

**Southern University and A&M College System**

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING**

SUNO Conference Center  
Southern University at New Orleans  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70126

**9 a.m.**

**Friday, June 16, 2017**

**Minutes**

The meeting of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was called to order by Board Chair Mrs. Ann A. Smith. The invocation was given by the Rev. Roederick White.

**PRESENT**

Mrs. Ann Smith, Mr. John L. Barthelemy, Atty. Tony Clayton, Dr. Leroy Davis, Mr. Raymond Fondel, Dr. Curman Gaines, Atty. Patrick Magee, Atty. Domoine Rutledge, Mr. Michael A. Small, and Dr. Leon R. Tarver II.

**ABSENT**

Atty. Tony Clayton, Rev. Joe R. Gant, Jr., Mr. Richard Hilliard, Rev. Samuel Tolbert and Dr. Rani Whitfield

**UNIVERSITY PERSONNEL ATTENDING**

System President Ray Belton, Chief of Staff Robyn Merrick, Interim Executive Vice President and Provost Luria Young, Vice President for Finance and Business Affairs Flandus McClinton, Chancellors -- Dr. Lisa Mims Devezin (SUNO), Dr. Bobby Phills (SUAREC), Dr. Rodney Ellis (SUSLA), and Atty. John Pierre (SULC).

**BOARD COUNSEL**

Attys. Winston DeCuir, Jr., and Tracie Woods

## **ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**Friday, June 16, 2017**

9:00 A.M.

SUNO Conference Center  
Southern University at New Orleans  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70126

### **MINUTES**

Board Chair Mrs. Ann A. Smith announced the convening of the Academic Affairs Committee and added Mr. John Barthelemy to the committee.

Academic Affairs Committee Chair Dr. Curman Gaines called the committee meeting to order.

**Roll Call:** Dr. Curman Gaines, Mr. John Barthelemy, Dr. Leon R. Tarver II, Dr. Leroy Davis, Mrs. Ann A. Smith

**Absent:** Atty. Tony M. Clayton and Rev. Joe R. Gant, Jr.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Upon the motion by Dr. Davis and seconded by Dr. Tarver the agenda was amended to include a Legislative Update and was recommended for adoption.

Motion passed unanimously.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Dr. Nigel Gwee, President of the SUBR Faculty Senate, spoke in support of the recommendations for faculty promotions and tenure at SUBR.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 5: ACTION ITEMS**

##### **A. Approval of Faculty Tenure and Promotion, SUBR**

Upon the motion by Dr. Tarver and seconded by Dr. Davis action on the recommendations for faculty promotions and tenure at SUBR was deferred until next month's meeting.

Motion passed.

##### **B. Approval of Policy and Procedure, SUSLA**

###### **1. Admission-New First-time Freshmen**

Chancellor Rodney Ellis stated that the administrative staff at SUSLA are evaluating all policies to make sure they are relevant. The proposed changes are being recommended to expedite registration for new first time freshmen at SUSLA.

Upon the motion by Dr. Davis and seconded by Dr. Tarver the policy and procedure changes for new first time freshmen at SUSLA was recommended for approval.

**AGENDA ITEMS 6: OTHER BUSINESS**

**Legislative Update**

Mr. Rodney Braxton of the Southern Strategy Group presented information to Board members about legislation affecting higher education.

**AGENDA ITEM 7: ADJOURNMENT**

Upon the motion by Dr. Tarver and seconded by Dr. Davis the Academic Affairs Committee adjourned.

Motion passed.

## **FACILITIES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE**

*(Following the Academic Affairs Committee)*

SUNO Conference Center  
Southern University at New Orleans  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70126

### **MINUTES**

The Facilities and Property Committee was called to order by Committee Chair Rev. Donald R. Henry.

**Present:** Rev. Donald R. Henry, Dr. Leroy Davis, Mr. Raymond Fondel, Jr., Dr. Leon R. Tarver II, Mrs. Ann A. Smith

**Absent:** Mr. Richard Hilliard and Dr. Rani Whitfield

#### **AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Upon the motion by Mr. Fondel and seconded by Mrs. Ann Smith the agenda was recommended for adoption.

Motion passed.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

NONE

#### **AGENDA ITEM 5: INFORMATION ITEMS**

##### **A. Priority Projects Updates, by Campuses**

Director of Facilities Planning Eli Guillory prepared a listing of the projects currently in progress that was included in the meeting packet. Mr. Guillory reviewed the status of each project listed.

