

Southern University Board of Supervisors

9:00 a.m.

Friday, January 8, 2016

Board of Supervisors Meeting Room
2nd Floor, J.S. Clark Administration Building
Baton Rouge, LA 70813

Minutes

The meeting of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Leon R. Tarver II. The invocation was given by The Rev. Joe Gant.

PRESENT

Dr. Leon R. Tarver II, Mr. Calvin W. Braxton, Sr., Atty. Tony Clayton, Mr. Dominique Diamond, Mr. Raymond Fondel, Dr. Curman Gaines, Rev. Joe R. Gant, Rev. Donald Ray Henry, Mr. Richard Hilliard, Mr. Myron Lawson, Atty. Patrick Magee, Mr. Darren Mire, Mr. Michael Small, Mrs. Ann Smith, Rev. Samuel Tolbert, Dr. Rani Whitfield

A quorum was established.

ABSENT

None

UNIVERSITY PERSONNEL ATTENDING

System President Ray Belton, Chief of Staff Robyn Merrick, System Vice President Flandus McClinton (SUBR), Chancellors Victor Ukpolo (SUNO), Adell Brown (SUAREC), Sam Gilliam (SUSLA), and John Pierre (SULC)

BOARD COUNSEL

Attys. Winston Decuir, Jr. and Tracie Woods

AGENDA ITEM 3: INSTALLATION OF BOARD OFFICERS FOR 2016

Atty. Winston Decuir, Jr. administered the oath of office to Dr. Leon R. Tarver II, Chairman of the Board, and Mr. Calvin Braxton, Vice Chairman, who were re-elected as Board officers for 2016.

AGENDA ITEM 4: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Atty. Tony Clayton made a motion to amend the agenda to include an item on banning the use of all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) and hoverboards on campus. Mr. Dominique Diamond stated that he would like to ban the use of ATVs and hoverboards only in residential housing areas of the campus.

A roll call vote was taken:

Yeas: Dr. Leon Tarver, Mr. Calvin W. Braxton, Sr., Atty. Tony Clayton, Dr. Curman Gaines, Rev. Joe R. Gant, Rev. Donald Ray Henry, Mr. Richard Hilliard, Mr. Myron Lawson, Atty. Patrick Magee, Mr. Darren Mire, Mr. Michael Small, Mrs. Ann Smith, Dr. Rani Whitfield

Nays: Mr. Dominique Diamond

The motion failed.

On the motion of Rev. Joe R. Gant seconded by Mr. Tony Clayton, the agenda was adopted as printed.

Motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 5: PUBLIC COMMENTS

Faculty Senate President Thomas Miller greeted members of the Board and congratulated Professor Diola Bagayoko and Professor Albert Samuels on their respective promotions to Dean and stated that they both have been very active in the work of the Faculty Senate.

AGENDA ITEM 6: SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Ms. Kimberly Lewis Robinson incoming Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Revenue and Taxation attended the meeting on behalf of Governor Elect Edwards. Ms. Robinson stated that she would be taking office officially on Monday, January, 11. She thanked members of the Board for allowing time on the agenda for her to speak about the budget situation for the state of LA. She stated that for the fiscal year ending June 30 there is a deficit of about \$700-\$750 million dollars. She stated that a special session would be convened in mid-February to deal with budget issues and to present a plan for balancing the budget. She asked Board members to work with them during the special session. In addition, she stated that they are not sure how the deficit will be filled. Robinson stated that state government is looking at both short term revenue needs and long term structural changes. Robinson stated that the state is in what has been classified as a structural deficit—meaning that the state doesn't have the revenue present to operate the state government in the way that it is currently funded.

President Belton introduced members of the Southern University Laboratory School coaching staff and congratulated them for winning the state championship in the division for the first time since 1996. Coach Marcus Randall spoke on behalf of the group which included Offensive Coordinator Corey Brownfield and Defensive Coordinator Denmark Reid and thanked Board members, the Laboratory School staff and the university administration for entrusting him with the head football coaching position. Coach Randall said that his goal for next year is to win the state championship again.

AGENDA ITEM 7: ACTION ITEMS

A. Minutes of the November 27, 2015, regular meeting of the Southern University Board of Supervisors.

On the motion of Atty Patrick Magee and seconded by Mr. Myron Lawson the following resolution was approved.

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors that the minutes of the Board's regular meeting of November 27, 2015, be and are hereby approved.

