

Southern University Board of Supervisors  
9:30 A.M.  
Saturday, August 24, 1991  
Metro Center, 610 Texas Street  
Shreveport, Louisiana

MINUTES

The meeting of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was convened by the Chairman, Mr. Willie T. Sensley, Sr.

The invocation was given by Rev. Joe R. Gant.

PRESENT

Mr. Willie T. Sensley, Chairman  
Mr. Bobby D. Higginbotham, Vice Chairman  
Mr. Mack Abraham  
Atty. Edselle Cunningham  
Mr. Curley M. Dossman  
Mr. Patrick Fontenot  
Rev. Joe R. Gant  
Mr. Allen J. Hamilton  
Mrs. Nina Hebert-Marchand  
Mr. Roscoe J. Moore  
Dr. Jenny D. Phillips  
Mr. Alaric Richard  
Dr. Jesse N. Stone, Jr.  
Mr. Frank Williams, Jr.

ABSENT

Rev. Jesse B. Bilberry, Jr.  
Mrs. Pearl H. Elloie  
Mr. John J. Graham  
Dr. James Meza, Jr.

UNIVERSITY PERSONNEL ATTENDING

President Dolores R. Spikes, Secretary to the Board  
Vice-President Tolor E. White  
Chancellor B.K. Agnihotri, Robert Gex, Robert Smith, and Marvin Yates  
Vice Chancellors C. Cunningham, S. Gilliam, J. Hoffman, T. Jones, W. Moore, J. Robinson (SUBR), and J. Robinson (SUNO)  
  
Messrs. T. Butler, C. Lewis, L. McGhee, M. Casem, F. McClinton, and D. Wade

**AGENDA ITEM 4: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

On motion of Mr. Fontenot, seconded by Mr. Higginbotham, the agenda was adopted, as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

AMENDMENTS:

Insert as Item 6:

- Resolution regarding groundless litigation
- Update on financial aid matter

Renumber other items

Add: Item 8g: Form 57, SUBR

Delete: Forms 7 and 9, SUBR

Add: Item 8h: Corrected forms 7 and 9, SUBR

**AGENDA ITEM 5: APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 27, 1991 MEETING**

On motion of Mr. Higginbotham, seconded by Mr. Moore, the minutes of the July 27, 1991 Board meeting were approved.

Motion carried unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 6: UPDATE FROM LEGAL COUNSEL**

a. Resolution regarding groundless litigation

This item was recommended for Board approval by Atty. DeCuir in an effort to address the growing number of groundless lawsuits filed against the University.

On motion of Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Cunningham, the Board approved the following resolution.

Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Southern University requests and directs its legal counsel and all other attorneys who represent the system or its employees to actively pursue sanctions or damages against the litigants and their attorneys in all cases wherein the record indicates that the claim was groundless or had no reasonable basis in fact or in law.

b. Update on financial aid matter

Atty. Winston DeCuir reported on his efforts to resolve the compensation and overtime controversy between the University and employees of the SUBR Financial Aid Office.

An investigation of this matter revealed that employees were paid for all overtime reported to the Personnel Office. However, a

dicrepancy exists in the number of hours these employees claimed and those reported to the Personnel Office. This information has been forwarded to the employees' attorney and his response is expected within the coming days.

Mr. DeCuir's opinion is that payment received by the employees may be sufficient to end this dispute.

**AGENDA ITEM 7: COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a. Academic and Faculty Affairs/Personnel Policy Committee

The Committee's report was presented by the Chairman, Dr. Jesse N. Stone, Jr.

On motion of Dr. Stone, seconded by Mr. Higginbotham, the Board sustained the action of the Committee in amending its agenda to hear the SUSBO Faculty Senate President's request to speak on the RIF plan.

Motion carried. Mr. Moore voted nay.

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On motion of Dr. Stone, seconded by Mr. Higginbotham, the Board accepted the Committee's recommendation and approved the policies and procedures manual and the 1991-92 budget for the Basic Elderly Crisis Counseling Intervention Program at SUNO.

Motion carried unanimously.

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On motion of Dr. Stone, seconded by Mr. Higginbotham, the Board accepted the Committee's recommendation and approved faculty members recommended for tenure at SUNO.