##### **B. Update on Governor's Tour of Facilities of the SUBR Campus**

Mr. Guillory stated that the visit by Gov. Edwards was productive. The Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) has already been in contact with campus administrators for work to commence on the bridge project.

Mr. McClinton stated that the Louisiana senate passed the appropriations bill. The cost of the bridge repair is \$1,825,000. The University has to match 25% of the total cost which is \$730,000. Already the Board of Regents has committed \$520,000, DOTD has committed \$200,000, the City of Baton Rouge committed \$187,500 and SUBR must provide \$187,500.

Dr. Davis recommended that thank you notes be sent to all of the agencies who assisted in the bridge project.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 6: OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **AGENDA ITEM 7: ADJOURNMENT**

Upon the motion by Mr. Fondel and seconded by Dr. Davis the Facilities and Property Committee adjourned.

Motion passed.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**  
*(Following the Facilities and Property Committee)*  
SUNO Conference Center  
Southern University at New Orleans  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70126

**MINUTES**

The Finance Committee was called to order by Committee Chair Atty. Domoine Rutledge.

Board Chair Mrs. Ann Smith added Mr. John L. Barthelemy to the Finance Committee.

**Present:** Atty. Rutledge, Mr. John Barthelemy, Rev. Donald R. Henry, Dr. Leon R. Tarver II, Mrs. Ann A. Smith

**Absent:** Atty. Tony Clayton, Rev. Joe R. Gant, Jr., and Mr. Richard Hilliard

**AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Upon the motion by Rev. Henry and seconded by Dr. Tarver the agenda was recommended for adoption.

Motion passed.

**AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

NONE

**AGENDA ITEM 5: ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Request Approval to Extend Credit Hours Limit for Technology Fees at SU System Campuses, SUS**

President Belton asked System Vice President for Finance and Business Affairs Flandus McClinton to explain the assessment of the technology fee. Mr. McClinton stated that the proposal is to maximize the fee to an amount that is similar to other higher education institutions in the state. SU students are charged \$5.00 per credit hour up to 12 credit hours. The credit hour limit would change to 20 credit hours instead of 12.

Upon the motion by Mr. Barthelemy and seconded by Dr. Tarver the credit hour limit for technology fees at SU System campuses was recommended for approval.

Motion passed.

**B. Request Approval of Fee Increase, SUBR, SUNO, SUSLA & SULC per HB 113**

Dr. Belton stated that the request to increase fees for SU system campuses no more than 5% for the Fall 2017 semester is presented because current legislation extends HB 113 allowing an increase in fees. Each campus will allocate a portion of the revenues from fees to need-based financial assistance to students eligible to receive Pell grants.

Upon the motion by Dr. Tarver and seconded by Rev. Henry the fee increase for SUBR,

SUNO, SUSLA, and SULC was recommended for approval.

Motion passed.

Atty. Magee asked whether data is used to make decisions about fee increases because he is concerned that the University might lose students because of the cost to attend. Dr. Belton stated that Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) data is used to determine the University's position in relation to other Universities. He also stated that SUBR is on average about \$1,000 less than other institutions. He assured Board members that he along with finance administrators closely monitor fees.

Dr. Tarver stated that it is not a good reason to increase fees because it is allowable. He asked all campus Chancellors to be prepared to give a fiscal impact statement and explain what will be accomplished whenever a fee increase is proposed.

### **C. Request Approval to Increase 2017-2018 Non-Resident fee, SULC**

Chancellor Pierre requested authorization to increase the non-resident fee for SU Law students by \$500 beginning the Fall 2017 semester. Chancellor Pierre stated that the additional fees would aid in support services for students preparing for the bar exam and for other support services including software and other training for students.

Upon the motion by Rev. Henry and seconded by Dr. Tarver the non-resident fee increase, SULC was recommended for approval.

Motion passed.

### **D. Request Approval to Increase Field Fees for Social Work, SUNO**

Chancellor Lisa Mims Devezin requested authorization to increase field fees for students in the Social Work program because the cost to manage the program has increased along with the number of students in the program. The expenses related to building community partners has increased and new sites will be required to accommodate the students. Undergraduate fees will increase from \$50.00 to \$80.00 and graduate students fees will increase from \$100.00 to \$150.00.

Upon the motion by Mr. Barthelemy and seconded by Dr. Gaines the field fees for Social Work, SUNO was recommended for approval.

Motion passed.

