissioner of Higher Education, a Board of Regents member identified by the Chairman of the Board of Regents, and a community representative identified by the Chairman of the Board of Regents. If a campus wishes to appeal a label of "At-Risk" or "Low-Performing," the campus head must submit a letter to the Commissioner of Higher Education containing a rationale for the appeal that is co-signed by the system head. The Teacher Preparation Accountability Appeals Committee will then meet with the campus head, system head, and other campus representatives to review supporting data. The committee will determine if the new data should be used to recalculate the Teacher Preparation Performance.

Proposed Changes to Grade Level Titles for Teacher Preparation Programs

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Oliver, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to approve changes in existing teacher preparation degree titles from grades 1-6 to grades 1-5 and from grades 7-12 to grades 6-12.

REPORTS OF THE ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER

Changes to Academic Affairs Policies 2.13 - Program Accreditation and 2.16 - Statewide General Education Requirements

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Henry, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to grant approval to the requests of Louisiana State University and A&M College and the University of Louisiana at Monroe to amend Academic Affairs Policy 2.13 - Program Accreditation by changing the status of American Council for Construction Education accreditation from Recommended to Mandatory. (Revised Policy 2.13 and Lists are on file in the Office of Academic Affairs.)

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Strong, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to grant approval for changes to Academic Affairs Policy 2.16 - Statewide General Education Requirements, consistent with recommendations of the International Education Advisory Committee already adopted by the Board of Regents. (Revised Policy 2.16 and Chart are on file in the Office of Academic Affairs.)

Mr. Toups complimented the staff of the Division of Academic and Student Affairs for its diligent work on the review of low-completer programs to ensure that Louisiana is delivering educational services to Louisiana's students in the most cost-efficient manner as possible.

ADOPTION OF THE ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING
REPORT OF MARCH 24, 2004

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent Oliver, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Academic and Student Affairs Committee Meeting Report of March 24, 2004, as presented. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

PLANNING, RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

**PLANNING, RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF
MARCH 24, 2004**

On behalf of Regent Oliver, Chair of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee, Dr. Jimmy Clarke, Deputy Commissioner for Planning, Research and Performance, presented motions from the Planning, Research and Performance Committee Report of March 24, 2004.

MASTER PLAN ISSUES DOCUMENT

On motion of Regent Oliver, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee to approve the amendments to its Master Plan Issues document and distribute the amended document to all public system offices and institutions.

LICENSURE (R.S.17:1808)

On motion of Regent Oliver, seconded by Regent Dupré, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee to renew the two-year operating licenses for Alcorn State University, located in Natchez, Mississippi, Central Texas College, located in Killeen, Texas, and Metropolitan Community College, located in Gretna Louisiana.

PROPRIETARY SCHOOLS

On motion of Regent Oliver, seconded by Regent Henry, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee to approve an initial operating license for A&W Healthcare Educators, L.L.C., located in New Orleans, Louisiana.

On motion of Regent Oliver, seconded by Regent Strong, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee to approve an initial operating license for Matrix Learning Center, L.L.C., located in Gretna, Louisiana.

On motion of Regent Oliver, seconded by Regent Strong, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee to approve an Associate in Occupational Studies Degree program in Information Technology at Blue Cliff College, located in Lafayette, Louisiana.

On motion of Regent Oliver, seconded by Regent Raspberry, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee to renew the licenses of the following proprietary schools (initial license date in parentheses):

BAR/BRI- Baton Rouge (3/27/03)
BAR/BRI- New Orleans (3/21/02)
Blue Cliff College -Metairie (03/23/00)
Blue Cliff College -Shreveport (03/23/00)
Career Technical College (01/24/02)
Coastal College--Hammond (02/23/89)
Coastal College--Monroe (03/28/96)
Creative Floral Design School of New Orleans (02/27/86)
Culinary Institute of New Orleans (02/27/97)
Domestic Health Care Institute (04/08/88)
Dryades YMCA School of Commerce (02/27/97)
Louisiana Culinary Institute (03/27/03)
Metropolitan School of Mortgage Finance & Paralegal Careers (02/27/97)
Nashville Auto-Diesel College (3/10/77)
Remington College -Lafayette (01/25/01)
Training Connection (3/22/00)
Urban League Technology Center (03/23/00)
WyoTech--Pennsylvania Campus (03/27/03)
WyoTech--Wyoming Campus (03/27/03)

REPORT FROM THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

Dr. Clarke remarked that nine regional Educational Planning and Assessment System (EPAS) workshops with a total of more than 400 counselors, teachers and administrators were recently held. He also stated that universities throughout the state are hosting nine Freshman Fairs between March and August.

Chair Toups reminded the Board of the importance of the request by Regent Dupré to ensure that the campuses submit timely and accurate data for the Board to respond to legislators and others, as well as further planning for the implementation of admissions criteria.

ADOPTION OF THE PLANNING, RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE
MEETING REPORT OF MARCH 24, 2004

ON MOTION OF REGENT OLIVER, SECONDED BY REGENT BLAKE, THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADOPT THE PLANNING, RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF MARCH 24, 2004, AS PRESENTED. (COPY ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS.)

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF MARCH 24, 2004

On behalf of Regent Oliver, Chair of the Technology Committee, Mr. Killebrew presented motions from the Technology Committee Report of March 24, 2004.