B. Revised Board of Supervisors Educational Assistance Policy

Attorney Tracie Woods presented the revised policy to Board members and distributed a copy of the revised policy, procedures, and the new forms to each Board member. She stated that she had met with University staff to discuss changes to the policy. Atty. Woods reviewed the eligibility requirements including the fact that students may be part-time or full-time, continuing freshmen students, sophomores, juniors, and seniors must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.0, students in graduate or professional school must have unconditional admission, and scholarships are not available for the summer semester. She also stated that students must complete a form to receive the award, Board members must submit the names of students that they recommend for awards on a form, and she explained that the Board office staff would reconcile the award amounts with the amount recommended and also notify

Board members of their allotments and funds remaining. Atty. Woods stated that a copy of the procedures had been distributed to Board staff and financial aid staff. Chairman Tarver also explained that in the past, amounts that have been recommended by Board members may not have been actually awarded based on financial aid requirements and eligibility.

Upon the motion of Atty. Tony Clayton and seconded by Mr. Myron Lawson the educational assistance policy was approved with the stipulation that a prohibition clause be included that states that Board members' children and members of the immediate family of Board members cannot receive Board scholarships .

The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University that the revised Educational Assistance Policy be and it is hereby approved.

C. Request Approval to:

- 1. Submit Letter of Intent to the Louisiana Board of Regents to offer a Master of Laws (LLM) degree in Trial Litigation, SULC**
- 2. Prepare Application for Acquiescence to the American Bar Association (ABA) Section on Legal Education**
- 3. Prepare Application for Substantive Change to Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) for Master of Laws (LLM) Program in Trial Litigation, SULC**

Interim Chancellor John Pierre presented information to Board members regarding the SULC request to offer a Master of Laws degree in Trial Litigation. Interim Chancellor Pierre stated that in order to offer the degree, multiple entities must be involved including the LA Board of Regents, the American Bar Association and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. He shared survey data that will continue to be gathered until January 31 to determine interest in the program. He stated that there is no other law school in the region that offers this degree. In response to a question from Mr. Myron Lawson about whether or not the new program would be challenging the Law Center's core JD program. Interim Chancellor Pierre stated that the program would not be a challenge to the infrastructure, but it would build on the strength of the current faculty. He stated that many of the students that graduate from the Law Center are accomplished litigators. Mr. Lawson also asked whether or not the program would be a challenge to Law Center resources. Interim Chancellor Pierre stated that no additional burden would be placed on Law Center resources because the program would be primarily a weekend and evening program and online learning would be utilized.

Upon the motion by Mr. Raymond Fondel and seconded by Mr. Michael Small Action Items 7.C.1, 7.C.2 and 7.C.3 were recommended for approval.

Motion passed unanimously.

- 1. Request Approval to Submit Letter of Intent to the Louisiana Board of Regents to offer a Master of Laws (LLM) degree in Trial Litigation, SULC**

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University to authorize the SULC to submit a letter of intent to the Louisiana Board of Regents to offer a Master of Laws (LLM) degree in Trial Litigation be and it is hereby approved.

2. Request Approval to Prepare Application for Acquiescence to the American Bar Association (ABA) Section on Legal Education

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University that the SULC request to prepare application for acquiescence to the American Bar Association Section on Legal Education be and it is hereby approved.

3. Request Approval to Prepare Application for Substantive Change to Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) for Master of Laws (LLM) Program in Trial Litigation, SULC

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University that the SULC request to prepare application for acquiescence to the American Bar Association Section on Legal Education be and it is hereby approved.

D. Approval to Create a New Degree Program, Master of Art in Teaching (MAT), College of Education, Arts and Humanities

President Belton stated that the proposal to present a new degree in the College of Education was being presented for consideration because there is a demand for it. Faculty members from the College of Education were instrumental in developing the proposal. Dr. Curman Gaines commended the staff for putting together a well-developed proposal and stated that the University would be breaking new ground in responding to demands in the education industry. He stated that many schools offer a certification in the field but none grant degrees in it. Dr. Gaines asked if the implementation time would change based on the current budget situation. Dr. M. Christopher Brown stated that the program was approved in August 2014 and funds in the amount of \$100,000 have been approved by the state that were allocated to the development of the program. Dr. Brown stated that the program is cost neutral.

