

Southern University Board of Supervisors  
10:00 A.M.  
Saturday, March 23, 1991  
Board Room, J.S. Clark Administration Building  
Southern University - Baton Rouge

MINUTES

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

The invocation was given by Mr. Bobby D. Higginbotham.

PRESENT

Mr. Willie T. Sensley, Chairman  
Mr. Bobby D. Higginbotham, Vice-Chairman  
Rev. Jesse B. Bilberry, Jr.  
Atty. Edselle Cunningham  
Mr. Curley M. Dossman  
Mr. Patrick Fontenot  
Rev. Joe Gant  
Mr. John Graham

Mr. Allen J. Hamilton  
Mrs. Nina Hebert-Marchand  
Dr. James Meza, Jr.  
Mr. Roscoe J. Moore  
Dr. Jenny D. Phillips  
Mr. Alaric Richard  
Dr. Jesse N. Stone, Jr.  
Mr. Frank Williams, Jr.

ABSENT

Mr. Mack Abraham  
Mrs. Pearl H. Elloie  
Rev. Joe R. Gant

ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL ATTENDING

President/Chancellor Dolores R. Spikes, Secretary to the Board  
Vice-President Tolor E. White  
Interim Executive Vice-Chancellor Wilbur Clarke  
Chancellors B.K. Agnihotri, Robert Gex, and Robert Smith  
Vice-Chancellors C. Cunningham, S. Gilliam, J. Hoffman, W. Moore,  
F. Williams, and M. Yates

The Board recognized the presence of the newly-appointed Board member, Mrs. Nina Hebert-Marchand of New Orleans.

The oath of office was administered to Mrs. Hebert-Marchand by Atty. Edselle Cunningham.

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

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

Motion carried unanimously.

**AMENDMENTS:**

Add to Item 8: Personnel Recommendations

- Forms 33 - 44, S.U. & A&M College
- Form 45, Board/System
- Form 46, SUSBO

**AGENDA ITEM 5: APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 23, 1991  
BOARD MEETING**

On motion of Mr. Higginbotham, seconded by Mr. Richard, the minutes of the February 23, 1991 Board meeting were approved.

Motion carried unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 6: BUILDING AN INSTITUTIONAL CAPABILITY FOR  
FUNDRAISING IN A COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY**

This presentation was made by Mr. John Davies, Director of the Baton Rouge Area Foundation. Mr. Davies' extensive background in academic fundraising was reported by President Spikes.

The value of long term investments in higher education institutions was noted by Mr. Davies. In support of this statement, he cited examples of businesses which were established in the same year as Southern University that are no longer in existence.

Through the use of transparencies, Mr. Davies reported the effectiveness of higher education institutions in raising charitable funds. The amount and percentage of funds raised through various sources were shown for public and private comprehensive institutions. It was noted that the higher level of fundraising by private institutions resulted from experience and the amount of time spent in this endeavor.

Over 50% of the total funds were raised through donations from alumni, parents and other individuals. This data evidenced the need for universities to focus more on human rather than corporate support in their fundraising efforts.



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Mr. Davies also emphasized the importance of establishing an annual comprehensive giving program and building an endowment. He offered recommendations for developing fundraising plans and strategies, including trustee responsibility in this endeavor.

Dr. Spikes announced that the University's annual fundraising campaign has been initiated under the direction of Dr. Erma Hines. To date, over \$250,000 in commitments have been received.

Chairman Sensley requested the President to allow Dr. Hines to present the University's fundraising program (at a later time) and the expected role of Board members in it.

**AGENDA ITEM 7: COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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. Dossman, the Board accepted the Committee's recommendation and approved the revised Purpose Statement for S.U. and A&M College.

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 the list of persons to receive of honorary doctoral degrees at S.U. and A&M College.

Motion carried unanimously.

The persons approved for the degrees are:

- Professor Frank Hayden (Posthumously) (Doctor of Humane Letters)
- Bishop Stanley Ott, Doctor of Humane Letters
- Mr. Victor Bussie, Doctor of Humane Letters
- Mr. Joseph Stewart, Doctor of Science

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On motion of Dr. Stone, seconded by Mr. Dossman, the Board accepted the Committee's recommendation to adopt the report from SUNO regarding the funding plan for sabbatical leaves.