## **AGENDA ITEM 6: INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **A. Interim Financial Report as of April 2017, SUS**

System Vice President McClinton informed members of the Board that all System campuses are working to close the fiscal year and all should close the year with a balanced budget.

## **AGENDA ITEM 7: OTHER BUSINESS**

NONE

**AGENDA ITEM 8: ADJOURNMENT**

Upon the motion by Rev. Henry and seconded by Dr. Tarver the Finance Committee adjourned.

Motion passed.

## **PERSONNEL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

*(Following the Finance Committee)*

SUNO Conference Center  
Southern University at New Orleans  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70126

### **MINUTES**

The Personnel Affairs Committee was called to order by Committee Chair Atty. Patrick Magee.

**Present:** Atty. Magee, Rev. Donald R. Henry, Dr. Curman Gaines, Dr. Leon R. Tarver II, and Mrs. Ann A. Smith

**Absent:** Atty. Tony Clayton, Rev. Joe R. Gant, Jr.

### **AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Upon the motion Dr. Tarver and seconded by Dr. Gaines the agenda was recommended for adoption.

Motion passed unanimously.

### **AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

SUBR Faculty Senate President Dr. Nigel Gwee stated that he would reserve comments on the recommendations for Tenure and Promotion until the items appear on the agenda.

### **AGENDA ITEM 5: ACTION ITEMS**

#### **A. Request Approval of Personnel Action on Positions greater than \$60,000**

Atty. Magee asked each campus chancellor to discuss the personnel actions for their respective campuses.

SUNO – Dr. Lisa Mims Devezin stated that Dr. Evelyn Harrell has served as interim dean and the action presented would remove the temporary status of the position. Dr. Rebecca Chaisson is being recommended to serve as the new Dean of the School of Social Work. Dr. Chaisson was in attendance at the meeting and greeted members of the Board thanking them for their attendance at the groundbreaking ceremony and stating that she is pleased to serve as dean and eager to begin work with SUNO students.

SULC – Chancellor John Pierre stated that Susan Nelson has been serving as director of external affairs at the law center since the retirement of Dr. Rachel Emanuel in December of 2016. He said that Ms. Nelson has been successful in the position securing funding for various projects. Also Tavares Walker who currently serves as Director in the Office of Career Services has agreed to take on more responsibility as the Title IX Coordinator for the SULC. Chancellor Pierre stated that he is realigning the position for more effective outcomes.

SUSLA – Chancellor Rodney Ellis stated that the personnel action for the chief advancement officer is the final executive level position to be filled in the reorganization plan for SUSLA. He stated that he would like to increase development/fundraising so that the campus would not rely on state funding.

SUAREC – Dr. Bobby Phills stated that the personnel action is being presented for Sanjay Palle so that the SUAREC can retain him as an employee and so that they are in compliance with immigration requirements.

Name	Position/Campus	Salary
<b>NEW APPOINTMENTS</b>		
1. Evelyn Harrell	Dean, Arts & Science/Director, ABCP Program/Tenured Professor, SUNO	<b>\$ 88,620</b>
2. Rebecca Chaisson	Dean of Social Work/Associate Professor New Appointment, SUNO	<b>\$ 85,000</b>
3. Susan Nelson	Director, External Affairs, SULC	<b>\$ 84,975</b>
4. Tavares Walker	Director, Office of Career Services and Title IX Coordinator, SULC	<b>\$ 84,000</b>
5. Stephanie Rogers	Chief Advancement Officer, SUSLA	<b>\$ 70,000</b>
6. Sanjay Palle	Network Database Administrator/Web Specialist, SUAREC	<b>\$ 62,400</b>

**AGENDA ITEM 6: INFORMATION ITEM**

**A. Personnel Action Items Not Requiring Board Approval**

Atty. Magee stated that he had received the report of all personnel actions that fall below \$60,000 and all faculty members falling below \$75,000. The documents are available in the Board office for review.

**AGENDA ITEM 6: OTHER BUSINESS**

NONE

**AGENDA ITEM 7: ADJOURNMENT**

Upon the motion by Rev. Henry and seconded by Dr. Tarver the Personnel Affairs Committee adjourned.

Motion passed.

## **SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

*(Following the Personnel Affairs Committee)*

SUNO Conference Center  
Southern University at New Orleans  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70126

### **MINUTES**

The meeting of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was called to order by Board Chair Mrs. Ann A. Smith. All members were present except Atty. Tony Clayton, Rev. Joe R. Gant, Jr., Mr. Richard Hilliard, Rev. Samuel Tolbert and Dr. Rani Whitfield

#### **AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Upon the motion by Rev. Henry and seconded by Atty. Magee the agenda was recommended for adoption.