Motion carried unanimously.

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On motion of Dr. Stone, seconded by Mr. Dossman, the Board accepted the Committee's recommendations, as amended by Atty. DeCuir, and approved the following actions proposed by Chancellor Smith relative to implementation of the RIF plan.

Motion carried unanimously.

1. Terminations will be sustained for SUSBO personnel recommended for termination who did not appeal.



2. A 30-day delay on actions relating to appeals to allow full consideration by University personnel and University legal counsel of all information submitted by persons appealing.

Tenured faculty shall be given an opportunity to appeal in the interim between the August and the September Board meetings.

Continuation of their employment shall be contingent upon the Board's decision at the September meeting.

3. A delay in the separation of Civil Service positions in order to allow the Civil Service Commission and the legal counsel to review and approve the RIF plan.

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On motion of Dr. Stone, seconded by Mr. Dossman, the Board approved the report of the Academic and Faculty Affairs/Personnel Policy Committee.

Motion carried unanimously.

b. Facilities, Property and Grounds Committee

The Committee's report was presented by Mr. Mack Abraham.

On motion of Mr. Abraham, seconded by Mr. Fontenot, the Board accepted the Committee's recommendation and ratified the changes in the prioritized list of 1992-93 Capital Outlay Requests and the Five-Year Capital Outlay Plan for the Southern University System.

Motion carried unanimously.

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On motion of Mr. Abraham, seconded by Mr. Higginbotham, the Board accepted the Committee's recommendation and approved the sewer user fee agreement between SUBR, the Mayor and the City of Baton Rouge and authorized the Board Chairman to sign the agreement.

Motion carried unanimously.

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On motion of Mr. Abraham, seconded by Rev. Gant, the Board accepted the Committee's recommendation and authorized the President to sign the lease agreement for a right-of-way to East

Baton Rouge Parish to expand sewer service operations to the Baton Rouge Campus and to convey property to the City/Parish Government for construction of upgrades to the Parish Sewer System, as mandated by EPA.

Motion carried unanimously.

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On motion of Mr. Abraham, seconded by Mr. Higginbotham, the Board received the report on the Deferred and Preventive Maintenance Projects on the Baton Rouge and New Orleans campuses as presented by Mr. Larry McGhee.

Motion carried unanimously.

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On motion of Mr. Abraham, seconded by Mr. Higginbotham, the Board received the report from Mr. Larry McGhee on the status of Capital Outlay projects, Systemwide.

Motion carried unanimously.

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On motion of Mr. Abraham, seconded by Mr. Dossman, the Board accepted the Committee's recommendation and approved the lease of hangar space to house the Aerospace Technology Program for SUSBO. The Board also approved a resolution which certified that the facility to be leased meets the program requirements; and, authorized the Board Chairman to sign the lease agreement.

Motion carried. Mr. Frank Williams abstained.

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On motion of Mr. Abraham, seconded by Rev. Gant, the Board approved the report of the Facilities, Property and Grounds Committee.

c. Finance and Business Affairs Committee

The report of the Special Committee was given by the Chairman, Mr. Frank Williams, Jr.

On motion of Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Moore, the Board accepted the Committee's recommendation and approved the 1991-92 operating budgets for units of the Southern University System.

Motion carried unanimously.

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On motion of Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Dossman, the Board accepted the Committee's recommendation and approved the food service contract and addendum between SUBR and Creative Food Service of Toledo, Ohio.

Motion carried unanimously.

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On motion of Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Higginbotham, the Board accepted the Committee's recommendation and approved student fee increases for SUBR.

Motion carried unanimously.

- Dormitories - 13%
- Food service - 6.5%
- Fee by referendum (S.U. Digest) - \$2.00

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On motion of Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Moore, the Board accepted the Committee's recommendation and approved the lease-purchase agreement for the mainframe computer for the Southern University System.

Motion carried unanimously.

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On motion of Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Dossman, the Board accepted the Committee's recommendation and gave retroactive approval to SUSBO to use Act 971 funds.

Motion carried unanimously.

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On motion of Mr. Williams, seconded by Rev. Gant, the Board accepted the Committee's recommendation and approved the BA-7 for SUSBO for FY 1990-91.

Motion carried unanimously.