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Motion carried unanimously.

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The Committee's report also reflected the distribution of informational packets on the self-study for S.U. and A&M College. It was announced that the SACS Committee will visit the campus on April 7-10, 1991. Board members were asked to share in this event if their schedules permitted.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

Athletic Committee

The Committee's report was presented by the Chairman, Mr. Curley M. Dossman.

On motion of Mr. Dossman, seconded by Rev. Bilberry, the Board accepted the status report on the athletic program at SUNO.

Motion carried unanimously.

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On motion of Mr. Dossman, seconded by Dr. Stone, the Board requested the Administration to prepare and submit by the next meeting a drawing which reflects an expansion of the press box. Estimated costs should also be submitted for the expansion and for the improvement and repair of the track and field facilities.

Motion carried unanimously.

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The Committee's report also included information in regards to:

- 1991 Bayou Classic hotel accommodations
- 1990 Bayou Classic financial report
- 1991 Bayou Classic Television Rights Agreements
- 1991 Football Schedule (tentative)



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On motion of Mr. Dossman, seconded by Mr. Moore, the Board approved the report of the Athletic Committee.

Motion carried unanimously.

Finance and Business Affairs Committee and Student Affairs  
Committee

The Joint Committee's report was presented by Messrs. Frank Williams and Alaric Richard, Committee co-chairmen.

On motion of Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Dossman, the Board received the report on the registration process at S.U. and A&M College.

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 tuition discounts for employees and/or dependents at S.U. and A&M College and SUNO for the 1991 Spring semester.

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 the amendment to the contract for Bruno and Tervalon to pay \$15,000 for additional time and services rendered in the 1990 audit of the Student Financial Aid and Federal Grants programs.

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 the revised and amended investment policy for the Southern University System.

Motion carried unanimously.

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A motion was offered by Mr. Richard, seconded by Mr. Higginbotham, for Board authorization to the President to move

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forward with the recommendations relative to the Financial Aid programs, keeping in mind that actions must be consistent with the recommendations from the Attorney General's Office.

A lengthy discussion followed. Specific concerns were voiced relative to the provision to declare all positions vacant in the Financial Aid Offices on the two campuses.

A roll call on the motion produced the following vote:  
8 yeas, 5 nays, 2 abstentions. The motion failed.

A motion was offered by Dr. Phillips and seconded by Mr. Fontenot, to return this item to the agenda for discussion of alternative solutions.

The motion carried unanimously. Roll call vote: 12 yeas, 3 out.

There was a call for the Board to convene into an executive session to discuss personnel and legal matters regarding the Financial Aid Offices. The Board's counsel advised against the action pursuant to the law which requires a 24 hour public notice and advance notification to the concerned parties.

A motion was offered by Dr. Meza, seconded by Mr. Higginbotham, to request the President to submit an alternative recommendation regarding the Financial Aid Offices at the next meeting.

The motion failed. Roll call vote: 8 yeas, 6 nays, 1 out.

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On motion of Mr. Fontenot, seconded by Dr. Meza, the Board approved the following actions in regards to the Financial Aid Offices on the Baton Rouge and New Orleans Campuses.

Motion carried unanimously.

- eliminate the recommendation to declare all positions vacant;
- develop a mechanism to evaluate Financial Aid employees within the next sixty days (independent or staff evaluator);
- dismiss those employees who are a problem; and
- continue with the other recommendations



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In response to Dr. Stone's inquiry, it was agreed that the Board has the right to approve or disapprove personnel recommendations submitted by the Administration regarding Financial Aid employees.

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On motion of Mr. Richard, seconded by Dr. Stone, the Board accepted the Committee's recommendation and approved the Administration's request to apply for matching funds from the Louisiana Endowed Professorship Programs, sponsored by LEQSF, for the Community Coffee, Frank Hayden Endowed Professorship in the College of Arts and Humanities at S.U. and A&M College.

Motion carried unanimously.

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On motion of Mr. Richard, seconded by Rev. Bilberry, the Board approved the report of the joint meeting of the Finance and Business Affairs Committee and the Student Affairs Committee.

Motion carried unanimously.

Facilities, Property and Grounds Committee

The Committee's report was presented by Mr. Bobby D. Higginbotham.

