

SPECIAL MEETING
Southern University Board of Supervisors
Wednesday, June 30, 2010
9:00 A.M.
J. S. Clark Administration Building, 2nd Floor
Baton Rouge, LA

MINUTES

The meeting of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was convened by the Vice Chair, Mr. Darren S. Mire. The invocation was given by Atty. Patrick O. Jefferson.

PRESENT

Mr. Darren S. Mire, Vice Chair
Atty. Murphy F. Bell, Jr.
Mr. Patrick W. Bell
Mr. Richard J. Caiton
Atty. Walter C. Dumas
Atty. Warren A. Forstall
Atty. Randal L. Gaines
Mr. Walter Guidry
Atty. Patrick O. Jefferson
Mr. Randale Scott
Mr. Achilles Williams

ABSENT

Atty. Tony M. Clayton, Chair
Mr. Myron K. Lawson
Atty. Patrick D. Magee
Mrs. Lea P. Montgomery
Mr. Murphy Nash, Jr.

UNIVERSITY PERSONNEL ATTENDING

Interim System President Kassie Freeman
Vice President Tolor E. White
Chancellors Kofi Lomotey, SUBR; Ray Belton, SUSLA; Victor Ukpolo, SUNO; Leodrey Williams, SUAREC;
and Freddie Pitcher, SULC

AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

On motion of Atty. Dumas, seconded by Mr. Caiton, the agenda was adopted, including the following items.

Motion carried unanimously.

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Item 6E: Authorization for Tuition Increase, by campus

Item 6H: BA-7 #7, SU System

Item 6I: Approval of Student Referenda, SUBR

- 1.) "Gold N Bluez" Fee
- 2.) Live Text Support Fee

AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dr. Sudhir Trivedi, President of the Faculty Senate (SUBR) spoke in opposition to the compensation recommended in the proposed Employment Agreement between the Board of Supervisors and for Dr. Ronald Mason, Jr. as System President (Item 6F) and to the appointment of a Chief of Staff at the System level (Item 6G).

Dr. Thomas Miller, Vice President of the Faculty Senate (SUBR) urged the Board of Supervisors to provide information to the Board of Regents that would justify its favorable consideration of House Resolution 198 and Senate Resolution 185. The resolutions urged and requested the Regents to implement the Postsecondary Education Review Commission's (PERC) recommendations calling for equitable and sufficient funding necessary for Louisiana's Historically Black Colleges and Universities to achieve their unique and important institutional mission.

AGENDA ITEM 5: SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Dr. Kassie Freeman was recognized by the Board of Supervisors Board Members for her service as Interim SU System President, July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010.

Dr. Freeman expressed her gratitude to the Board for having given her the opportunity to serve in the position. She also thanked the System and Campus Staff and Administrators for their assistance and support.

AGENDA ITEM 6: ACTION ITEMS

A. Waiver of the ten-day notice requirement for Special Board Meetings

On motion of Mr. Guidry, seconded by Mr. Bell, the Board waived the ten-day advance notice required by the Bylaws for Special Board Meetings.

Motion carried unanimously.

B. Submission of 2010-2011 Budget Reduction Plans, SU Systemwide

No action was taken on this item.

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C. Policy for Early Retirement/Resignation Plans

1. *Tenured Faculty, SU Systemwide*
2. *Unclassified Employees, SU System*

During the presentation and discussion of this item, the following were highlighted:

---The proposed Retirement/Resignation Plans represented the Administration's best efforts to effect the necessary budget reductions through voluntary attrition in lieu of implementing a mandatory Reduction in Force Plan.

---The actual cost savings resulting from the implementation of the Retirement/Resignation Plan will be reported by the System and the Campuses to the Board each year by October 1.

---Campuses will be given the option of lowering the terms and conditions of their respective plans.

---The System and Campuses' operating budgets for FY 2010-2011 will be presented for Board approval at the August meeting.

Board action on the recommendation followed.

On motion of Atty. Jefferson, seconded by Mr. Williams,

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University that the Southern University System Retirement/Resignation Incentive Policy for Unclassified Personnel at the SU System level; and, for Tenured Faculty, Systemwide be and it is hereby approved.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board hereby authorizes the System President to implement a budget reduction plan, including termination, should the savings realized from a Retirement/Resignation Plan not meet the amount identified as necessary to balance the System budget.

Motion carried unanimously.

D. Request for termination of Baccalaureate Degree programs, SUBR

A motion was offered by Atty. Dumas and seconded by Mr. Caiton for action by the Board to defer the Administration's request to terminate the Baccalaureate Degree programs at Southern University-Baton Rouge that are listed below until a report on the Administration's efforts to save the program is received.