Upon the motion of Rev. Joe R. Gant and seconded by Dr. Curman Gaines that the College of Education, Arts and Humanities' request to offer a Master of Art in Teaching degree be approved.

The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University that the College of Education, Arts and Humanities' request to offer a Master of Art in Teaching degree be and it is hereby approved.

E. Approval of Personnel Action on Positions greater than \$60,000

President Belton asked consideration of all of the personnel actions presented. He stated that the personnel actions are mostly academic appointments and will impact institutional operations. The academic appointments are critical roles and ones that enable the University to maintain its academic integrity and to support the role, scope and mission of the University. He stated that he is sensitive to the fiscal plight of the state and its impact on higher education, but he suggested that we must address salary inequities on all of the campuses. Salary adjustments have not been afforded to Baton Rouge campus employees in more than 8 years. He also explained that the University must begin to invest in its human capital in order to attract and to retain employees. He also stated that in many instances we are unable to fill jobs or staff positions because the salary is so low it is unappealing. He stated that it has been difficult to retain faculty or recruit faculty because the University has not

been able to meet the SREB average salaries. He stated that all Chancellors have been asked to give consideration to salary adjustments across the Board so that the University's operational effectiveness and academic integrity is not compromised.

After much discussion on the proposed personnel actions, Chairman Tarver stated that he is empathetic to all of the comments expressed. He also stated that when the agenda items are prepared and personnel actions are compiled, as Board chairman he takes into consideration all of the concerns and reservations that Board members have expressed. He stated that the list presented was discussed with the System President over a period of several days and during their deliberations the original list was reduced substantially. The Board chair stated that perhaps the personnel actions could be presented in a different manner to guide the discussion. He also reminded Board members that Governor-Elect Edwards has said that higher education is a high priority and that we must embrace that fact but also be prepared to meet the challenges that are ahead. The chair called for a brief recess.

BOARD MEMBERS RECONVENE AFTER THE RECESS

Upon the motion of Mr. Myron Lawson and seconded by Mr. Raymond Fondel personnel items presented were approved with the stipulation that the System President and Board Chair meet to review and discuss the personnel actions without additional Board review.

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University that the Administration's recommendation for approval of positions with salaries greater than \$60,000 be and they are hereby approved.

NAME	TITLE	SALARY
1. Dr. Diola Bagayoko	Dean Dolores Margaret Richard Spikes Honors College New Appointment, SUBR	\$25,000
2. Dr. Joan Ellis	Associate Professor, Graduate Nursing New Appointment, SUBR	\$80,000
3. Dr. Latricia Greggs	Assistant Professor, Graduate Nursing New Appointment, SUBR	\$66,000
4. Dr. Laurence Henry	Interim Dean, College of Sciences and Agriculture Continuation, SUBR	\$102,020

NAME	TITLE	SALARY
5. Dr. VerJanis Peoples	Dean, College of Education, Arts and Humanities Transfer, SUBR	\$127,000
6. Dr. Janet Rami	Dean, College of Nursing and Allied Health Continuation/Salary Adjustment, SUBR	\$127,000
7. Dr. Ronyelle Ricard	Special Assistant to the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs & Provost Continuation/Title Change, SUS/SUBR	\$90,000
8. Dr. Albert Samuels	Interim Dean, College of Social & Behavioral Sciences New Appointment, SUBR	\$102,020
9. Kimberly Williams	Interim Principal/Director New Appointment, SU Laboratory School	\$ 45,000
10. Dianna Gilbert	Appointment of Executive Director Admissions & Recruitment New Appointment, SUBR	\$ 70,000
11. Asebe Negatu	Assistant Professor in Agronomy New Appointment, SUAREC	\$62,500
12. Harold Mellieon, Jr.	Assistant Specialist Animal Science New Appointment, SUAREC	\$65,000
13. Cheryl Blackshire	Assistant Professor From 9 months to 12 months, SUSLA	\$64,890
14. Bruce Adams	Chief of Campus Police New Appointment, SUNO	\$61,880
15. Dr. Dana Carpenter	Director of Academic Outreach Programs Transfer, SUBR	\$90,080
16. Roman Banks	Head Coach Men's Basketball/Interim Director of Athletics Continuation, SUS	\$197,500
17. Dr. William Arp	Professor, College of Behavioral & Social Science Transfer, SUBR	\$68,683
18. Dr. James Taylor	Associate Professor, College of Education, Arts & Humanities Transfer, SUBR	\$60,000