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- Board/System Administration: Forms 1 and 2
- SUBR: Forms 3 - 6, 8; 7 and 9 (corrected); 10 - 38 and 57
- SULC: Forms 39 - 41
- SUNO: Forms 42 - 46
- SUSBO: Forms 47 - 55
- Coop. Ext.: Form 56

#### **AGENDA ITEM 9: RESOLUTIONS**

The Board received a proclamation signed by the Mayor proclaiming Saturday, August 24, 1991 as Southern University - Board of Supervisors' Day in the City of Shreveport. The proclamation was received by Mr. Frank Williams on behalf of the Board.

A resolution recognizing Mr. Alaric Richard's tenure as student representative on the Board during 1990-91 was presented by President Spikes.

Commendations were extended to Mr. Richard on behalf of the Board by the Chairman, Mr. Sensley.

In response, Mr. Richard tendered remarks of appreciation to the Board and System and SUNO Campus Administration.

On motion of Mr. Dossman, seconded by Mr. Moore, the Board approved the resolution of commendation to Mr. Richard.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 10: REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT AND CHANCELLOR**

##### System

President Spikes reported on the austerity of the current operating budgets due to the failure on the part of the State to provide adequate funds for the University's operation. She solicited the Board's assistance in lobbying the Governor and the Legislature for equitable distribution of funds to Southern University.

Dr. Spikes also reported on tentative plans to visit Zaire, Africa as a part of an international consortium in which SUBR serves as the lead institution for the Zaire - RAV II Project.

Dr. Spikes expressed appreciation to Board members who attended the August 16 reception in honor of Chancellor Yates

and to Mr. Frank Williams for his hospitality to the members of the Board and Administration during their visit to Shreveport.

SUBR

Chancellor Yates apprised the members of the Board of the following matters relative to the Baton Rouge Campus:

- The presentation of the Chancellor's 12-point plan during the 1991 Fall Faculty-Staff Convocation
- Notification to students through the Digest newspaper of capital projects underway on the campus
- Receipt of a grant from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
- Beautification projects initiated on the campus and plans for future projects
- Accreditation of the Rehabilitation Counseling Program
- An Ebony magazine feature story on two SUBR students
- 1991 Fall enrollment figures as of the third-day registration period

Each Board member was given a packet of information which provided additional details on the items listed above.

SULC

Chancellor Agnihotri reported the Law Center's Continuing Legal Education Committee will sponsor seminars in Shreveport in September and New Orleans in November during this year in order to expand the program to reach and serve more of SULC's alumni.

Chancellor Agnihotri also noted that the Law Center will be expanding the number of practical legal education opportunities available to law students due to the receipt of a grant. This year, students will be assigned through the new Administrative Law Clinic to the 19th Judicial District Court and the Juvenile Court and will continue assignments in the Baker City Court.

SULC has joined a consortium with East European and other American Law Schools. This year, the Law Center will serve as host to a number of East European legal scholars who will be touring America.



SUNO

Chancellor Gex advised the Board that SUNO anticipates a record enrollment for the 1991 Fall semester and groundbreaking for a new multi-purpose building after a ten-year waiting period.

The Chancellor also recognized Mr. Alaric Richard for his tenure as SGA president for 1990-91 and as Student representative on the Board.

SUSBO

Chancellor Smith extended his appreciation to Board member Frank Williams for his assistance to the Shreveport campus. He also recognized Ms. Thelma Jones, the newly appointed Vice Chancellor for Administration and Fiscal Affairs and other members of the SUSBO family.

Continuing, Dr. Smith reemphasized the difficult but necessary task of implementing a RIF Plan for SUSBO, in order to move the University forward. He expressed his gratitude to members of the Board and Administration for their supportive efforts.

**AGENDA ITEM 11: OTHER BUSINESS**

The Board unanimously approved Mr. Frank Williams' request to have the minutes reflect his abstention on all actions relating to the agreement between the University and Commercial National Bank for leasing of hangar space for SUSBO's Aerospace Technology Program.

**AGENDA ITEM 12: ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Mr. Moore, the meeting was adjourned.

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Secretary, S.U. Board of Supervisors

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Chairman, S.U. Board of Supervisors