- Agricultural Education
- Art Education
- Computer Science Education
- Early Childhood Education

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- General Science Education

Vice Chancellor/Provost Shujaa assured the Board that the proposed program terminations would not negatively affect students nor faculty at Southern University and A & M College.

Mr. Guidry recalled that the Board of Regents, as a matter of policy, requests higher education institutions to conduct program reviews and to subsequently recommend for termination those programs which are found to be low completers.

A substitute motion was offered by Mr. Bell, and seconded by Mr. Guidry,

Resolved by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System that Southern University and A & M College's request to terminate the following Baccalaureate Degree programs in the College of Education, Department of Curriculum and Instruction be and it is hereby approved.

- Agricultural Education
- Art Education
- Computer Science Education
- Early Childhood Education
- General Science Education

Motion carried. ROLL CALL VOTE: 10 yeas: Mire, M. Bell, P. Bell, Caiton, Forstall, Gaines, Guidry, Jefferson, Scott, Williams; 1 nay: Dumas; 0 abstentions

E. Authorization for Tuition Increase, By Campus

On motion of Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Bell,

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System, that the Southern University campuses be and they are hereby authorized to enter an initial performance agreement with the Board of Regents, per the LA GRAD Act; and, to implement an increase in tuition for the 2010-2011 academic year, as indicated below:

SUBR	5%
SULC	10%
SUNO	5%
SUSLA	5%

Motion carried unanimously.

The Board also noted that the LA GRAD Act would also require the State Management Boards to increase non-resident fees and, that Southern University may establish a waiver policy to offset the negative impact of an anticipated non-resident fee increase.

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Mr. Jason Wynne Hughes advised that Southern University and Grambling University's non-resident fees will be compared with those charged at similar institutions before any requirement to raise non-resident fees is imposed under the LA GRAD Act.

F. Consideration of Employment Contract for Dr. Ronald Mason, Jr. as President of the Southern University System

On motion of Atty. Bell, seconded by Mr. Caiton,

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System that the employment agreement between the Board of Supervisors and Dr. Ronald Mason, Jr. as President of the Southern University System, for a fixed term of five (5) years, beginning on July 1, 2010 and expiring/terminating on June 30, 2015 be and it is hereby approved.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the President shall be paid (1) an annual salary of three hundred seventy-four dollars and zero cents (\$374,000.00) for the term of this agreement as compensation for his services while serving as President; (2) a vehicle allowance of \$16,000 annually; and, (3) a housing allowance of \$36,000 annually.

Motion carried. ROLL CALL VOTE: 10 yeas: Mire, M. Bell, P. Bell, Caiton, Dumas, Gaines, Guidry, Jefferson, Scott, Williams; 1 nay: Forstall; 0 abstentions

The agreement also provides for the appointment of Dr. Mason as a full professor with tenure at the Law Center.

Further details of the agreement are disclosed in the document..

G. Appointment of Chief of Staff, SU System

On motion of Atty. Dumas, seconded by Mr. Caiton,

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System, that the System President be and he is hereby authorized to appoint a Chief of Staff at the SU System level.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Chairman and System President be and they are hereby authorized to negotiate the salary for the Chief of Staff position and submit their recommendation to the Board for final approval.

Motion carried unanimously.

H. BA-7 #7, SU System

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On motion of Atty. Dumas, seconded by Mr. Guidry,

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System that BA-7 #7 reflecting net adjustments in the total spending authority in the amount of \$1,895,660.00 for the institutions within the Southern University System, as authorized by House Bill 1358 of the 2010 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, be and it is hereby approved.

Motion carried unanimously.

I. Approval of Student Referenda, SUBR

1.) "Gold and Bluez" Dance Team Fee

On motion of Mr. Williams, seconded by Atty. Jefferson,

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System, that the student referendum approving a fee increase of \$2.00 to support the "Gold and Bluez" Dance Team at Southern University-Baton Rouge, effective 2010-2011 academic year, be and it is hereby ratified.

Motion carried unanimously.

2.) Live Text Support Fee

On motion of Mr. Williams, seconded by Atty. Jefferson,

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System, that the student referendum approving a one-time tuition fee of \$98.00 to provide access to the Live Text Learning Outcomes Assessment Tool and Digital Portfolio for the Southern University-Baton Rouge Campus, effective 2010-2011 academic year, be and it is hereby ratified.

AGENDA ITEM 7: ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Mr. Scott, seconded by Mr. Bell, the meeting was adjourned.

Kassie Freeman, Ph.D., Secretary
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Southern University System

Tony M. Clayton, Esq., Chairman
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Southern University System