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University that the Administration's recommendation for approval of tenure and/or promotion be and they are hereby approved.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROMOTION AND TENURE	
19. Dr. M. Christopher Brown, II	Professor of Education, College of Education, Arts and Humanities, SUBR
20. Dr. Kim Newlen-May	Associate Professor, Health Information Technology, SUSLA

F. Request Approval of Sexual Harassment Policy

Atty. Tracie Woods gave an overview of the policy presented and stated that the policy presented will replace the current policy. Changes include the following: updates the new law and adds procedures, information regarding retaliation, clarifies the appeal procedures for anyone making a claim, and incorporates Title IX information.

G. Request Approval of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Policy

Atty. Tracie Woods presented a new policy that helps the University to address the issues and needs of University employees that require ADA accommodations.

Upon the motion of Mr. Richard Hilliard and seconded by Rev. Joe R. Gant the request to approve the Sexual Harassment Policy and the ADA Policy was granted.

Motion was approved unanimously.

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors that the sexual harassment policy be and it is hereby approved.

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors that the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Policy presented be and it is hereby approved.

H. Resolutions

Condolences:

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, the condolences be and they are hereby extended to:

- The Mabel Wheelock Franklin Family- Mrs. Wheelock, an alum of the SU Laboratory School and Southern University Baton Rouge and retired food service worker in the East Baton Rouge Parish School System and passed away on December 21, 2015.
- The Elaine Bilberry Family – Ms. Bilberry, a retired educator and sister of former Southern University Board of Supervisors' member, Rev. Jesse B. Bilberry, passed away January 2, 2016.

Commendations:

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the commendations be and they are hereby extended to the individuals/entities listed below.

- Captain Tiffany Franklin for obtaining the rank of Captain.

AGENDA ITEM 8: Informational Items

A. System Projects Update

- A status report was given by Vice President for Finance and Business Affairs Flandus McClinton and a copy distributed to all Board members. He called attention to projects throughout the System.
- Mr. Calvin Braxton questioned Mr. Cedric Upshaw regarding the ADA compliance with the new Jaguar Park. Mr. Upshaw also responded to the question about 3rd party vendors and their compliance with ADA requirements on building projects. He stated that state facilities planning office enforces compliance; however, when private funds are used for projects this step may be overlooked. Mr. Upshaw stated that he would be working more closely with the SU System Foundation to ensure compliance.

B. Interim Financial Report as of November 2015, SUS

- Mr. Flandus McClinton stated that interim financial report was included in the Board's packet but highlighted several items. Vice President McClinton also stated that a BA-7 would be submitted next month.

Vice Chairman Calvin Braxton questioned the status of the lawsuit regarding the Donald C. Wade House and the status of the EOServe contract.

Atty. Decuir stated that a discussion of the status of the lawsuit regarding the Donald C. Wade House be handled in an executive session. With regard to the matter of EOServe, Mr. Decuir stated that he had met with the administration and IT staff at SUBR to discuss whether or not the University would be able to maintain the service without the use of EOServe and discovered that the courses are being delivered through the University's licenses with the University's software which is not what the contract outlines. Mr. Braxton stated that the matter would be discussed at the next Board meeting.

C. System President's Report

Dr. Ray Belton distributed a written report and highlights the work of the System office and the Baton Rouge campus. Dr. Belton invited the chairs of the search committees for the chancellor at the Law Center and SUSLA to give an update on the status of the chancellor searches.

Mr. Willie White, chair of the SUSLA Chancellor Search Committee stated that 21 applications were received and the committee is evaluating the packages and will narrow the candidate pool to 6 candidates at its January 15 meeting. Each Board member received a timeline of the search. The Board will interview the three finalists for SUSLA chancellor at the February 19 in Shreveport.

Atty. Dwayne Murray, chair of the SU Law Center Chancellor Search Committee, provided an update on the SULC search. The committee of 14 met October 6 and is on task to present three candidates for consideration at the Board of Supervisors meeting on March 18, 2016 meeting.

President Belton stated that Dr. Kirkland Mellad has agreed to chair the committee to select the chancellor for the SU Agricultural, Research and Extension Center and Dr. Gina Eubanks will serve as co-chair. Board members also received a copy of the list of committee members.

President Belton also stated that he intends to develop a search for an athletic director and will establish a timeline to recommend a candidate in March or April.