Motion passed unanimously.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

NONE

#### **AGENDA ITEM 5: SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

The *Above and Beyond Award* was presented to Angela Scott Gaines of the SU Law Center. Mrs. Smith presented a plaque and Dr. Belton presented a certificate to Mrs. Gaines along with Chancellor John Pierre. Chancellor Pierre spoke about Mrs. Gaines' work ethic and willingness to assist in many areas at the Law Center. Mrs. Gaines thanked Chancellor Pierre, members of the Board and Board Chair Smith for the recognition.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 6: ACTION ITEMS**

Upon the motion by Mr. Fondel and seconded by Atty. Magee items A, B, and C were recommended for approval in globo.

Motion passed.

##### **A. Approval of Minutes of the May 12, 2017, meeting**

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System that the minutes of the May 12, 2017, meeting, be and they are hereby approved.

##### **B. Approval of Committee Reports and Recommendations**

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the actions taken by the Academic Affairs Committee, Facilities and Property Committee, Finance Committee, and Personnel Affairs Committee be and they are hereby approved.

## **1. Academic Affairs**

### **a. Approval of Policy and Procedure, SUSLA**

#### **i. Admission-New First-time Freshmen**

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the policy and procedure changes for new first time freshmen, SUSLA, be and it is hereby approved.

## **2. Facilities and Property Committee**

No action items were presented. The information items presented will be filed for auditing purposes.

## **3. Finance Committee**

### **a. Request Approval to Extend Credit Hours Limit for Technology Fees, SUS**

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System that the recommendation to extend the credit hour limit for technology fees, SUS, be and it is hereby approved.

### **b. Request Approval to Increase 2017-18 Non-Resident Fee, SULC**

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System that non-resident fees for students at the SU Law Center, be and they are hereby approved.

### **c. Request Approval to Increase Field Fees for Social Work, SUNO**

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System that field fees for students in the Department of Social Work, SUNO, be and they are hereby approved.

## **4. Personnel Affairs Committee**

### **a. Approval of Personnel Action on Positions greater than \$60,000**

#### **1. Evelyn Harrell**

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the new appointment of Evelyn Harrell as Dean, Arts and Science/Director, ABCP Program/Tenured Professor, SUNO, at a salary of \$88,620 be and it hereby is approved.

#### **2. Rebecca Chaisson**

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the new appointment of Rebecca Chaisson as Dean of Social Work/Associate Professor, SUNO, at a salary of \$85,000 be and it hereby is approved.

#### **3. Susan Nelson**

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the new appointment of Susan Nelson as Director, External Affairs at a salary of \$84,975 be and it hereby is approved.

**4. Tavares Walker**

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the new appointment of Tavares Walker as Director, Office of Career Services and Title IX Coordinator, SULC, at a salary of \$84,000 be and it hereby is approved.

**5. Stephanie Rogers**

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the new appointment of Stephanie Rogers as Chief Advancement Officer, SUSLA, at a salary of \$70,000 be and it hereby is approved.

**6. Sanjay Palle**

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the appointment of Sanjay Palle as Network Database Administrator/Web Specialist, SUAREC, at a salary of \$62,400 be and it hereby is approved.

**C. Resolutions**

President Belton offered resolutions as follows:

**Commendations**

Congratulations were extended to **Mr. Artis M. Davenport II** a native of Monroe currently residing in San Antonio, TX. He recently celebrated his 90th birthday. Mr. Davenport was hired at SUNO in 1961 as a physical education professor when no athletics program existed. The program was approved in 1972 and he continued to work at SUNO in several capacities including track coach for 38 years, Chairman of the Health, Physical Education and Recreation Department for 28 years and as Director of Athletics for 18 years. He was the first black to receive a doctorate of Education degree from the College of Physical Education at Louisiana State University in 1971.

Congratulations to **Rev. Donald Ray Henry**, Vice Chairman of the Southern University Board of Supervisors, on his recent appointment as Executive Director of the Lafourche Basin Levee District Board of Commissioners. He is the first African-American to be named Executive Director in the State of Louisiana since the creation of the Commission 125 years ago in 1892.

**Condolences**

**The Althea Coleman-Cox Family.** Mrs. Cox, retired educator, native of Baton Rouge, graduate of the 1968 class of Capitol High School and an SUBR graduate passed away Friday, May 26, 2017.