LOUISIANA OPTICAL NETWORK INITIATIVE (LONI) UPDATE

Associate Commissioner Killebrew reminded the Board of the two phases of the Louisiana Optical Network Initiative (LONI). He said that Phase I is securing a National LambdaRail (NLR) node in Baton Rouge, and Phase II will build NLR connectivity to research institutions statewide. Mr. Killebrew remarked that Dr. Jerry Draayer, President of the Southeastern Universities Research Association, described a proposal, SURA/Louisiana Strategic Alliance, related to LONI.

NATIONAL LAMBDA RAIL/SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITIES RESEARCH ASSOCIATION (SURA) BRIEFING

Mr. Killebrew mentioned that Dr. Draayer spoke about the funding and fiber optic transport relative to linking the National LambdaRail Network from Dallas, Texas to a node allowing access to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and to Jacksonville, Florida.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION RELATIVE TO THE FUNDING OF THE FIRST PHASE OF THE LOUISIANA OPTICAL NETWORK INITIATIVE (LONI)

On motion of Regent Oliver, seconded by Regent Strong, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Technology Committee to authorize the Commissioner to create a strategic alliance with the participating

institutions, Southern Universities Research Association (SURA), and the National LambdaRail project to establish a National LambdaRail Network (NLR) node in Baton Rouge as the first phase of the Louisiana Optical Network Initiative (LONI), with the following contingencies: (1) The Southeastern Universities Research Association (SURA) provides full funding and fiber optic transport relative to linking the National LambdaRail Network (NLR) from Dallas, Texas to a node allowing access to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and to Jacksonville, Florida; (2) The Board of Regents commits to no more than seventy percent (70%) of the required funding to gain National LambdaRail membership (a total of \$5 million over 5 years); and (3) Louisiana is a full member of the NLR Board of Directors.

Regent Oliver commended Mr. Michael Abbiatti, Associate Commissioner for Information and Learning Technology, for spearheading the LONI project which is very important to the state and to Louisiana State University and A&M College as a research institution.

Mr. Abbiatti acknowledged that the Louisiana Optical Network Initiative is a significant and important project for networking and grid computing and thanked the campuses of higher education for doing a great job.

ADOPTION OF THE TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF MARCH 24, 2004

On motion of Regent Oliver, seconded by Regent Dupré, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Technology Committee Meeting Report of March 24, 2004, as presented. *(Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)*

LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

LEGISLATION COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF MARCH 24, 2004

On behalf of Regent Levy, Chair of the Legislation Committee, Mr. Donald Vandal, Deputy Commissioner for Administration, presented the Legislation Committee Meeting Report of March 24, 2004.

EXECUTIVE BUDGET SUMMARY

Mr. Vandal reported that a review of the Executive Budget Summary took place, and he further stated that Dr. E. Joseph Savoie, Commissioner of Higher Education, has indicated he was optimistic that higher education would continue to make progress as the appropriations process unfolds.

LEGISLATION

On motion by Regent Levy, seconded by Regent Dupré, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Legislation Committee, that in keeping with traditional practice, the Commissioner of Higher Education and the staff, in consultation with the Chairman of the Board and the Chairman of the Legislation Committee, be given the latitude to respond to the various changes that may be offered to the bills concerning higher education before the next meeting of the Legislation Committee, in a manner consistent with the interests of higher education and in keeping with the Board's historically stated positions.

ADOPTION OF THE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF MARCH 24, 2004

On motion of Regent Levy, seconded by Regent Dupré, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Legislation Committee Meeting Report of March 24, 2004, as presented. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF MARCH 24, 2004

On behalf of Regent Toups, Chair of the Executive Committee, Mr. Vandal presented motions from the Executive Committee Report of March 24, 2004.

UPDATE ON DESEGREGATION SETTLEMENT

Mr. Vandal said that an Executive Session was called to discuss desegregation issues. He mentioned that a roll call vote was taken. He reported that no motions were made and no votes were taken during the Executive Session.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AND A&M COLLEGE

On motion of Regent Toups, seconded by Regent Oliver, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Executive Committee to change the date for implementation of minimum admissions criteria in the *Master Plan for Public Postsecondary Education: 2001* for Southern University and A&M College at Baton Rouge from the fall semester of 2005 to the spring semester of 2006.

Deputy Commissioner Vandal noted that Dr. Edward Jackson, Chancellor of Southern University and A&M College, expressed appreciation to the Regents and his concerns about the admissions criteria. He said that Dr. Jackson emphasized that Southern would continue to work cooperatively with the Board of Regents for the betterment of higher education in the state.

ADOPTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF MARCH 24, 2004

On motion of Regent Toups, seconded by Regent Dupré, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Executive Committee Meeting Report of March 24, 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 events and activities:

- Congratulations were extended to Chair Toups for receiving the Dean Griffin Community Service Award from Georgia Tech Alumni Association on Wednesday, March 18 for his vast and varied meaningful civic and community service. He noted that only 13 individuals have

received this award;

- Freshman Fairs began on March 10, 2004 with nine fairs to run through August. These fairs alert middle/high school students to higher education opportunities;
- River Parishes Community College celebrates its fifth anniversary on April 13;
- EPSCoR will hold its annual Capitol Day on April 20;
- The next Committee and Board meetings will be April 21 and 22.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion of Regent Toups, seconded by Regent Strong, the meeting adjourned at 9:52 a.m.