President Belton thanked Mrs. Ann Smith for representing the Board at the Board of Regents meeting and also Mrs. Smith observed that the University has several endowed professorships that have not been filled. Board members received a copy of the list of endowed professorships throughout the System.

Mr. Fondel stated that he would like to solidify a date for the national academic signing date activity.

Atty. Clayton asked the status of the medical marijuana research. President Belton stated that the federal government has amended a bill that will allow the state to provide medical marijuana which presents a pathway for SU to begin work. Atty. Clayton stated that in the upcoming legislative session he would like to see a proposal from the University requesting the state to lease the LTI facility for the purpose of farming the medical marijuana. Chairman Tarver stated that he would appoint Dr. Rani Whitfield to chair a special committee to work in this area.

President Belton thanked Rev. Gant for making a very sizable donation to the SU Foundation for student scholarships.

D. Campus Reports

SUBR - Dr. M. Christopher Brown stated that the Faculty convocation was well attended with more than 300 faculty members and stated that the intent was to gear up for SACS accreditation, stabilize the academic structure and to set up a plan for retention. He also stated that the search for a laboratory school director is underway and stated that the most recent data from the LA Department of Education is that the SU Laboratory School now has a "B" grade.

SUNO - Dr. Victor Ukpolo thanked the president for support and direction and spoke about the difficulty of hiring faculty because salaries are not competitive with the surrounding schools/colleges in the area. He stressed the importance of being able to hire quality faculty and staff to have effective and efficient programs. A printed copy of the report was included in the Board packet.

SUSLA - Mr. Sam Gilliam submitted a written report that was included in the Board packet. He thanked Rev. Gant for leading the prayer vigil for Grambling and Southern. He also thanked Atty. Preston Castille for participation. The Caddo Parish School Board during its meeting cited the fact that SUSLA has the largest number of dual enrollment students of any college or school in Louisiana.

SUAREC - Dr. Adell Brown submitted a written report of the activities of the SU Agricultural, Research and Extension Center. He publicly congratulated Dr. Dawn Mellion-Patin for being elected as president of the faculty staff at the SUAREC. The SUAREC with leadership by Dr. Dawn Mellion-Patin signed a \$1.5 million grant to assist in poverty remediation and economic

development. Dr. Brown also invited members of the Board and others to the SU Ag Center for a health and wellness session.

Board Member Myron Lawson stated that not many Board members have visited the Ag Center building and suggested that Board members be given a tour to see the research and activities that occur there.

SULC - Atty. John Pierre submitted a written report to Board members with updates and news from the SU Law Center. He stated that the commencement ceremony for mid-year graduates would be held this evening with speaker Atty. Domoine Rutledge. Board members are invited to attend. He publicly thanked Dr. M. Christopher Brown for assisting the Law Center in securing a \$115,000 grant from the AARP Foundation to aid the SULC in its elder law clinic. Stated that 2016 is declared as the Charles J. Hatfield III Year at the law center and explained the history and significance of Mr. Hatfield and stated that several activities will be held in conjunction with the Hatfield Year. He also stated that it is the law school admission season and a pre-law activity will be held in Shreveport, Louisiana for students interested in obtaining a law degree.

AGENDA ITEM 9. Other Business

President Chancellor Belton stated that faculty reported to the campus for the Spring 2016 semester on January 7. He deferred to Dr. M. Christopher Brown to give an update. Dr. Brown stated that there were approximately 300 faculty members in attendance for the Faculty Convocation. The day long agenda addressed several items including SACS accreditation, retention and graduation, Title IX compliance. Dr. Brown also introduced interim director of the SU Laboratory School Ms. Kimberly Williams. Dr. Brown stated that the search for a Laboratory School director is underway and that the Laboratory School is now classified as a "B" grade school by state of LA standards.

Board member Patrick Magee stated that he would like an action item on hoverboards and discuss the matter with the student campus leaders. Atty. Magee also stated that he would like to commend Chris Hebert, an SU Law Center graduate that has been appointed the Director of Gaming for the state of Louisiana.

Board member Tony Clayton stated that the hoverboard matter should be discussed prior to the students returning for the Spring 2016 semester.

AGENDA ITEM 10: Adjournment

Upon the motion by Atty. Tony Clayton and seconded by Mr. Myron Lawson the meeting adjourned.

Motion carried unanimously.