**The Larry McGhee Family.** Mr. McGee, retired Director of Facilities Planning at SUBR for more than 40 years, passed away on Thursday, June 1, 2017.

**The Danny Edwards Family.** Mr. Edwards, a native of Decatur, Georgia and former SU National Alumni Federation Officer passed away on Saturday, June 10, 2017.

**The Carl "Butch" Baloney Sr. Family.** Mr. Baloney, general manager of the Baloney Funeral Home in LaPlace, founding administrator of the Funeral Science Program at Southern University at Shreveport, and a masters of social work graduate of Southern University at New Orleans, passed away on Monday, June 12.

**The Lolalisa King Family.** Ms. King, an alumna of SUBR and former chair of the SU National Alumni Federation's Housing Committee, passed away on Tuesday, June 13, 2017.

### **Well-wishes**

A resolution of get well wishes and speedy recovery was offered for **Congressman Steve Scalise**, United States House of Representatives Majority Whip and representative for Louisiana's 1st congressional district.

Upon the motion by Dr. Davis and seconded by Dr. Tarver the resolutions were recommended for approval.

Motion passed

### **AGENDA ITEM 7: INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

#### **a. Medical Marijuana Update**

Chancellor Bobby Phillips stated that the request for proposals (RFP) was released May 8<sup>th</sup> and on May 19<sup>th</sup> he attended a pre-conference meeting. The contractor is expected to be identified by the end of August for presentation to the Board.

#### **b. Legislative Update**

Update given during the Academic Affairs committee meeting.

#### **c. System President's Report**

President-Chancellor Belton invited Athletic Director Roman Banks to give an update to members of the Board on the progress made with NCAA. Coach Banks stated that he and staff member Trayvean Scott attended the administrative meeting of the NCAA in Orlando, Florida. He also stated that the NCAA was complimentary of the leadership that he and Trayvean Scott have provided. He stated that the athletics department is on track and they are continuing to build the department's infrastructure. Additional positions are needed. He stated that an organizational chart would be available at the next Board meeting. The NCAA was pleased that Board members attended the site visit. The Athletics Department has applied for a \$900,000 multi-year grant from the NCAA and Banks is confident that they will receive it. Banks stated that the SWAC will no longer hold the championship game in football and that no more basketball games would be played in the Toyota center.

Dr. Belton also invited Dr. Robyn Merrick to give an update on the customer service initiative. Dr. Merrick presented a PowerPoint presentation on the initiative giving information about the next phase of implementation.

Dr. Belton also acknowledged Governor Edwards and state legislators for identifying revenue for repair of the bridge on the SUBR campus. He also informed Board members that the investigation of the Student Affairs department was almost complete.

**d. Campus Reports**

Each Campus Chancellor submitted written reports that were included in the meeting packet.

**SUNO** – Chancellor Mims-Devezin thanked Board members for their attendance at the groundbreaking ceremony; stated that the SUNO track team won 4 national championships May 25-27 at NAIA; SUNO hosted the national sponsored program technical workshop; SUNO was awarded more than \$410,000 for its Upward Bound program; and distributed copies of the program that was held to confer and present the honorary degree to Mrs. Katherine Johnson of the true story featured in the film *Hidden Figures*.

**SUSLA** – Chancellor Ellis thanked the SUAREC for their support and announced that \$1.4 million was awarded for the Upward Bound program.

**SUAREC**- Dr. Bobby Phills stated that the BAYOU program was in session and more than 40 students were participants. He also announced that the SUAREC is working with the New Orleans Public School System to develop an agricultural high school; Board members should receive an invitation to the SUAREC land grant campus retreat.

**SULC** – Chancellor Pierre announced that two former students had been named to the National Bar Association's Top 40 under 40 list. He also stated that the SULC is preparing for its Incoming Students Day event which will host approximately 55 students and he announced that the Economic Development Conference was underway. The event is a collaborative event with the College of Business.

**SUBR** – Dr. Luria Young stated that student groups are studying abroad in Belize and Ghana and that SUBR is a finalist for several HBCU Digest awards. She also announced that more information would be presented to members of the Board about the proposed Freshmen Academy program.

**AGENDA ITEM 8: OTHER BUSINESS**

NONE

**AGENDA ITEM 9: ADJOURNMENT**

Upon the motion by Atty. Magee and seconded by Dr. Tarver the meeting adjourned.