On motion of Mr. Higginbotham, seconded by Mr. Dossman, the Board accepted the Committee's recommendation and approved the Lease and Water Service Agreement between S.U. and A&M College and the Baton Rouge Water Works Company.

Motion carried unanimously.

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On motion of Mr. Higginbotham, seconded by Rev. Bilberry, the Board accepted the Committee's recommendation and approved the revised list of Act 971 projects at SUNO.

Motion carried unanimously.

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On motion of Mr. Higginbotham, seconded by Mr. Fontenot, the Board accepted the Committee's recommendation and approved the

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prioritized list of Deferred Maintenance Projects for the S.U. System.

Motion carried unanimously.

Other items in the report included a presentation on the capital outlay process for the State and a report on 1991 capital outlay funding recommendations for the S.U. System.

The Board was advised of the Committee Chairman's request for quarterly updates or status reports to the Board on deferred maintenance projects.

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On motion of Mr. Higginbotham, seconded by Mr. Graham, the Board approved the report of the Facilities, Property, and Grounds Committee.

Motion carried unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 8: PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS**

On motion of Mr. Higginbotham, seconded by Rev. Bilberry, the Board approved personnel recommendations evidenced by the following forms.

Motion carried unanimously.

- S.U. and A&M College: 1 - 15; 33 - 44
- SUNO: Forms 16 - 30
- SUSBO: Forms 31, 32 and 46
- Board/System: Form 45

**AGENDA ITEM 9: RESOLUTIONS**

On motion of Mr. Dossman, seconded by Mr. Fontenot, the Board approved the following resolutions.

Motion carried unanimously.

Commendations

- Mrs. Elsie J. Cyrus, in recognition of her retirement after 45 years of service with the S.U. Cooperative Extension Service



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- Mrs. Helen Taylor Williams, 1991 Woman of the Year,  
Association of Women Student at S.U. and A&M College

Condolences

- The Henri Dee Mines Family
- The Harrison D. Lawless Family
- The Raphael Henry Morvant Family

**AGENDA ITEM 10: APPOINTMENT OF AD HOC COMMITTEE TO REVIEW AND  
REVISE BYLAWS AND REGULATIONS**

Chairman Sensley announced the appointment of three Board members to the Ad Hoc Committee to review and revise the Board's Bylaws and Regulations:

Mr. Bobby D. Higginbotham, Chairman  
Dr. Jesse N. Stone, Jr.  
Dr. James Meza, Jr.

The Committee will make recommendations for revisions in the Bylaws and Regulations at the Board's April meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM 11: 1991 GOALS ESTABLISHED DURING BOARD OF  
SUPERVISORS' RETREAT**

On motion of Rev. Bilberry, seconded by Mr. Fontenot, the Board approved the 1991 goals established during its March 7, 1991 Retreat. The Administration was asked to develop a plan of action for implementation of these goals. This plan shall be submitted at a later date.

Motion carried unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 12: STATUS REPORT ON JOFFRE T. WHISENTON LAWSUIT**

An update was presented by Atty. Winston DeCuir. Questions were raised relative to additional costs associated with the appeal of the case.

On motion of Dr. Stone, seconded by Mr. Williams, the Board convened into an executive session to discuss the appeals in connection with the Joffre T. Whisenton lawsuit.

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Motion carried unanimously. Roll call vote: 15 yeas, 0 nays, 0 absentions.

**- RECONVENTION-**

On motion of Mr. Fontenot, seconded by Mr. Dossman, the Board reconvened into open session.

Motion carried unanimously. Roll call vote: 15 yeas, 0 nays, 0 absentions.

The Chairman announced that no action was taken during the executive session.

**AGENDA ITEM 13: OTHER BUSINESS**

The Chairman asked the Committee on Committees, along with the Board's Executive Assistant, to insure that responses are made to requests for information by Board Members.

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Dr. Meza inquired about the preparation of a legislative packet containing bills to be filed on the University's behalf during the 1991 regular session of the Legislature.

Dr. Stone suggested that Board members become acquainted with the University's priorities and that a Board Committee meet with the E.B.R. Legislative Delegation to elicit their support of the University's legislative priorities.

**AGENDA ITEM 14: ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Rev. Bilberry, the meeting was adjourned.

  
Secretary, S.U. Board of Supervisors

  
Chairman, S.U. Board of Supervisors